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MEETING NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on March 28, 2013. 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 by March 25th 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)

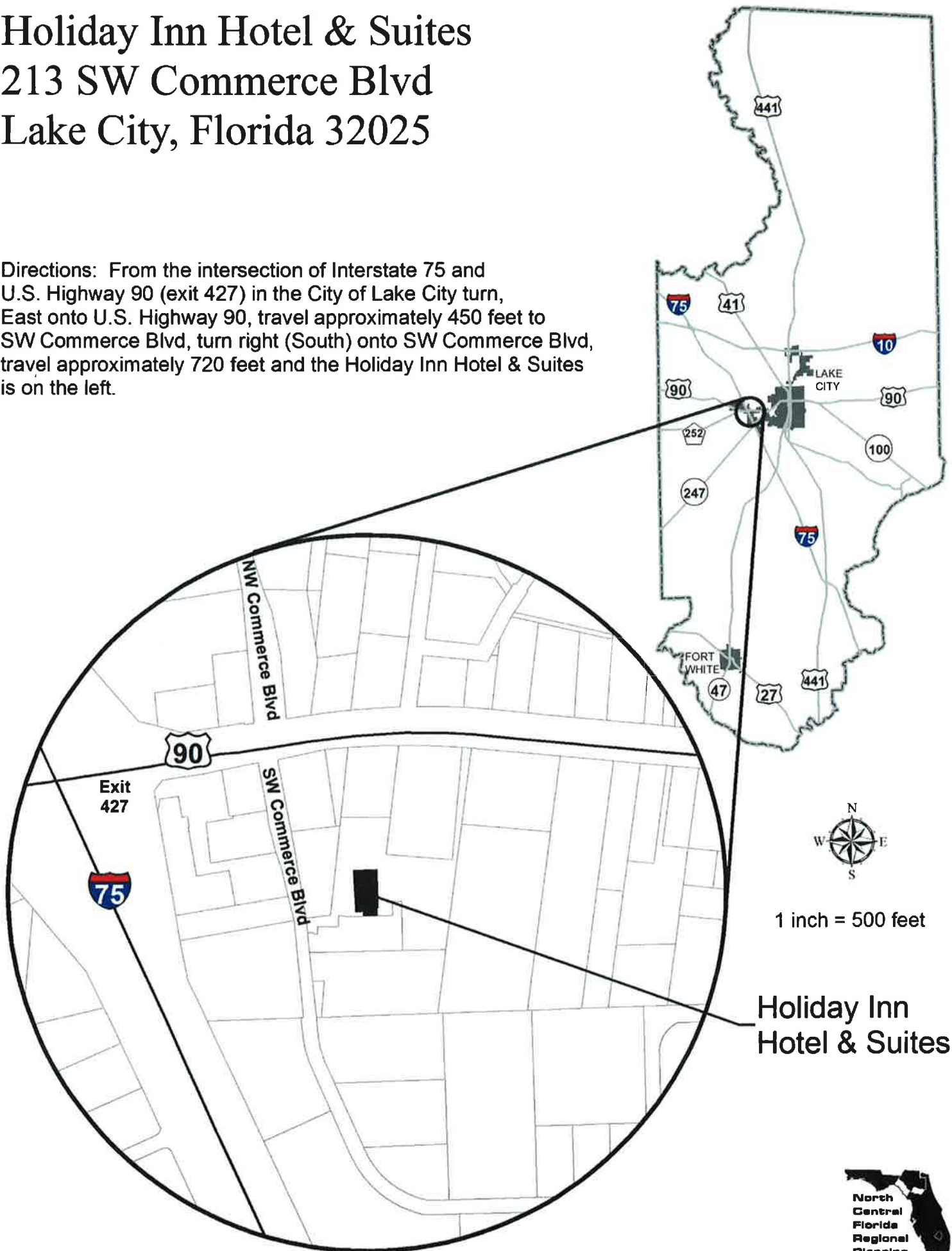
Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)

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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AGENDA

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

March 28, 2013
7:30 p.m.

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

February 28, 2013
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
Jim Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Thomas Collett, Alachua County
Karen Cossey, Union County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Rusty DePratter, Columbia County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Patricia Patterson, Taylor County
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
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Charles Williams, Hamilton County
Mike Williams, Madison County

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jean Strong

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Baird, Alachua County
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs
Todd Chase, City of Gainesville
Don Cook, City of Perry
Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, City of Gainesville
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
Jordan Marlowe, City of Newberry
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff Sergeant Alex Abbate, U.S. Army
Tim Bennett, City of Madison
Allen Cherry, Madison County
Dave Cobb, Florida Power and Light
Diana Davis
Brian Delburn, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Christian Doolin, Small County Coalition
Greg Evans, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Joe Flanagan, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Lt. Colonel Stephen Grabski, U.S. Army
Jordan Green, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Dug Jones, Santa Fe College
Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer
John Mayberry, City of Archer
Rae Pike, Florida Military Family and
Community Covenant
Joe Riddick
Captain Allen Spence, U.S. Army
Myra Valentine
Marge Wirth

Board Members names are bolded

Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Spooner. She stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Allen Cherry, Madison County Coordinator and a member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, Dave Cobb, External Affairs Manager for Florida Power and Light, Dug Jones, Associate Vice-President for Economic Development, Santa Fe College and member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer, John Mayberry, Assistant City Manager for the City of Archer, and Marge Wirth, mother of Council staff Jean Strong. She then introduced three special guests from the U.S. Army; Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Grabski, Captain Allen Spence and Staff Sergeant Alex Abbate. She also introduced and welcomed Joe Riddick and Myra Valentine, who both previously served as Council Chairs, and Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 24, 2013

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the January 24, 2013 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Patterson made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ogborn, to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2013 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Thomas stated that Item VI.B.4. - #35, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item VI.B.5. - #36, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, and Item VI.B.6. - #42, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, which were received by staff after the meeting packets were electronically mailed, be added to the agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Catron made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Patterson to add Item VI.B.4. - #35, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item VI.B.5. - #36, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; and Item VI.B.6. - #42, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

III. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin, Legislative Consultant, Small County Coalition

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced and welcomed Chris Doolin, the primary legislative 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 upcoming legislative session and issues impacting local governments in the north central Florida region. He also spoke about water transfer issues in rural counties, prison closures and Medicaid. Chair Thomas thanked Mr. Doolin for his comments.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - January 2013
- B. Community Development Block Grant Fiscal Year 2012
Administrative Services Agreement - Union County
- C. State Housing Initiatives Partnership Fiscal Year 2013
Administrative Services Agreement - Union County
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program
Planning Grant Resolution, Fiscal Year 2013-14
- E. Purchase Order with Apalachee Regional Planning Council to Assist with
Updating the Region 2 Florida Multi-year Training and Exercise Plan
- F. Purchase Order with the Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with
Updating the Region 3 Florida Training and Exercise Plan
- G. Purchase Order with the Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with
Exercise Planning, Evaluation and Documentation
- H. City of Madison Celebrating 175 Years Street Banner Sponsorship

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

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

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT - Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation

Chair Thomas asked that a Resolutions of Appreciation for past services be approved for Bo Beauchemin, who served as the Veterans Representative on the Hamilton County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since June 2009 and Scott Pfender, who served as the Public Education Representative on the Suwannee County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since November 2005.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Wilford made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ogborn to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Mr. Beauchemin and Mr. Pfender. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Assigned Fund Balance - Capital Reserve

Mr. Koons reported that during Fiscal Year 2011-12, \$34,342 for depreciation of building and equipment was applied to the capital assets of the Council. He stated that the Capital Reserve Fund is maintained at an amount approximate to the accumulated depreciation of building and equipment to cover one-time capital expenditures for building improvements/repairs and equipment replacement/upgrades. Mr. Koons stated that in order to maintain the Capital Reserve Fund at this level, the Executive Committee recommended that \$30,000 from the Council's unassigned fund balance be encumbered as part of the Capital Reserve Fund assigned fund balance to increase the amount for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from \$470,000 to \$500,000.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to encumber \$30,000 of the Council's unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs to \$500,000. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Proclamation Declaring April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day

Mr. Koons stated that during the months of February and March 2013, regional planning councils and cities across Florida are joining forces with the State to recognize April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day to be part of the groundswell of support to implement Operation Strong Families, an initiative that supports military, veterans and their families. He stated that by adopting resolutions or proclamations in regions and cities throughout the state proclaiming April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day, a ground swell of civilian support will be generated for military personnel and veteran families who have sacrificed so much for our nation. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council adopt a proclamation designating April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day, which is attached to these minutes and made a part thereof.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to proclaim April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day throughout the north central Florida region by adopting the Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Proclamation, which is attached to these minutes and made a part thereof. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Koons then introduced and welcomed Ms. Rae Pike, Director of the Florida Military Family and Community Covenant and Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Grabski, Captain Allen Spence and Staff Sergeant Alex Abbate of the U.S.

Army. Colonel Grabski thanked Council members for supporting military personnel, veterans and families in the north central Florida region. He stated that the Florida Military Family and Community Covenant supports military families and provides essential community care they require and thanked Council members for the opportunity to attend the meeting. Chair Thomas thanked Colonel Grabski, Captain Spence and Staff Sergeant Abbate for their service to our country.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed three local government comprehensive plan amendments.

- #31 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #33 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #34 - Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Ms. Haas further reported that subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packets, Council staff received the following late-arriving items which require action prior to the next Council meeting.

- #35 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda)
- #36 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda)
- #42 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda)

Ms. Haas stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the Alachua County, Hamilton County, City of Alachua and City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plans, as amended, do not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments.

Ms. Haas stated that the Committee found that the Taylor County Comprehensive Plan, as amended does not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance. However, she stated that the Committee found that significant adverse impacts may occur to segments of the regional road network and that significant adverse impacts may occur to adjoining jurisdictions. She stated that for both the City of Alachua and Taylor County items, the Committee recommended that the respective local governments include in their comprehensive plans transportation Best Practices contained in the regional plan to mitigate impacts to the regional road network.

Ms. Haas 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: Ms. Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hawkins, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #31, Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #33, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #34, Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item # 35, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda), Item #36, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda) and Item #42, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Jordan Green, Rural Area Transportation Development Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation, introduced Greg Evans, District 2 Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation. Secretary Evans introduced Brian Delburn, who was recently hired to be the District 2 Legislative Liaison for the Department reporting directly to the Secretary. Secretary Evans stated that the Transportation Work Program was fully funded in the Governor's proposed budget released in January 2013. Mr. Green then reported that the Department requested funds from the Legislature for the Small County Road Assistance Program, the Small County Outreach Program and the County Incentive Grant Program. He stated that a project being advanced in the District 2 is the U.S. Highway 301 Starke Bypass project with construction scheduled by Fiscal Year 2016 at a cost of approximately \$91 million.

Joe Flanagan, Administrative Services Division Director, Suwannee River Water Management District stated that due to the recent rainfall, the water levels are near flood level on the Suwannee River. He stated that Executive Director Ann Shortelle met with legislative committees earlier in the week and discussed the District's proposed \$15 million budget. He also stated that the District was asked by the BP Oil Company to submit a proposal for Restore funds resulting from Deep Water Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. He stated that \$100 million was requested by the District.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. He stated that the accomplishments of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven, are reported each month to the Council. He also highlighted several of the accomplishments listed in the report that was included in the Council meeting packet.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to develop a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. He further stated that the Scorecard reports metrics for each of the Six Pillars benchmarked to the other 49 states. The Six Pillars are 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. He reviewed the February 2013 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity budget request for Fiscal Year 2013-14 submitted to Governor Scott does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. He further reported that the budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14 submitted by the Governor to the Legislature does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils.

Mr. Koons also reviewed the following bills being considered by the 2013 Legislature.

