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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 February 26, 2015. 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 strong@ncfrpc.org by February 23, 2015 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)

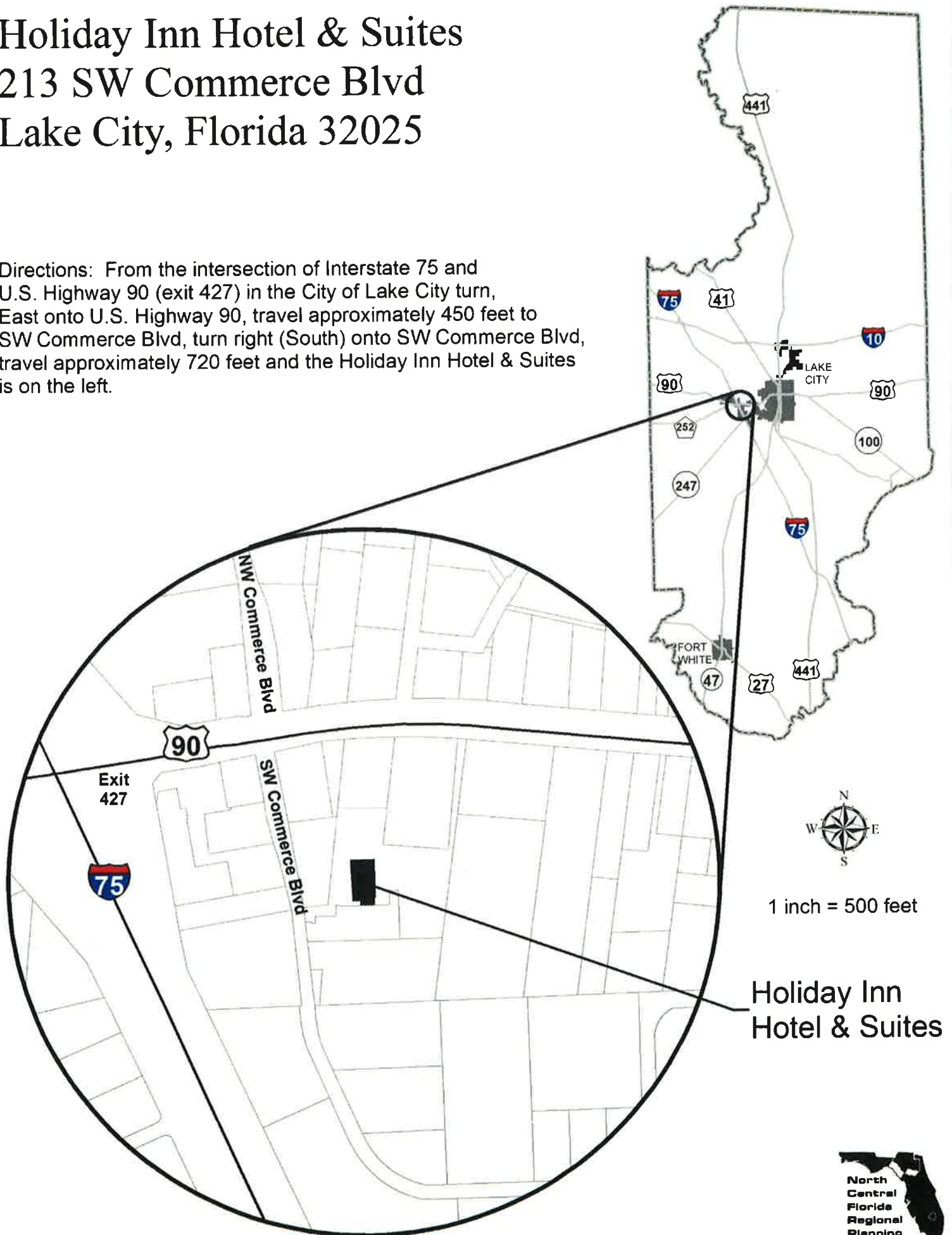
Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)

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

February 26, 2015
7:30 p.m.

Page

- I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS
- II. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin, Legislative Consultant
Small County Coalition
- * III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 22, 2015 5
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA
 - * A. Monthly Financial Reports - January 2015 13
 - * B. Experience North Florida - Sponsorship 19
 - * C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program
Planning Grant Resolution - Fiscal Year 2015-16 21
 - * D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment 25
- V. CHAIR'S REPORT
 - A. Introduction of New Members
 - * B. Resolution of Appreciation - Frank Ogborn 27
 - * C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation -
 - 1. William Cummings 31
 - 2. Donna Hagan
 - 3. Betty Touma
 - D. Employee Certificate of Service - Steven Dopp - 30 Years 39
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Executive Committee - None

Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
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	<u>Page</u>
* B. Clearinghouse Committee	41
<u>Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items</u>	
1. #20 - University of Florida 2015 Campus Master Plan - Draft	
2. #35 - City of Starke Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 15-1ER)	
* C. Regional Planning Committee - Evaluation and Appraisal Report of North Central Florida Regional Policy Plan	43
VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS	
VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS	
This agenda item provides an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on any matter not included on the agenda. The comment period is limited to three minutes for each individual.	
IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT	
* A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report	45
* B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard	49
* C. Legislative Report	53
* D. Economic Development District Grantee Performance Report For the Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014	57
* E. Competitive Florida Partnership Program	61
* F. Check Fraud Status Report	63

* See Attachments

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

January 22, 2015
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Rick Davis, Madison County
Scarlet Frisina, Columbia County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Timothy Marden, City of Newberry
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Patricia Patterson, Taylor County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
DeLoris Roberts, City of Hawthorne
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
James Tallman, Union County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Charles Williams, Hamilton County

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Carlos Herd, Suwannee River Water Management
District
Russell Simpson, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
Craig Carter, City of Gainesville
Jim Catron, City of Madison
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Jason Evans, City of High Springs
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
Everett Phillips, Columbia County
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
David Sullivan, City of Perry
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Buck-Camp
David Cobb
Ralph Kitchens
Stew Lilker
Allison Megrath

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

STAFF PRESENT

Steven Dopp
Carmelita Franco
Scott Koons
Dwayne Mundy
Jean Strong

Board Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Spooner called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with an invocation given by Ms. Lorene Thomas and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Spooner stated that there was a quorum.

