

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SERVING



2000 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Council's most important objectives during the past year have been to encourage continued improvement in the management of the region's growth, to become more proficient in providing services to our cities and counties, and to make greater strides in expanding our economic development efforts. We are pleased to present this report to relate our accomplishments as we have pursued these ends.

In meeting our responsibilities for regional decision-making, the Council has continued to provide a forum for city and county elected officials and gubernatorial appointees to collectively resolve issues that have impacts that transcend local government boundaries. This has involved aggressively implementing our Strategic Regional Policy Plan. We have also maintained a number of regional service-oriented programs which help improve the quality of life in the area, including such programs as hazardous materials planning and monitoring, local emergency planning, and services for the transportation disadvantaged. Furthermore, our community technical assistance service to our members has never been more active.

With respect to improving the economy, we have redoubled our efforts to expose the region to national and international regions. This has resulted in significant success in expanding tourism support and in

educating our area businesses to the potential of marketing their products on a worldwide basis.

These and other activities of the Council are discussed more thoroughly in the pages that follow. Also provided is a summary of the organization's financial status, and a brief look at the year ahead.

On behalf of the Council, I want to thank member local governments, the region's citizens, and our staff for their continued cooperation and support. Your interest and participation are essential to our meeting the challenges of the future.

Sincerely,



W. Ray Kirkland
Chairman



The North Central Florida Region includes 11 counties and 33 incorporated municipalities in the north central portion of Florida. Containing nearly 7,000 square miles of area, the region is characterized by its abundant natural resources, which include the world-famous Suwannee River, the marshes of the Gulf Coast, cypress swamps, upland forests, a large number of clear turquoise springs, and many other beautiful physical features.

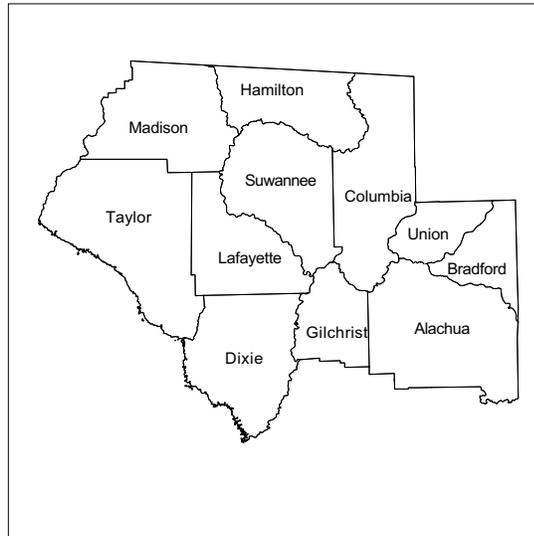
Much of the region is currently sparsely populated although this is beginning to change as people from other parts of the world, nation and Florida are discovering the amenities of north Florida living. According to estimates by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Florida, the population of the region in 1999 was 434,171, an increase of 79,975 people over the 1990 Census count.

The region's economic base relies heavily on the government and services sectors, with the University of Florida in Gainesville accounting for a major portion of the government employment. The City of Gainesville is the regional marketing center and, together with Alachua County, accounts for 50.0 percent of the region's total population.

North Central Florida Region



North Central Florida Counties



The Council is an association of 25 units of general purpose local government. Membership includes all 11 counties and 14 of the region's larger municipalities. One-third of the total representatives is appointed by the Governor, with the remainder appointed by member local governments. Two-thirds of the representatives must be local-elected officials.

All Council representatives sit collectively as the full Council which meets monthly. At its May meeting, this group adopts the annual budget and a work program. Also at this meeting, the Council elects the organization's officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer from among its ranks.

Council members serve on several standing and ad hoc committees appointed by the Chairman. One of the purposes of these various committees is to advise the Council on planning and development activities which come before the Council for review and comment. The Council serves as a forum for the coordination and review of federal/state/local government, and private sector planning and development programs and activities affecting the region.

In addition to the regional planning and review activities, the Council provides a large variety of services to benefit its local governments. These services, carried out by staff, include: technical planning assistance, grant and local planning assistance including grant administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities.

ALACHUA COUNTY

- * Stephen Blakewood
Charles Chestnut
Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson
- * Dale McPherson
- * William Nauls
Dave Newport
- * Tom Robinson

ALACHUA

Gib Coerper

ARCHER

William Copeland

GAINESVILLE

John Barrow
Chuck Chestnut
Pegeen Hanrahan

HAWTHORNE

Eddie Martin

HIGH SPRINGS

John Hill
Kathy Pults#

MICANOPY

Steve Elder

NEWBERRY

Grady Hartzog

WALDO

Louie Davis

BRADFORD COUNTY

- Joseph Riddick
- * E.W. Hodges

STARKE

Steve Futch

COLUMBIA COUNTY

- James Montgomery
- * Dixie Donovan

LAKE CITY

W. Ray Kirkland

DIXIE COUNTY

- John D. Driggers
- * Kathryn McInnis

GILCHRIST COUNTY

- * Emory Philman
Sue Suggs

HAMILTON COUNTY

- * Jim Tompkins
Lewis Vaughn

JASPER

Matthew Hawkins

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Gail Garrard

MADISON COUNTY

- Mike Woods
- * Lorata Franklin

CITY OF MADISON

Judy McGhee

SUWANNEE COUNTY

- * Sandra K. Haas
Donald M. Odom, Sr.