House Bill 4035 removes a section of Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, which allows local governments, regional planning councils or the state land planning agency to petition the Governor and Cabinet to increase or decrease the thresholds by 50 percent which determine a development of regional impact.

House Bill 89/Senate Bill 348 relates to the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program.

House Bill 121/Senate Bill 670 relates to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and requires Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to create a web page accessible through the Department's internet website that provides comprehensive data and information relevant to creation of new businesses, or expansion of existing businesses, within the state.

House Bill 319 relates to Community Transportation Projects.

House Bill 321 relates to Growth Management and prohibits local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate-share contribution or construction for new development for a specified period.

House Bill 357/Senate Bill 582 relates to manufacturing development by creating the "Manufacturing Competitiveness Act."

Senate Bill 494 relates to community development block grants and pertains to the distribution of funds to small cities and rural counties under the community development block grant program.

House Bill 537 relates to growth management and revises and provides for applicability of provisions that prohibit initiative or referendum process for development orders and local comprehensive plan amendments and map amendments.

Senate Bill 528 relates to Community Planning Act and authorizes a local government to retain an existing initiative or referendum process relating to a local comprehensive plan amendment or map amendment in certain circumstances.

Senate Bill 786 relates to comprehensive plan amendments and establishes a pilot program in specified areas of the state to test and review an alternative plan amendment process.

House Bill 7/Senate Bill 244 relates to water management districts and requires districts to include certain reservations and water bodies in priority lists and schedules.

House Bill 789/Senate Bill 978 relates to springs and requires water management districts to identify certain springs, develop certain plans, submit certain reports; authorizes districts to adopt rules and issue orders.

D. Economic Development Districts and Economic Development Organizations

Mr. Koons stated that the roles that economic development districts (regional planning councils) and economic development organizations (local economic development councils) play in economic development are related, but different. He stated that the two sets of organizations collaborate to complement the activities of each other.

Mr. Koons stated that economic development districts (regional planning councils) are the planning and research arm of economic development. They provide supportive services to economic development organizations which include strategic economic development planning, economic impact analysis, and grant procurement and administration. He added that economic development districts also provide technical assistance to economic development organizations (local economic development councils), administer brownfields revitalization loan funds and conduct special projects such as military base coordination and eco-tourism and heritage tourism promotion.

Mr. Koons stated that economic development organizations (local economic development councils) are directly engaged with prospects in business recruitment, business retention and expansion, and entrepreneur development. In addition, economic development organizations (local economic development councils) manage information for company representatives, site location consultants and real estate brokers, market and promote their local area, grow targeted industry sectors that support and complement existing industries and identify workforce and talent development needs.

E. Economic Development District Grantee Performance Report
for the Period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

Mr. Koons stated that the Council is a federally designated economic development district by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. Each year, the Council reports on job creation/retention, private sector investment and

public sector investment for projects funded by the U. S. Economic Development District or other sources that implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy adopted by the Council. Mr. Koons reported that an estimated 917 jobs were either created or retained, an estimated \$14,000,000 in private investment was leveraged and an estimated \$4,000,000 in public investment occurred on 12 projects that implement the Strategy for the reporting period.

E North Florida Water Supply Partnership

Mr. Koons reported that in September 2011, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection entered into an agreement that formalizes the coordination of water resource management in north Florida. He stated that ensuring sustainable water supplies and protecting north Florida's waterways and natural systems is a collaborative effort among the water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local elected officials and area stakeholders.

Mr. Koons reported that the Committee met on January 23, 2013 in Lake City and heard a presentation on public utility water conservation best practices as well as a presentation on historical rainfall, heard the perspective of members regarding various water supply issues, reviewed and approved an updated Partnership work plan and approved the geographic boundary of the joint water supply plan. He further reported that the Committee also met on February 18, 2013 in Lake City and heard presentations on water conservation practices for sand mining operations, agriculture crop selection and water conservation, as well as water supply planning tools and resource protection criteria measures.

F. Florida Leaders Organized for Water

Mr. Koons reported that on January 14, 2013, the tenth meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The Board of Directors for Florida Leaders Organized for Water heard presentations from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Earthjustice regarding state and federal water quality regulations. The group also agreed to enter into a legal services contract with Sniffen and Spellman of Tallahassee. Finally, the group is continuing to develop proposed water legislation for the 2013 legislative session.

Mr. Koons further stated on February 11, 2013, the 11th meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The Board of Directors heard a presentation from Save Our Suwannee regarding north Florida groundwater and spring flows. The group continued work on a position paper regarding the future of north Florida water. He stated that members agreed to express their concerns regarding water to state legislators as representatives of their local constituencies rather than as representatives of Florida Leaders Organized for Water. The group also indicated they were not ready to propose water legislation for the 2013 Legislative Session. Mr. Koons further reported that 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.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on March 28, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

3/28/2013

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRUST FUND GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED


WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant agreement and to undertake a transportation disadvantaged service project as authorized by Section 427.0159, Florida Statutes and Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code.

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

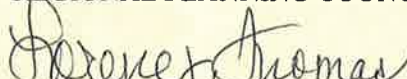
1. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the above referenced grant agreement;
2. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant agreement on behalf of the North Central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

APPROVED AND DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, this 28th day of February 2013.

ATTEST:


Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair



PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING APRIL 17, 2013 AS FLORIDA MILITARY AND COMMUNITY COVENANT DAY

WHEREAS, the Florida Military and Community Covenant supports our military and veteran families across the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Military and Community Covenant connects military and veteran families to existing systems support through the Operation Strong Families initiative and in the Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Military and Community Covenant joins community forces to enable our military and veteran families the much needed community care they deserve; and

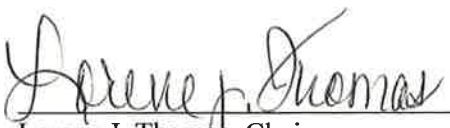
WHEREAS, during the months of February and March 2013, regional planning councils and cities across Florida are joining forces with the State to recognize April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day to be part of the groundswell of support to implement Operation Strong Families an initiative that supports military, veterans and their families in the State of Florida.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims April 17, 2013 as Florida Military Family and Community Covenant Day throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 28th day of February 2013.