Chair Spooner welcomed and introduced Sandra Buck-Camp and Ralph Kitchens, members of the Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board, Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer and David Cobb from Florida Power and Light.

II. GUEST SPEAKER - Allison Megrath, Real Estate Manager
Plum Creek

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Allison Megrath, Real Estate Manager, Plum Creek. Ms. Megrath made a presentation to the Council concerning an overview of the future development of the Florida Intermodal Park, at the 500-acre North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity Catalyst Site located on property in Columbia County owned by Plum Creek, with a goal of creating jobs that benefit a 14-county region. She stated that the Catalyst Site is part of a larger 2,622-acre Plum Creek tract that has been designated as a Mixed-Use District with approval for up to eight million square feet of industrial use, 100,000 square feet of commercial land use and 300 dwelling units. Ms. Megrath also stated that the North Florida Intermodal Park is now certified as a Mega Industrial Park ready to attract industries, support job creation and serve as an inland port for the Southeastern United States.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 11, 2014

Chair Spooner asked that the minutes of the December 11, 2014 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Marden made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2014 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - November 2014 and December 2014
- B. Purchase order with the Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with Updating the Statewide Hurricane Evacuation Study
- C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment

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

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

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Spooner introduced new Council members, Commissioners Ken Cornell and Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County and Commissioner Scarlet Frisina from Columbia County.

B. Resolutions of Appreciation - Rusty DePratter

Chair Spooner asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services be approved for Rusty DePratter, who served as a Council member since January 2011.

ACTION: Commissioner Patterson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Roberts to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Rusty DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Committee Appointments

Chair Spooner asked that the appointments to the Clearinghouse Committee and the Program Committee be approved as recommended by the Chair.

ACTION: Commissioner Wells made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to appoint Patricia Patterson to the Clearinghouse Committee and Scarlet Frisina to the Program Committee, as Vice-Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Resolution Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the City of Fanning Springs

Mr. Koons stated that the City of Fanning Springs will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year. He gave a brief history of the City.

ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Ogborn to approve a resolution recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the City of Fanning Springs. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Check Fraud News Release

Mr. Koons reported that a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 written on the Council's bank account, processed and paid by Wells Fargo and Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo and filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department. He stated that the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00, following the filing of the lawsuit, the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida ordered that this matter be resolved by arbitration. Mr. Koons also stated that to date, the Council has not been able to schedule an arbitration hearing before an arbitrator mutually agreeable to the Council and Wells Fargo. Therefore, he reported that the Executive Committee is recommending that the Council authorize Council staff to issue a press release to state and regional news media concerning the Wells Fargo check fraud issue.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to authorize Council staff to issue a press release to state and regional news media concerning the Wells Fargo check fraud issue. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas, James Montgomery, Clearinghouse Committee Vice-Chair, gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met previously on January 13, 2015 and reviewed one local government comprehensive plan amendment.

#5 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 15-1ER)

Mr. Montgomery stated that this item was reviewed on behalf of the Council as per Council procedures for local government comprehensive plan amendments with a response deadline prior to the next regularly-scheduled Council meeting.

Mr. Montgomery further stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed one local government comprehensive plan amendment.

#21 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 14-3ESR)

Mr. Montgomery stated that the Committee found that the local government comprehensive plan, 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 recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Mr. Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wells, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning #21 City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Regional Planning Committee - Evaluation and Appraisal Report of
North Central Florida Regional Planning Policy Plan

Commissioner Wells reported that Section 186.511 of Florida Statutes requires the Council to prepare an Evaluation and Appraisal Report on its Strategic Regional Policy Plan at least once every five years and the last Evaluation and Appraisal Report was approved by the Council in December 2010. Therefore, the Regional Planning Committee met tonight, to begin preparing an Evaluation and Appraisal Report of the regional plan.

Commissioner Wells further stated that the purpose of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report will evaluate progress towards achieving the goals and implementing the policies of the regional plan, and the evaluation and appraisal process is a two-step process. He reported that the first step involves the preparation and adoption of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report, the second step involves the preparation and adoption of amendments to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan which implement the recommendations contained in the Evaluation and Appraisal Report. Commissioner Wells stated that earlier that evening the Regional Planning Committee received a presentation from staff regarding the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan and how it is used by the Council in fulfilling its review responsibilities. He reported that the

Committee also adopted a review schedule with the intent of presenting its recommended Evaluation and Appraisal Report for consideration by the Council at the September 2015 meeting

VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Carlos Herd, Suwannee River Water Management District, reported that legislation is being proposed concerning the use of land and water conservation funds from Amendment One. He also stated that the Management Districts are making presentations to legislation at this time.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, stated that the Northeast District staff will be holding a free training workshop concerning regulations for used oil in their office in Jacksonville on February 13, 2015.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity 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 December 2014 monthly review report included in the Council meeting packet.