ATTEST:


Kenrick D. Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair



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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director *SK*

SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - February 2013

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for February 2013. The following paragraphs discuss revenues and expenditures to the budget for the month and year to date. Status of the adjusted general fund balance of the Council at the end of the month is also provided on the attached Monthly Financial Report.

Revenue

The total revenue for the Council for year to date is within budgeted figures. Revenue at the end of five months was 34 percent of budget

Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of five months are 36 percent of budget. It is anticipated that the year should end with revenues exceeding expenditures.

Fund Balance

The adjusted general fund balance of the Council was \$1,526,916 at the end of the last fiscal year. At February 28, 2013, it was \$1,600,647.

Conclusion

In conclusion, staff is pleased with the financial condition of the Council. The adjusted general fund balance should remain at an acceptable level at the end of the fiscal year.

Overall, as is regularly reported, the financial condition of the Council is sound. Staff is not aware of anything in the current fiscal year that will change this situation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
February 28, 2013

	Adopted Budget FY 2012 - 13	February 2013	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue	1,967,300	145,751	661,345	34%
Expenses	1,967,300	144,063	705,791	36%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Financial Statement (Unaudited)
February 28, 2013

	Adopted Budget FY 2012 - 13	February 2013	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue				
Program Development	33,900	111	27,192	80%
Regional Planning				
State Planning & Review	30,000	0	30,000	100%
Developments of Regional Impact Review	15,000	0	0	0%
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance				
Homeland Security Activities	57,000	2,000	26,000	46%
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	39,500	0	0	0%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	93,300	0	16,443	18%
Hazards Analyses	10,100	0	0	0%
Energy Resiliency & Assurance Studies	30,000	10,491	30,315	101%
Transportation				
Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	614,400	0	119,481	19%
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	170,000	0	43,300	25%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	22,200	0	3,049	14%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	157,900	0	39,562	25%
Technical Assistance Services		0	1,409	
Economic Development				
Comp Econ Development Strategy & Tech Assistance	108,000	0	60,750	56%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	35,000	0	9,046	26%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	42,000	34,000	34,000	81%
Vision North Central Florida		0	2,500	
Local Government Assistance				
General Technical Services	20,000	0	20,000	100%
City & County Planning Services	313,000	61,313	122,626	39%
Community Development Block Grant Administration	176,000	37,836	75,672	43%
Total Revenue	1,967,300	145,751	661,345	34%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Financial Statement (Unaudited)
February 28, 2013

	Adopted Budget FY 2012 - 13	February 2013	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Expenses				
Audit	15,000	0	14,295	95%
Building Debt Service	44,600	3,714	18,570	42%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	40,000	2,045	14,598	36%
Contractual Services	77,000	758	11,644	15%
Dues, Publications & Subscriptions	40,000	509	31,623	79%
Furniture & Equipment	30,000	0	14,648	49%
Insurance and Bonding	17,000	0	9,080	53%
Legal Costs	12,000	547	2,539	21%
Machine Rental/Maintenance	6,000	0	3,359	56%
Meeting Expenses	19,000	3	4,583	24%
Moving Expense	2,000	0	0	0%
Office Supplies	41,000	1,069	8,432	21%
Personnel Costs	1,397,200	109,965	513,579	37%
Postage	13,000	510	2,811	22%
Printing	3,000	0	0	0%
Recruiting	2,000	0	0	0%
Reproduction	12,000	1,040	4,643	39%
Telephone	6,000	667	2,623	44%
Travel	86,000	8,320	33,848	39%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	42,000	14,916	14,916	36%
Contingency	62,500	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	1,967,300	144,063	705,791	36%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Financial Statement (Unaudited)
February 28, 2013

Nonspendable General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	45,566
Assigned General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	
Unemployment Claim Fund	30,000
Legal Defense Fund	100,000
Capital Reserve Fund	470,000
Unassigned General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	926,916
	<hr/>
Total General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	1,572,482
Less Nonspendable General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	(45,566)
	<hr/>
Adjusted General Fund Balance, 10/01/12	1,526,916
Member Dues, Year to Date	118,962
Misc. Income, Year to Date	
Sales	500
Interest Income	834
Proceeds from Loan Portfolio Sale	992
Other	906
Expended Regional Support	(17,402)
Expended General Technical Service	(1,081)
Expended Member Support to Econ Develop.	(8,006)
Expended Program Development	(21,974)
	<hr/>
Adjusted General Fund Balance, 02/28/13	1,600,647




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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Department of Transportation
 Joint Participation Agreement and Resolution

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Chair to sign a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to provide support for transportation planning and regional visioning for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties with all terms of the Agreement to be completed by June 30, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

BACKGROUND:

The Council proposes to enter into a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the Department to provide the Council support for transportation planning and regional visioning for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties with all terms of the Agreement to be completed by June 30, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$25,000. The Agreement will also require coordination with neighboring regional planning councils and adjoining counties. In addition, the planning effort will also need to coordinate with the on-going Future Corridors studies of the Florida Department of Transportation.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2013-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL
PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE JOINT
PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the Florida Department of Transportation Joint Participation Agreement, as authorized under Section 339.12, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to receive support for transportation planning and regional visioning for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties for the period ending June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will coordinate with neighboring regional planning councils and adjoining counties in order to accomplish said transportation planning and regional visioning; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will coordinate said transportation planning and regional visioning with the on-going Future Corridors studies of the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute the Joint Participation Agreement on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council with the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to accomplish transportation planning and regional visioning in a 13-county area.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 28th day of March 2013.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair




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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Application to Florida Municipal Insurance Trust

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to execute and the Secretary-Treasurer to attest the Application to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust specifying that Scott R. Koons, Executive Director, is authorized to execute risk management agreements for Council property, allied lines and crime; general/professional liability; workers compensation and employers liability; automobile liability and physical damage; and employee theft insurance coverage.