B. Florida Regional Councils Association Annual Report

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide association of all 11 regional councils in Florida. It is governed by a Policy Board made up of three representatives (county, municipal, gubernatorial) from each Council who are in turn advised by the Executive Directors Advisory Committee comprised of all 11 executive directors. He further stated that Chair Spooner, Vice-Chair Riddick and Executive Committee member Charles Williams currently serve on the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board. He stated that the 2013-14 Annual Report for the Association was included in the Council packet and also distributed to Council members prior to the meeting.

C. Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report

Mr. Koons reported that he, Chair Carolyn Spooner, and Vice-Chair Daniel Riddick, attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Tallahassee on January 9, 2015. He stated that the Policy Board heard presentations from Joanna Turner, Executive Director, National Association of Regional Councils; Mark Wilson, President, Florida Chamber of Commerce; Amy Baker, Coordinator, Florida Office of Economic Demographic Research; Jim Wood, State Transportation Administrator, Florida Department of Transportation; Lisa Hurley, Legislative Director, Florida Association of Counties; and David Cruz, Legislative Advocate, Florida League of Cities.

Mr. Koons stated that the Policy Board adopted the 2015 Legislative Agenda, which was included in the meeting packet and the Policy Board also reviewed a financial report and made appointments to the Nominating Committee for 2015-16.

D. 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 January 2015 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

E. North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

Mr. Koons stated 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 also 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 stated that 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. He also stated that 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. Mr. Koons further stated that Stakeholder Committee representatives closely coordinate with the constituencies they represent, as well as being responsive to the interested public and Committee meetings are open to the public so stakeholders beyond the Committee membership can attend and participate.

Mr. Koons reported that the Committee met on December 15, 2014 and the Committee reviewed and approved a groundwater demand methodology for use in the development of the 2035 Regional Water Supply Plan.

F. Sadowski Housing Coalition

Mr. Koons reported that the Sadowski Housing Coalition is a nonpartisan collection of 30 diverse statewide organizations, including the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities and Florida Regional Councils Association, and in 1992, the Legislature enacted the Sadowski Act creating a dedicated revenue source to fund affordable housing programs and funding the Catalyst Program for Training and Technical Assistance. He also stated that 70 percent of the funds are dedicated to the Local Government Housing Trust Fund for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership program which funds housing in

all 67 counties and metropolitan cities. Mr. Koons also reported that 30 percent of the funds are for the State Housing Trust Fund for Florida Housing Finance Corporation programs such as the State Apartment Incentive Loan program.

Mr. Koons reported that the State Housing Initiatives Partnership funds can be used to, rehabilitate/renovate existing housing stock for seniors and persons with special needs; and provide first time homeownership with down payment and closing cost assistance. He also reported that the State Apartment Incentive Loan funds can be used to rehabilitate existing apartments or to build new units for the elderly and persons with disabilities and for every State Housing Initiatives Partnership and State Housing Initiatives Partnership dollar spent, four to six private sector dollars are leveraged. Funds available to be appropriated in Fiscal Year 2015-16 are an estimated \$266.87 million, It is estimated that these funds will create over 24,000 jobs. Mr. Koons stated that the Sadowski Coalition is urging the Legislature to use all of the housing trust fund monies for housing programs.

G. Original Florida Tourism Task Force Update

Mr. Koons reported that the Council provides staff services to the Original Florida Tourism Task Force to assist them in implementing their work program and in order to increase tourism generated revenues in the north Florida region, Mr. Koons stated that The Original Florida Tourism Task Force implements campaigns to increase tourist visits to the Natural North Florida region. He also stated that the Original Florida Tourism Task Force has recently completed a new Springs brochure, Bicycle Trails maps by county, which are available on the Natural North Florida website and a visitor survey. He stated that they have also planned during 2015 to attend travel shows in partnership with VisitFlorida, these travel shows will include Atlanta, GA, Berlin, Germany, Chicago IL, Madison, WI, New York, NY, Philadelphia, PA, and Washington, D.C., and in addition, they will be attending travel shows in Jacksonville, Tampa and The Villages.

Mr. Koons stated that 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, and the goal is to enhance the economy of the area, image and quality of life through expanded revenues and employment opportunities.

H. Check Fraud Status Report

Mr. Koons reported that on March 20, 2013, a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 that was written on the Council's bank account was processed and paid by Wells Fargo. Also on March 20, 2013, Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo. On March 25, 2013, Council staff filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department. On April 18, 2013, the Council Attorney sent a letter to Wells Fargo requesting that Wells Fargo remit to the Council within 30 days the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's account. He added that on June 3, 2013, attorneys for Wells Fargo responded via letter stating that Wells Fargo will not reimburse the Council for the \$49,523.00 released from the Council's account by Wells Fargo.

Mr. Koons stated that at their meeting on July 25, 2013, the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00, to engage Stanley Cushman from the law firm of Scruggs and Carmichael to

serve as co-counsel for the lawsuit and to designate Scott Koons, Executive Director, as the Council's representative concerning all matters related to such lawsuit. He stated that on August 6, 2013, a lawsuit was filed against Wells Fargo to recover the Council's funds.

Mr. Koons further reported that on September 9, 2013, Wells Fargo responded to the complaint by filing a Motion to Compel Arbitration. Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman responded to the motion stating that arbitration does not apply to the dispute and have filed a motion for a hearing on the motion to compel arbitration. A hearing originally scheduled for October 30, 2013 in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida on the Motion to Compel Arbitration filed by Wells Fargo to resolve the dispute between the Council and Wells Fargo was rescheduled for January 24, 2014. Mr. Koons reported that at the conclusion of the hearing, the Circuit Court granted the Motion to Compel Arbitration.