BACKGROUND:

The Council maintains property, allied lines and crime; general/professional liability; workers compensation and employers liability; automobile liability and physical damage; and employee theft insurance coverage with the Florida League of Cities Florida Municipal Insurance Trust.

As a member of the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust, the Council is required to complete a Participation Agreement (Application to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust). This document forms an important part of the Council's contractual relationship to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust and specifies the name of the individual authorized to execute risk management agreements. Due to recent revisions to the Participation Agreement, the Council is required to execute an updated Application to Florida Municipal Insurance Trust.

It is recommended that the Council authorize the Chair to execute and the Secretary-Treasurer to attest the Application to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust specifying that Scott R. Koons, Executive Director, is authorized to execute risk management agreements for Council property, allied lines and crime; general/professional liability; workers compensation and employers liability; automobile liability and physical damage; and employee theft insurance coverage.

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

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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Health Savings Account Payroll Deduction

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve offering employees the option to establish individual health savings accounts on a voluntary basis through a health savings account trustee with employees paying 100 percent of the amount to be deposited in the health savings account through payroll deduction.

BACKGROUND:

A health savings account is a tax-exempt trust or custodial account set up with a qualified health savings account trustee to pay or reimburse certain medical expenses for individuals. No permission or authorization from the Internal Revenue Service is necessary to establish a health savings account. Health savings accounts must be set up by a qualified health savings account trustee, such as a bank, an insurance company, or anyone already approved by the Internal Revenue Service to be a trustee of individual retirement arrangements. The health savings account can be established through a trustee that is different than an individual's health plan provider.

The contributions to a health savings account are tax deductible even if an individual does not itemize deductions on Internal Revenue Service Form 1040. The contributions remain in the health savings account from year to year until they are used by the individual. The interest or other earnings on the assets in the account are tax free.

For an individual to qualify for a health savings account, they must be covered under a high deductible health plan. A high deductible health plan has a higher annual deductible than typical health plans and a maximum limit on the sum of the annual deductible and out-of-pocket medical expenses that individuals must pay for covered expenses. Out-of-pocket expenses include copayments and other amounts, but do not include premiums.

To qualify as a high deductible health plan, the minimum annual deductible must be \$1,200 for individual coverage and \$2,400 for family coverage. In addition, annual deductible and other out-of-pocket expenses may not exceed a maximum of \$6,050 for individual coverage and \$12,100 for family coverage. Since the Council's current health insurance plan has a \$2,500 deductible for individual coverage and \$4,500 for family coverage and maximum out-of-pocket expenses of \$4,500 for individual coverage and \$8,500 for family coverage, employees of the Council are eligible to establish individual health savings accounts. Employees may contribute up to \$3,100 for individual coverage and up to \$6,250 for family coverage to a health savings account on an annual basis.

It is recommended that the Council approve offering employees the option to establish individual health savings accounts on a voluntary basis through a health savings account trustee with employees paying 100 percent of the amount to be deposited in the health savings account through payroll deduction.

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



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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Proclamation Declaring April 2, 2013 as
Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in North Central Florida

RECOMMENDATION:

Proclaim April 2, 2013 as Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in North Central Florida by adopting the attached proclamation.

BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 1513, Juan Ponce de León landed on the east coast of Florida and became the first recorded European to set foot on the continental United States of America, predating European settlement in Jamestown, VA and Plymouth Rock, MA by 94 years and 107 years, respectively. Florida has the longest recorded history of any state in the nation. Drawing inspiration from 500 years of Florida being a state of exploration, discovery and innovation and with the recognition of our past, Florida's future may be strengthened through continued education and promotion of our strong tourism, technology and agricultural industries. Viva Florida 500 in 2013 marks the 500 year anniversary of the arrival of Ponce de Leon in 1513 and it is the centerpiece in a series of important anniversaries that include:

- 2009 was the 450 year anniversary of the first attempt at Spanish colonization of Florida in Pensacola;
- 2012 was the 450 year anniversary of the first French colony in the continental US in Jacksonville; and
- 2015, is the 450 year anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine as the oldest continually occupied European city in the nation.

Viva Florida 500 is a statewide initiative led by the Florida Department of State to highlight the 500 years of historic people, places and events in present-day Florida since the arrival of Juan Ponce de León to the land he named La Florida in 1513. Viva Florida 500 success relies on strong partnerships. The Florida Department of State enjoys very productive working relationships with many state agencies, the Florida Humanities Council, VISIT FLORIDA, the cities of St. Augustine and Pensacola, España-Florida Foundation 500 Years, the Spanish, British and French Consulates, as well as the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Council Members

March 21, 2013

Page 2

Viva Florida 500 will take place year-round in 2013, and its many partners are planning more than 150 events statewide. The goal is to promote 500 years of Florida history, its people, places and cultural achievements, and this important milestone in American and Florida history.

With the goal to stimulate cultural heritage tourism and spur economic development to create jobs, the Florida Department of State provides leadership, communication and coordination to create and/or expand partnerships statewide to enhance Viva Florida 500 outreach and education to make history come alive with Viva Florida 500 events in all 67 counties in 2013.

The 500th anniversary of the landing of Ponce de Leon is a fitting time to reflect on the dynamic culture, rich diversity and economic prosperity of Florida and with recognition that five flags have flown over Florida in as many centuries, while also being the home to Native Americans for at least 12,000 years. It is recommended that the Council join in this effort by designating April 2, 2013 as *Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in north central Florida* (see attached proclamation).

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

Attachment

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PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2, 2013 AS VIVA FLORIDA 500 CELEBRATION DAY IN NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1513, Juan Ponce de León landed on the east coast of Florida and became the first recorded European to set foot on the continental United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Viva Florida 500 in 2013 marks the 500 year anniversary of the arrival of Ponce de Leon in 1513; and

WHEREAS, the 500th anniversary of landing of Ponce de Leon is a fitting time to reflect on the dynamic culture, rich diversity and economic prosperity of Florida and with recognition that five flags have flown over Florida in as many centuries, while also being the home to Native Americans for at least 12,000 years.