Mr. Koons reported that a letter was sent to Wells Fargo on May 13, 2014 requesting additional information concerning the disputed check. On September 24, 2014 a Notice of Arbitration and Statement of Claim was filed with the American Arbitration Association by Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman on behalf of the Council. On October 14, 2014 attorneys from Wells Fargo filed a Respondent's Answering Statement to the Statement of Claim.

Council Attorney Jon Wershow stated that an agreement has been reached with Wells Fargo concerning a mutually acceptable arbitrator, Robert Cowles from Jacksonville, FL. He also stated that a preliminary arbitration conference will be held within the next 30 to 45 days to set a date for the arbitration hearing.

Chair Spooner informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on February 26, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Carolyn B. Spooner, Chair

2/26/15

Date



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members
 FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director *SRK*
 SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - January 2015

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for January 2015. The following paragraphs discuss revenues and expenditures to the budget for the month and year to date.

Revenue

The total revenue for the Council for year to date is within budgeted figures. Revenue at the end of four months is 28 percent of budget.

Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of four months is 32 percent of budget. It is anticipated that the year should end with revenues exceeding expenditures.

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.

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)
January 31, 2015

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking / Savings	1,026,395
Accounts Receivable	375,397
Other Current Assets	39,816
Total Current Assets	<u>1,441,608</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>1,441,608</u></u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	6,761
Other Current Liabilities	96,611
Total Liabilities	<u>103,372</u>
Equity	<u>1,338,236</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>1,441,608</u></u>

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
January 31, 2015

SUMMARY STATEMENT

	Adopted Budget FY 2014 - 15	January 2015	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue	1,688,600	100,080	478,692	28%
Expenses	1,688,600	168,017	541,433	32%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
January 31, 2015

REVENUE

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2014 - 15	January 2015	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Program Development	24,800	17,806	23,810	96%
Regional Planning				
Regional Planning & Review	40,000	30,004	40,017	100%
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance				
Homeland Security Activities	23,700	0	0	0%
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	42,400	0	4,694	11%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	93,500	0	10,098	11%
Hazards Analyses	9,100	0	0	0%
Transportation				
Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	502,000	0	112,911	22%
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	212,300	0	0	0%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	24,200	0	7,256	30%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	173,700	0	52,086	30%
Economic Development				
Comp Econ Development Strategy & Tech Assistance	108,000	33,759	60,770	56%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	35,000	11,003	14,820	42%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	39,000	0	34,000	87%
Vision North Central Florida			2,500	
Local Government Assistance				
General Technical Services	10,000	7,508	10,004	100%
City & County Planning Services	291,700	0	99,705	34%
Community Development Block Grant Administration	59,200	0	6,021	10%
Total Revenue	1,688,600	100,080	478,692	28%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
January 31, 2015

EXPENDITURES

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2014 - 15	January 2015	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Audit	15,000	1,651	1,651	11%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	31,000	6,886	16,290	53%
Contractual Services	20,000	1,947	16,536	83%
Dues, Publications & Subscriptions	50,000	13,197	43,013	86%
Furniture & Equipment	15,000	4,077	4,077	27%
Insurance and Bonding	18,000	6,629	12,373	69%
Legal Costs	14,000	6,423	11,053	79%
Machine Rental/Maintenance	5,000	887	1,973	39%
Meeting Expenses	19,000	3,232	6,386	34%
Moving Expense	2,000	0	0	0%
Office Supplies	21,000	3,235	6,877	33%
Personnel Costs	1,270,700	106,981	388,825	31%
Postage	8,000	295	1,524	19%
Printing	2,000	247	442	22%
Recruiting	2,000	60	60	3%
Reproduction	13,000	1,538	5,063	39%
Telephone	7,000	1,244	2,678	38%
Travel	98,000	9,489	22,612	23%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	39,000	0	0	0%
Contingency	38,900	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	1,688,600	168,017	541,433	32%



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: North Florida Economic Development Partnership
Experience North Florida Sponsorship

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Council being a Titanium Level Sponsor for the North Florida Economic Development Partnership *Experience North Florida* event in the amount of \$1,000.

BACKGROUND:

As you know, the North Florida Economic Development Partnership is the public-private partnership that promotes economic development in the 14-county North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. This area includes Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties in the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council region as well as Baker, Jefferson, Levy and Putnam Counties.

The Partnership is conducting an event entitled *Experience North Florida* at Steinhatchee Landing in Steinhatchee, FL on April 19-21, 2015. The purpose of the event is to connect site location consultants representing north Florida targeted industries with economic development professionals, state and regional project managers, state and local elected officials, corporate business leaders and other key decision-makers committed to attracting investment to the region.

The Partnership is soliciting sponsorships to underwrite the cost of the event. It is recommended that the Council be a sponsor at the Titanium Level for \$1,000. This level of sponsorship entitles the Council to have one attendee participate in all group functions and have the Council logo featured on all event printed materials, website and on-site signage.

If you have 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

February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program
 Planning Grant Resolution, Fiscal Year 2015-16

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution authorizing the Chair to enter into the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant agreement with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties, authorize the Chair to sign the grant assurances and agreements or contracts, and authorize the Executive Director to sign invoices, warranties and certifications for the program.

BACKGROUND:

As you know, the Council is the designated official planning agency, pursuant to the Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties. The designated official planning agency's responsibilities include Transportation Disadvantaged Program planning and providing the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards with staff support and resources to enable them to fulfill their responsibilities.

The Council receives approximately \$19,000 per County on a cost reimbursement basis to provide these services.

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

Attachment

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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.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-16 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 2015-16 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 26th day of February 2015.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

Carolyn B. Spooner, Chair



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

Appoint Lori Newman as the alternate Public Education Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards. It is recommended Lori Newman be appointed as the alternate Public Education Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

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

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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members
FROM: Carolyn B. Spooner, Chair
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Frank Ogborn

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Commissioner Frank Ogborn.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for his service on the Council since August 2010 and in recognition of his commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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Resolution

OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Frank Ogborn has been representing City of Archer on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since August 2010;

WHEREAS, Frank Ogborn has ably discharged his duties throughout his association with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Frank Ogborn for the dedicated service he has rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and for his concern for the future growth and development of this area and the State of Florida; and

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

Carolyn B. Spooner, Chair

ATTEST:

Rick Davis, Secretary-Treasurer

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF February 26, 2015.






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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolutions of appreciation for William Cummings, Donna Hagan and Betty Touma.

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolutions of appreciation are regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. William Cummings served as the Citizen Advocate on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since June 2005. Ms. Donna Hagan served as the Citizen Advocate-User on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since February 2007. Betty Touma served as the Elderly Representative on the Dixie County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 1996.

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

Attachments

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, William Cummings has served as the Citizen Advocate on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since June 2005; and

WHEREAS, William Cummings ably discharged his duties as the Citizen Advocate 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 William Cummings for the dedicated service he rendered to the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, and for his 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 William Cummings.

Carolyn B. Spooner Chair

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

February 26, 2015

Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Donna Hagan has served as the Citizen Advocate-User on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since February 2007; and

WHEREAS, Donna Hagan ably discharged her duties as the Citizen Advocate-User on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;

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

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

Carolyn B. Spooner Chair

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

February 26, 2015

Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Betty Touma has served as the Elderly Representative on the Dixie County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 1996; and

WHEREAS, Betty Touma ably discharged her duties as the Elderly Representative on the Dixie 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 Betty Touma for the dedicated service she rendered to the Dixie County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, and for her concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Dixie 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 Betty Touma.

Carolyn B. Spooner Chair

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

February 26, 2015

Date



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Carolyn B. Spooner, Chair

SUBJECT: Certificate of Service for Council Employee

As you know, the Council amended its Personnel Regulations to establish an Employee Length of Service Program.

The strength and stability of an organization is based upon the experience and institutional knowledge of its senior, long-serving employees. Steven Dopp has been an employee of the Council since January 2, 1985 and currently serves as Senior Planner in the Regional Planning, Economic Development and Transportation Programs. As a token of appreciation for 30 years of service to the Council and in recognition of his dedicated service to the Council, a certificate of service is being presented to Mr. Dopp.

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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Sandra Haas, Chair
 Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

I. COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:00 p.m., February 26, 2015 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.

Campus Master Plans

#20- University of Florida Draft Campus Master Plan Update, 2015-2025

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

#35 - City of Starke Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 15-1ER)

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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VI.C.

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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report

In a manner similar to the process required by local governments, every five years each regional planning council is required to perform an evaluation and appraisal of its Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

The evaluation and appraisal process is a two-step process. The first step involves the preparation and adoption of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report. The second step involves the preparation and adoption of amendments to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

The purpose of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report is to evaluate the progress of the regional plan at achieving the goals and at implementing the policies contained in the plan. The Evaluation and Appraisal Report should identify those areas of the plan in need of revision based on new information, changes to Florida Statutes, or changing regional trends and conditions. Subsequent to the adoption of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report, amendments may need to be prepared and considered by the Council for adoption based upon the recommendations contained in the Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

The Regional Planning Committee met on January 22, 2015 to review the purpose and function of the plan as well as the amendment history of the plan. The Committee will meet on February 26, 2015 to continue its review of the plan focusing on the Affordable Housing Element

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

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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity 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 January 2015 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven.

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

Attachment

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Sheri Coven
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
sheri.coven@flregionalcouncils.org
(850) 294-0526

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: January 2015

OUTREACH

- Along with Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Chair of the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee, met with Bill Killingsworth, Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Community Development, to discuss several issues, including the need to move forward with the Governor's economic development appointments to regional planning councils.
- Along with Chairman Teeple, met with representatives of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Strategic Business Development and Bureau of Labor Market Statistics to see whether the Department and the Councils could better coordinate their respective economic modeling programs.
- Met with Jenna Titcomb and John Thomas from the Florida League of Cities regarding coordinating the regional activities of the Florida Local Government Coalition with the appropriate regional planning councils.
- Congratulated Jon Steverson on his appointment as the new Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
- Reached out to the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, District 3, to promote the continuation of the District's transportation planning contracts with the Apalachee and West Florida Regional Planning Councils.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in or attending the following meetings: Rural Economic Development Initiative; Florida Defense Support Task Force; Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s (EFI's) Stakeholders Council; EFI's Legislative Committee meeting; EFI's meeting of its Board of Directors; Florida .
- Prepared and submitted to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity FRCA's 2014-15 second quarter report demonstrating implementation of the *Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development*.
- Attended the first meeting of the Florida Department of Transportation's Florida Transportation Plan/Strategic Intermodal System Plan Update Steering Committee.
- Participated in the Florida Chamber Foundation's 2015 Transportation Summit.
- Participated in a planning meeting for the Florida Civic Advance inaugural annual conference, which is an initiative of the Florida Consensus Center.
- Distributed funding announcements from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA, and U.S. Department of Transportation.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

- Provided support to FRCA's Executive Director, Ron Book, and Chairman Teeple to address certain legislative issues.
- Coordinated with Mr. Book to ensure FRCA was represented at the Sadowski Coalition's meetings with House and Senate leadership.
- Finalized the 2015 FRCA Legislative Agenda as approved by the FRCA Policy Board on January 9, 2015 and posted it to the FRCA website.
- Created and distributed a Legislative Highlights report covering the January 5-9, 2015 Interim Committee Week and reviewed pertinent bills and issued related bill tracking reports.