WHEREAS, Viva Florida 500 will take place year-round in 2013, with its goal to promote 500 years of Florida history, its people, places and cultural achievements, and this important milestone in American and Florida history.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims April 2, 2013 as Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 28th day of March 2013.

ATTEST:

Kenrick D. Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

SEAL:



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March 21, 2013

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., March 28, 2013 at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 213 SW Commerce Boulevard, Lake City. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level items which require Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- #45 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 12-1ESR)
- #47 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 13-1ESR)
- #48 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 13-1ESR)

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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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Overall Program Design for Fiscal Year 2013-14

The Program Committee will be meeting on March 28, 2013 to develop a draft of the Overall Program Design for next year. The Overall Program Design is used as the basis for the development of a budget and is also to provide direction to staff as to the work which is to be done during the next year.

The Program Committee anticipates recommending the Overall Program Design to the Council for adoption at the May 23, 2013 Council meeting.

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

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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director *SRK*

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives.

The Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying-out the following objectives.

- Ensure regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the State of Florida, its local governments, and the citizens they serve;
- Ensure regional planning councils are consensus builders and problem solvers, and serve as conveners of the region by helping to articulate those multijurisdictional issues that need resolution;
- Encourage and promote opportunities for regional planning councils to become partners in state programs and initiatives, while promoting the unique themes of each region within the state and legislative environments;
- Monitor substantive state and federal legislative issues for the benefit of its members, and promote mutually supportive policy positions among the regional planning councils;
- Represent regional planning councils in national organizations, such as the National Association of Regional Councils, National Association of Development Organizations, and SouthEast Regional Directors Institute; and
- Foster relationships and partnerships and coordinate with state, regional, and national associations and organizations; non-profit entities; public-private partnerships; the Governor's Office; state agencies; and others, on issues of mutual interest and concern, and with whom the Association shares mutual goals and programs.

Please find attached the February 2013 Monthly Accomplishments Report highlighting the accomplishments of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven. The report addresses outreach, resource development/capacity building, legislative and administrative activities.

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

Attachment

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MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: February, 2013

OUTREACH

- Attended the American Planning Association, Florida Chapter's annual Public Policy Workshop; the Florida Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Summit; a meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force; and, Workforce Florida, Inc.'s quarterly board meeting.
- Met with Julie Dennis, planner for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Waterfronts Florida Program, to discuss the Department's initiatives in Franklin County.
- Participated in a webinar hosted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, which provided an overview of the RESTORE Act, gave an update on the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, and discussed how the Council will seek public input related to development of the Comprehensive Plan, which is due July 6, 2013.
- Had numerous conversations with staff from the Small County Coalition and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Economic Development regarding implementation of Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s Rural Economic Development Study.
- Provided assistance to a consultant from Minnesota who is working to create a system of statewide regional collaboration in Montana.
- Provided assistance to representatives from Florida PACE and the Florida Association of Counties regarding wind mitigation workshops that they are each conducting in Florida.
- Provided assistance to the new Area 6 U.S.D.A. Rural Development representative regarding the agency's work program in South and Southwest Florida.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- Participated in Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s (EFI's) Stakeholders Conference call, which focused primarily on Enterprise Florida's response to the Integrity Florida report.
- Participated in a meeting of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, which reviewed and discussed the Memorandum of Understanding that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity executes with each of the counties within a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern; Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s Rural Economic Development Study; and, the proposed legislation to expedite permitting related to manufacturing.
- Participated in a meeting of the state agency Economic Development liaisons, hosted by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, which addressed the process by which each agency will develop its respective section for the Appendix in the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

- Participated in a videoconference hosted by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity that provided an overview of the Sector Plan process in anticipation of increased sector planning activity.
- Participated in a Greenways and Trails conference call on behalf of Pat Steed (CFRPC), which addressed updates on a variety of issues, including the upcoming release of the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan and rule development.
- Completed development of the RPCs' section of the Appendix for the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development and circulated it for review, prior to submission to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

LEGISLATIVE

- Developed legislative talking points and a related-handout for meetings between the RPC Executive Directors and legislators.
- Attended/monitored legislative committee meetings and issued a legislative update and bill tracking report.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Created subscriber alerts in the Florida Administrative Register for meeting notices and in some cases, rule notices, for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Economic Opportunity, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Transportation, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Executive Office of the Governor, Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- Began gathering data for submission to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection regarding its Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste Program.
- Updated the FRCA Website to post an updated event calendar, meeting materials, and legislative update.
- Participated in the February FRCA meetings, drafted the February FRCA meeting summaries, secured presenters and prepared the Partners Agenda for the March FRCA meeting, and finalized the meeting space arrangements for the March FRCA meetings.
- Made several attempts to schedule a meeting with the new Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Jesse Panuccio, which is still being pursued.



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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

The Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan.

The Scorecard reports metrics for each of the Six Pillars benchmarked to the other 49 states. The Six Pillars are 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. Please find attached the March 2013 Scorecard.

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

Attachment

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THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

The Metrics that Help Florida Leaders Secure Florida's Future

[Search the Scorecard](#)

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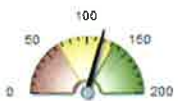
[BLOG](#)



Talent Supply & Education



Innovation & Economic Development



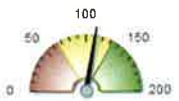
Infrastructure & Growth Leadership



Business Climate & Competitiveness



Civic & Governance Systems



Quality of Life & Quality Places

[Current News](#)

[2030 Metrics](#)

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[Interactive Chart](#)

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[Tourism Indicators](#)

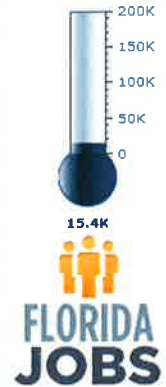
Florida's Unemployment Rate Dips Below U.S. Rate in January

Florida's economic recovery from the 2007 Great Recession has been characterized by a relatively high jobless rate when compared to the unemployment rate for the overall U.S. economy. In January, Florida's unemployment rate fell below the national rate for the first time since 2008. The state's jobless rate fell from 7.9% in December 2012 to 7.8% in January 2013—a decrease of 0.1 percentage points over-the-month. During the same period, the U.S. jobless rate stood at 7.9%, where it has been mostly unchanged for four consecutive months. Florida's economy was disproportionately hit by the recent financial crisis in part as a result of the collapsed housing bubble. Despite Florida's economic challenges, its unemployment rate has generally fallen faster than the national rate after peaking in 2009.