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Worked with Mr. Book to respond to a constituent concern in the Withlacoochee region.
- Participated in a variety of conference calls involving the Executive Directors, FRCA President Pat Huff, and Policy Board presenters in preparation for the January 9, 2015 FRCA Policy Board meeting.
- Prepared for and participated in the January 8-9 FRCA meetings.
- Finalized the logistics, secured speakers, developed agendas, and drafted meeting summaries for the February 12-13, 2015 FRCA meetings.



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February 19, 2015

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 February 2015 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

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2030 Metrics

County Data

Interactive Chart

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Tourism Indicators

Since 2010, Florida's Private Sector Businesses Created 651,300 Jobs for Florida Families

DID YOU KNOW? Florida job creators added 12,800 private-sector jobs over the month of September which helped lower Florida's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate to 6.1%, down two basis points to one of the lowest since the recession began. Nine of the ten major industries across Florida experienced positive over the year job growth through September, with only government employment showing a decline over the year. In September, 66 of Florida's 67 counties saw unemployment drop.



Employment - Monthly

Since December of 2010, Florida has added 651,300 private-sector jobs and we have dropped five percentage points in unemployment, reducing Florida's unemployment rate from 11.1% to 6.1%. Our state has experienced 50 consecutive months of positive job growth and Florida's annual job growth rate has been better than the nation's rate since April of 2012.

Forecasts from the July meeting of the Florida Economic Estimating Conference suggest that, assuming no significant changes, Florida is forecasted to add approximately 200,000 over the year as it marches back to its peak employment by 2016.

As we project forward to 2030, population growth and demographic changes are going to play a big part in Florida's future workforce. Based on Florida Chamber Foundation estimates, we will need to create close to two million net new jobs across the state to maintain a six percent unemployment rate. "The kind of jobs we create will define the kind of Florida we live in," said Chamber Foundation Executive Vice President Tony Carvajal. "As the global landscape continues to evolve and Florida positions itself as the leading place for talent and economic opportunity, we will need to maintain a focus on the diversification of our economy in every community in order to achieve global competitiveness, high wage jobs, and vibrant and sustainable communities."

Is your community experiencing the benefits of the economic recovery of the last four years? What kind of activities would you like to see the state continue, or avoid, as we continue our growth? How is your community and industry preparing for the economy of tomorrow? [Tell us your story](#)

Florida Net 12-Month Job Creation



FLORIDA JOBS



SCORECARD NEWSLETTER

Provide your email address to receive monthly Scorecard updates

SUBSCRIBE

Ranking Florida

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 an labor force of over 9 million, ready to meet the workforce needs of businesses...



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

The 2015 regular Legislature session will convene on March 3, 2015 and adjourn on May 1, 2015. The legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of January 5, 2015
- Week of January 20, 2015
- Week of February 2, 2015
- Week of February 9, 2015
- Week of February 16, 2015

The following paragraphs provide a summary of bills of interest to date.

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS

Senate Bill 484 by Senator Simpson relates to regional planning councils. Requires the state land planning agency to identify parties that may enter into mediation relating to the compatibilities of developments with military installations; requires electric utilities to notify the county, rather than the regional planning council, of its current plans to site electric substations; authorizes local governments to enter into agreements to create regional planning entities; revises the requirements for the statewide emergency shelter plan to include general location and square footage of special needs shelters by county rather than by regional planning council region. **Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development; and Appropriations Committee.**

This bill removes regional planning councils from all state statutes and transfers their duties and responsibilities to other entities.

There is no companion House bill.

DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT

Senate Bill 562 by Senator Simpson relates to developments of regional impact. Requires plan amendments proposing a development that qualifies as a development of regional impact to be subject to the state coordinated review process; provides that new proposed developments are subject to the state coordinated review process and not the development of regional impact review process. **Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Transportation Committee; and Rules Committee.**

House Bill 579 by Representative Gaetz relates to developments of regional impact. Requires plan amendments for developments that are developments regional impact to follow the state coordinated review process; provides that certain proposed developments that are considered developments regional impact are subject to the state coordinated review process and not the developments regional impact review process. **Referred to the 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.**

SECTOR PLANS

Senate Bill 832 by Senator Simpson relates to sector plans. Requires that comprehensive plan amendments that propose an amendment to an adopted sector plan follow the specified state-coordinated review process; establishes that this section is intended to promote development of a long-term vision for conservation, development and agriculture on a landscape scale; provides that an applicant may request a preapplication conference with the local government that has jurisdiction before filing an application for a detailed specific area plan, subject to certain requirements; requires the applicant for a detailed specific area plan to transmit copies of the application to specified reviewing agencies for review and comment. **No committee referrals to date.**

There is no companion House bill.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY WEB PAGE

House Bill 75 by Representative Combee relates to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity web page. Requires the Department to create a web page accessible through its internet website that provides certain information; provides purpose of web page; requires the Department to collect all local business information available to the Department; requires the Department to request relevant local government to provide any otherwise unavailable information; requires local governments to provide notice of changes in information collected by the Department; authorizes local government entities to provide summary that includes certain information for the Department's web page.

The new website is to be solely dedicated to the collection and publication of data and information that are relevant and of significance to the creation of new business within the state or the expansion of existing businesses within the state. The purpose for doing so is to (a) provide a comprehensive overview of conditions that exist within the various cities and counties of the state that are conducive or advantageous to the creation of new businesses or the expansion of existing businesses; (b) enable prospective employers both within and outside the state to effectively and accurately evaluate the business climate of cities and counties within the state; and (c) provide prospective business owners and operators and cities and counties within the state with immediate access to specific charges and costs related to the establishment, operation, and maintenance of a business in any city or county within the state. The Department is given until January 1, 2016 to collect the data then post it to its web page "as soon as practicable." The bill includes a lengthy list of the specific information that is to be collected. **Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee; Local Government Affairs Subcommittee; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; and Economic Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee.**

Senate Bill 232 by Senator Hays relates to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Requires the Department to create a web page accessible through its internet website that provides certain information; provides the purpose of the web page. **Referred to Commerce and Tourism Committee; Community Affairs Committee; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Committee; and Fiscal Policy Committee.**

FREIGHT LOGISTICS ZONES

House Bill 257 by Representative Ray relates to freight logistics zones. Defines freight logistics zone, authorizes county or two or more contiguous counties to designate geographic area or areas within its jurisdiction as freight logistics zone; requires adoption of strategic plan which must include certain information; provides that certain projects within freight logistics zones may be eligible for priority in state funding and certain incentive programs; provides evaluation criteria for freight logistics zones.

The bill defines a freight logistic zone as a grouping of activities and infrastructure associated with freight transportation and related services within a defined area around intermodal logistics center as defined in Section 311.101(2), Florida Statutes. It allows a county or two or more contagious counties to designate a geographic area or areas within its jurisdiction as a freight logistics zone. The designation must include a strategic plan adopted by the county(ies) that includes a map depicting the geographic area of the jurisdiction and identification of existing or planned freight facilities or logistics clusters; existing transportation infrastructure; existing workforce availability; existing planned local, state, or federal workforce training capabilities; any local, state, or federal plans concerning the movement of freight; and financial or other local government incentives to encourage new development, expansion of existing development, or redevelopment with the proposed zone. The plan must include documentation that it is consistent with applicable local government comprehensive plans and adopted metropolitan planning organizations long-range transportation plans. Projects within these zones that are consistent with the state's Freight Mobility and Trade Plan may be eligible for priority state funding and incentives. Criteria for determining that eligibility are included in the bill. **Referred to the Transportation and Ports Subcommittee; and Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee. Passed by Transportation and Ports Subcommittee. The bill is now in Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee.**

There is no companion Senate bill.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

House Bill 551 by Representative Perry relates to private property rights. Requires local governments to address protection of private property rights in their comprehensive plans; requires comprehensive plan to include property rights element that addresses certain objectives; requires counties and municipalities to adopt land development regulations consistent with property rights element. **Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee; Local Government Affairs Subcommittee; and Economic Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee.**

There is no companion Senate bill.

WATER AND LAND CONSERVATION AMENDMENT

Senate Bill 586 by Senator Dean relates to water and land conservation constitutional amendment. Provides that specified distributions to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund are not subject to the service charge under Section 215.20 Florida Statutes repeals provisions relating to beach erosion control project staffing, funding for the state beach management plan, and the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund; requires specified public recreation projects to have been selected through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's competitive selection process prior to the release of funds. **Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; and Appropriations Committee. The bill is now in Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee.**

AGRITOURISM

Senate Bill 594 by Senator Stargel relates to agritourism. Prohibits a local government from enforcing an ordinance, regulation, rule or policy that prohibits, restricts, regulates, or otherwise limits an agritourism activity on land classified as agricultural land. **Referred to Agriculture Committee; Community Affairs Committee; and Rules Committee. Passed by the Agriculture Committee. The bill is now in the Community Affairs Committee.**

There is no companion House bill.

WATER CONSERVATION

House Bill 605 by Representative Porter relates to water conservation. Authorizes local governments to adopt certain residential and nonresidential landscape irrigation conservation measures; authorizes water management district governing boards and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to issue water shortage notice in public information release and post such notice on the district's or the Department's website; directs water management district governing boards in affected and adjacent counties to issue certain orders and provide certain notice when emergency conditions exist due to water shortage. **Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee; Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; and State Affairs Committee. The bill is now in Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee.**

There is no companion Senate bill.

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




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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Economic Development District
 Grantee Performance Report
 for the Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

As you know, 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.

Please find attached the Grantee Performance Report for the period from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. As indicated on the attached report, an estimated 342 jobs were either created or retained, an estimated \$476,000,000 in private investment and an estimated \$21,000,000 in public investment occurred on five projects that implement the Strategy for the reporting period.

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

Attachment

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Economic Development Administration
GPRA Data Collection Form

Economic Development Districts and Indian Tribes

PART I

Date December 1, 2014
Recipient Name North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Full Address 2009 NW 67th Place Gainesville FL 32653
Authorized Contact Scott R. Koons
Telephone (352) 955-2200 Fax (352) 955-2209
Email (not optional) koons@ncfrpc.org
EDA Investment Planning Partnership Investments
Investment Number 04-88-06491 Award Period 01-Jan-2014 to 31-Dec-2014
Description of Investment: Economic Development District ☒ Indian Tribe ☐

PART II

Recipients Provide the Following Information

1. Economic Development Districts (EDD) only

- a. Number of Sub-state Jurisdictions eligible to participate in the EDD 44
- b. Number of Sub-state Jurisdictions actively participating by attending meetings or financially contributing to the EDD. 24

2. Economic Development Districts and Indian Tribes

- a. Number of economic development initiatives from the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process implemented during the investment award period that led to private investment and jobs. 5
- b. Categorize type of project(s):
- | | Qty. | | Qty. |
|---|----------|----------------|----------|
| Facility Construction / Rehab. | <u>5</u> | Infrastructure | <u>0</u> |
| Technical Assistance | <u>0</u> | Planning | <u>0</u> |
| (total of these five must be equal to 2a) | | Other | <u>0</u> |
- c. How many (if any) of the above were: Technology 3 Brownfields (should be subset of projects identified in 2b)
- d. Number of Investments Funded by Any Source: (Total must equal 2a. If EDA-funded investment, include only those awarded by EDA, during this reporting period and have an EDA investment number. Do not count this planning investment.)