Unemployment Rate

Florida Net Job Creation in 2013



In addition to Florida's decreasing unemployment rate, employers added about 15,400 non-agricultural jobs in January. Stronger growth in payroll employment, in addition to a decreasing unemployment rate, suggests that Florida's economy continues to expand as we begin the 2013 year. The "trade, transportation, and utilities" industry contributed the most new jobs (+35,500) over-the-year, with retail trade generating the majority of new positions. The construction industry, a large contributor to employment losses in the wake of the recession, continues to expand very modestly. We expect employment gains to continue through 2013 despite the fiscal drag presented by sequestration, and other risks associated with Euro Zone Instability.



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Ranking Florida

Patents Issued

Productivity

Entrepreneurial Activity

Trade Exports

Key Indicators



Home Foreclosures

As Florida continues to recover from the housing market collapse, trends in home foreclosures provide insight into Florida's progress through the extended recovery.



Consumer Confidence

The Florida Consumer Confidence Index measures residents' perceptions of personal finances now compared to a year ago and expectations of U.S.



Population

Florida has the 4th largest population in the U.S., estimated at just over 19 million in April 2012.



Unemployment Rate

Florida has a labor force of over 9 million, ready to meet the workforce needs of businesses.

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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

BUDGET

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity budget request for Fiscal Year 2013-14 submitted to Governor Scott does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. In addition, the budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14 submitted by the Governor to the Legislature does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. However, the Senate Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee has included \$2.5 million for all 11 regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2013-14.

As you know, the Legislature appropriated \$2.5 million for all 11 regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2012-13. However, Governor Scott vetoed the appropriation for regional planning councils. The Council's share of this appropriation would have been approximately \$179,000.

The 2013 regular legislative session convened on March 5, 2013 and is scheduled to adjourn on May 3, 2013. The six weeks of legislative interim committee meetings concluded on February 21, 2013.

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS

House Bill 4035 by Representative Spano relates to developments of regional impact. The bill deletes provisions authorizing the state land planning agency, regional planning agencies, or local governments to petition the Administration Commission to increase or decrease numerical thresholds of statewide guidelines and standards used in determining whether developments are subject to development of regional impact review. **Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, Local and Federal Affairs Committee, and Economic Affairs Committee.**

Senate Bill 1698 by Senator Latrala relates to developments of regional impact. The bill repeals provisions relating to the certification of local governments to conduct development of regional impact reviews. **Referred to Community Affairs Committee, Transportation Committee, and Rules Committee.**

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Urban Infill

House Bill 89 by Representative Pafford relates to the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program. The Program establishes Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program; provides program for grants to counties and municipalities with urban infill and redevelopment areas; authorizes

transfer of unused funds between grant categories under the program; requires Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to administer the program; requires Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to adopt rules establishing grant review criteria. **Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee, and Economic Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee.**

Senate Bill 348 by Senator Soto relates to Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program. Establishes the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program; providing a program for grants to counties and municipalities with urban infill and redevelopment areas; authorizing transfer of unused funds between grant categories under the program; requiring the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to administer the program. **Referred to Community Affairs Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, and Appropriations Committee.**

Internet Data for Business Development

House Bill 121 by Representative Combee relates to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Requires Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to create web page accessible through the Department's internet website that provides comprehensive data and information relevant to creation of new businesses, or expansion of existing businesses, within state; provides purposes of web page; requires the Department to contact local governmental entities and collect specified data and information; requires cities and counties to provide notice of changes in data collected by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. **Passed by Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, and Federal Affairs Committee. Referred to Economic Affairs Committee.**

Senate Bill 670 by Senator Brandes relates to Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Requires the Department to create a web page accessible through its Internet website that provides comprehensive data and information that are relevant to the creation of new businesses, or the expansion of existing businesses, within the state; requires the Department to contact local governmental entities and collect specified data and information; requires cities and counties to provide notice of changes in data collected by the Department. **The bill was referred to Commerce and Tourism Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, and Appropriations Committee.**

Transportation Projects

House Bill 319 by Representative Ray relates to Community Transportation Projects. Revises provisions of Community Planning Act and provisions relating to transportation development authorities and community development districts; defines “mobility plan;” provides that certain development projects may not be delayed or denied if applicant has provided payment for transportation impacts, local government must calculate proportionate share contributions based only on certain capital improvements, projects to relieve transportation deficiencies may include projects outside designated deficiency area and mass transit improvements may extend beyond designated deficiency area; revises requirements for replacement by election of community development district board members for certain transit-oriented developments. **Passed by Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee, and Economic Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee.**

Impact Fee Moratorium

House Bill 321 by Representative La Rosa relates to Growth Management. Prohibits local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate-share contribution or construction for new development for specified period; provides an exception; provides for an extension of prohibition under certain conditions; prohibits certain counties, municipalities and special districts from imposing certain new or existing impact fees for specified period; provides an exception; provides for an extension of prohibition under certain conditions; provides for future expiration. **Passed by Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee. Referred to Finance and Tax Subcommittee and Economic Affairs Committee.**