EDA Funded (Qty) 0 Funded by Other Source (Qty) 5

- e. Attach a list of economic development initiatives reported in 2a. Identify the sources of funding for each initiative, specify EDA, state, local or other federal agency(s).
- f. Estimated number of jobs created or retained as a result of projects in 2a 342
- g. Estimated amount of private sector investment generated by projects in 2a \$476,000,000
- h. Estimated amount of public sector investment generated by projects in 2a \$21,000,000



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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Competitive Florida Partnership Program

Last year the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity established the Competitive Florida Partnership Program to help rural communities value and market local assets and challenge them to set realistic goals for advancing their economic development vision. Each year, the Department selects four rural communities to assist with designing and developing innovative strategies that promote partnerships, community design and a viable local economy through asset based economic development.

Asset-based economic development is a bottom-up approach that focuses on developing and promoting existing local resources to strengthen the local economy. The approach focuses on tangible and intangible assets of a rural community combined with economic advantages and how these can be leveraged into sustainable economic growth and prosperity. Assets in a rural community may include but are not limited to:

- individual and human capital;
- associations and voluntary networks;
- political advocates;
- historical and cultural resources;
- natural landscapes, including renewable and nonrenewable material resources;
- financial assets;
- built environment, including transportation networks communications facilities, utilities, public facilities; and
- commercial buildings; institutions, such as schools, hospitals and government agencies.

The Department of Economic Opportunity works with the selected rural communities to identify and market these assets and facilitate promotional opportunities to bring economic development to their community.

The City of Starke has recently been selected as one of the four rural communities to participate in the second year of the Competitive Florida Partnership Program. The City of Newberry and the Town of White Springs were participating rural communities in the first year of the Program. Council staff was a participating stakeholder in the processes with these communities and is also participating in the City of Starke process.

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

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February 19, 2015

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Check Fraud Status Report

On March 20, 2013, a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 that was written on the Council's bank account was processed and paid by Wells Fargo. Also on March 20, 2013, Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo. On March 25, 2013, Council staff filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department.

On March 28, 2013, Council Attorney Jonathan Wershow and Council staff briefed the Executive Committee concerning this matter. On April 18, 2013, the Council Attorney sent a letter to Wells Fargo requesting that Wells Fargo remit to the Council within 30 days the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's account. On April 25, 2013, Council staff briefed the Council concerning this matter. On June 3, 2013, attorneys for Wells Fargo responded via letter to Mr. Wershow's letter stating that Wells Fargo will not reimburse the Council for the \$49,523.00 released from the Council's account by Wells Fargo.

On July 25, 2013, the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00 and designate Scott Koons, Executive Director, as the Council's representative concerning all matters related to such lawsuit. In addition, the Council authorized the Council Attorney and the Executive Director to contact federal and state law enforcement agencies to discuss the fraudulent check processed and paid out of the Council's bank account by Wells Fargo.

On August 5, 2013, Council Attorney Wershow and I met with Mr. William Cervone, State's Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida to discuss the check fraud incident. Mr. Cervone offered the assistance of his staff to work with the Gainesville Police Department to secure the bank records relating to the check fraud incident.

On August 6, 2013, Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Council Stanley Cushman filed a five-count lawsuit in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida, against Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's bank account.

February 19, 2015

Page 2

On September 9, 2013, Wells Fargo responded to the complaint by filing a Motion to Compel Arbitration. Wells Fargo alleges that disputes related to the Council's checking account are to be resolved by an arbitrator. Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman responded to the motion stating arbitration does not apply to the dispute.

A hearing was scheduled for October 30, 2013 in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida on the Motion to Compel Arbitration filed by Wells Fargo to resolve the dispute between the Council and Wells Fargo. However, the hearing was rescheduled for January 24, 2014. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Circuit Court granted the Motion to Compel Arbitration.

A letter was sent to Wells Fargo on May 13, 2014 requesting additional information concerning the disputed check. On September 24, 2014 a Notice of Arbitration and Statement of Claim was filed with the American Arbitration Association by Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman on behalf of the Council. On October 14, 2014 attorneys from Wells Fargo filed a Respondent's Answering Statement to the Statement of Claim.

Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman have coordinated with the attorney of Wells Fargo on the selection of an arbitrator and on January 8, 2015 mutually agreed to American Arbitration Association Arbitrator Robert Cowles of Jacksonville, FL. On February 2, 2015 a preliminary arbitration conference was held via teleconference. The arbitrator and parties have agreed to schedule the arbitration hearing for May 11, 2015 in Gainesville, FL.

Please find attached a summary of legal fees incurred to date concerning the lawsuit.

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

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Wells Fargo Lawsuit
Legal Fees

February 19, 2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 2013	\$1,383
September 2013	\$2,253
October 2013	\$3,445
November 2013	\$180
December 2013	\$0
January 2014	\$2,760
February 2014	\$1,410
March 2014	\$2,502
April 2014	\$2,669
May 2014	\$2,970
June 2014	\$6,515
July 2014	\$330
August 2014	\$420
September 2014	\$810
October 2014	\$3,429
November 2014	\$0
December 2014	<u>\$2,295</u>
Total	\$33,371