Manufacturing Development

House Bill 357 by Representative Boyd relates to Manufacturing Development. Creates “Manufacturing Competitiveness Act;” authorizes local governments to establish local manufacturing development program that provides for master development approval for certain sites; requires the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to develop model ordinance containing specified information and provisions; requires local manufacturing development program ordinance to include certain information; provides certain restrictions on termination of such program; requires the Department, in cooperation with participating agencies, to establish a manufacturing development coordinated approval process for certain manufacturers; requires participating agencies to coordinate and review applications for certain state development approvals; requires manufacturer to file certain documents; requires the Department to convene meeting when requested by certain manufacturer; provides for requests for additional information and specifies periods; requires participating agencies to take final action on applications within certain period; requires the Department to facilitate resolution of certain applications; provides for approval by default; requires the Department to develop materials that identify local manufacturing development programs. **Passed by Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee. Referred to Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee, and Economic Affairs Committee.**

Senate Bill 582 by Senator Galvano relates to Manufacturing Development. Establishes the Manufacturing Competitiveness Act; authorizes local governments to establish a local manufacturing development program that provides for master development approval for certain sites; requires the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to develop a model ordinance containing specified information and provisions; requires the Department, in cooperation with participating agencies, to establish a manufacturing development coordinated approval process for certain manufacturers. **The bill was referred to Commerce and Tourism Committee, Community Affairs Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, and Appropriations Committee.**

Community Development Block Grants

Senate Bill 494 by Senator Simpson relates to Community Development Block Grants. Requires the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to adopt a rule pertaining to the distribution of funds under the block grant program; requires approved Section 108 loan applicants to enter into an agreement with the department; requires that a local government's future community development block grant be reduced in the event of default; provides restrictions on the expenditure of block grant funds by local governments. **The bill has been referred to Community Affairs Committee, Commerce and Tourism Committee, and Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, and Appropriations Committee.**

Local Referendum on Comprehensive Plan Amendments

House Bill 537 by Representative Moraitis relates to Growth Management. Revises and provides for applicability of provisions that prohibit initiative or referendum process for development orders and local comprehensive plan amendments and map amendments; provides that such initiative or referendum process commenced or completed on or after specified date is void; provides exception for initiative or referendum process specifically authorized by local government charter provision in effect as of such date for certain local comprehensive plan amendments and map amendments. **Passed by Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, and Local and Federal Affairs Committee. Referred to Local and Federal Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Economic Affairs Committee.**

Senate Bill 528 by Senator Simpson relates to Community Planning Act. Authorizes a local government to retain an existing initiative or referendum process relating to a local comprehensive plan amendment or map amendment in certain circumstances. **Passed by Community Affairs Committee. Referred to Judiciary Committee, Commerce and Tourism Committee, and Rules Committee. The bill is now in Judiciary Committee.**

Comprehensive Plan Amendment Pilot Program

Senate Bill 786 by Senator Simpson relates to Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Establishes a pilot program in specified areas of the state to test and review an alternative plan amendment; provides a process for the adoption of comprehensive plan amendments; provides an exception for certain local governments and other specified areas; provides that agencies may not adopt rules to implement the program. **The bill has been referred to Community Affairs Committee, and Judiciary Committee.**

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

House Bill 7 by Representative Porter relates to Water Management Districts. Requires districts to include certain reservations and water bodies in priority lists and schedules; provides for adoption of certain reservations and minimum flows and levels by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; requires districts to provide certain information and support to the Department; requires districts to apply, without adopting by rule, certain reservations, minimum flows and levels, and recovery and prevention strategies; authorizes water management districts to enter into interagency agreements for resource management activities under specified conditions; exempts cooperative funding programs from rulemaking requirements; requires regional water supply authority and applicable district to jointly develop component of regional water supply plan. **Passed by Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee. Referred to Rulemaking Oversight and Repeal Subcommittee, and State Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Rulemaking Oversight and Repeal Subcommittee.**

Senate Bill 244 by Senator Dean relates to Water Management Districts. Provides for the adoption of certain reservations and minimum flows and levels by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; requires water management districts to apply, without adopting by rule, the reservations, minimum flows and levels, and recovery and prevention strategies adopted by the Department; requires a regional water supply authority and the applicable water management district to jointly develop the water supply component of the regional water supply plan. **Passed by Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee, and Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee. The bill is now on the Senate calendar for Second Reading.**

SPRINGS

House Bill 789 by Representative Stewart relating to Springs. Requires water management districts to identify certain springs, develop certain plans, submit certain reports; authorizes districts to adopt rules and issue orders. **Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee, Rulemaking Oversight and Repeal Subcommittee, and State Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee.**

Senate Bill 978 by Senator Soto relating to Springs. Requires water management districts to identify certain springs, develop certain plans and submit certain reports to the Governor and the Legislature, authorizes the districts to adopt rules and issue orders. **Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee, Community Affairs Committee, and Rules Committee.**

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



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March 21, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

In September 2011, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection entered into an agreement that formalizes the coordination of water resource management in north Florida. Ensuring sustainable water supplies and protecting north Florida's waterways and natural systems is a collaborative effort among the water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local elected officials and area stakeholders.

The Stakeholder Advisory Committee, which was formed in May 2012, serves as an advisory body to offer viewpoints from stakeholder groups to the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to help address the region's water supply issues. The Stakeholder Committee is structured such that a wide range of public interests are included, while keeping the Committee small enough to be effective and productive. Stakeholder Committee representatives closely coordinate with the constituencies they represent, as well as being responsive to the interested public. Committee meetings are open to the public so stakeholders beyond the Committee membership can attend and participate.

The Committee met on March 18, 2013 in Lake City and heard presentations on rainfall record keeping, water conservation practices for phosphate mining operations, as well as land coverage data collected by the water management districts.

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

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March 21, 2013

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 March 11, 2013, the 12th meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held. The Board of Directors for the Florida Leaders Organized for Water heard presentations from Dr. Robert L. Knight of the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute as well as from Chris Bird and Stacie Greco of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. The Working Group voted to hold a workshop to develop a strategy for the Working Group.

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 Lake City, Town of Lee, City of MacClenny and Town 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.

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