LIVE OAK

Garth R. "Sonny" Nobles, Jr.

TAYLOR COUNTY

- * W. Mike Deming
Edd Sadler

PERRY

William Alexander

UNION COUNTY

- Ricky Jenkins
- * Billy Ray Foister

**Gubernatorial Appointees*

#Non-voting representative

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Robert Christianson, *St. John's River Water Management District*
Patricia Reynolds, *Department of Environmental Protection*
Aage Schroeder, *Department of Transportation*
Kirk Webster, *Suwannee River Water Management District*

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

The eleven counties comprising the North Central Florida Region, whose number of residents has increased dramatically during the last 10 years, are becoming increasingly aware of the opportunities and problems that population growth can create for local governments. Often, dealing with issues of growth opens up opportunities for regional cooperation and planning.

Being an association of local governments with strong ties to state and federal agencies, the Council is in a unique position to coordinate the development and implementation of strategies designed to address the problems and opportunities created by growth.

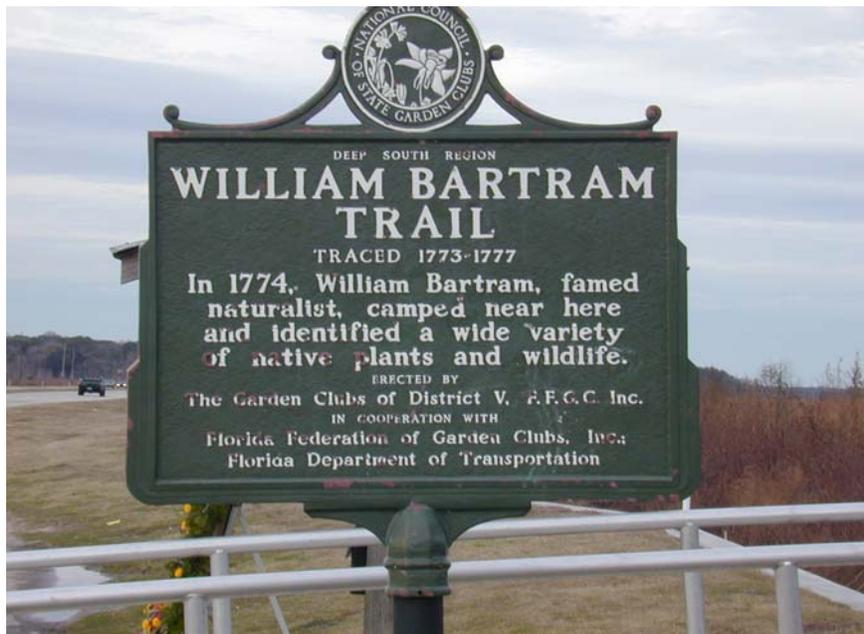
Growth Management

4 Not many changes have occurred since the enactment of significant changes to Florida's growth management laws by the 1993 Legislature. In fact, it took much of the intervening time to implement the changes made at that time.

One of the more significant changes was the conversion of the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan (CRPP) which was required to address all 26 goals of the State Comprehensive Plan (SCP), to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) which is required to address 5 issue areas: Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Emergency Preparedness, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, and Regional Transportation.

The Council adopted its SRPP in May, 1996, and, due to objections of the Florida Department of Community Affairs and the Governor's Office, amended the plan in 1997 to include maps depicting the locations where sightings of threatened and endangered species have occurred in past years, along with policies for their protection.

In accordance with Florida law, the Council completed a 5-year assessment (EAR) of its regional plan during this past year. It found a number of successes, but it also found several areas where the plan needs to be updated to incorporate changes created by recent legislation. These changes will be considered as amendments to the SRPP during the Year 2001.



Hazardous Materials Planning Program

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) gives Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) the job of increasing chemical safety in our communities. Florida's Accident Prevention Program adds the additional duty to help prevent chemical accidents from happening in the first place. The emergency response plan for the North Central Florida Region was last updated on May 19, 2000.

The NCFLEPC helped to start the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, based primarily on Gainesville Fire Rescue's hazmat team. Planning Council staff assisted the LEPC in writing an interlocal agreement, initially for 5 counties and 3 municipalities, to allow responders from different agencies to coordinate their actions better at a chemical spill.

The goal is to expand the team to the entire 11-county region once it is fully functional. These local governments are also adopting cost recovery ordinances so that the spiller, and not the local government, pays the cost of an emergency response to a chemical spill.

Grants from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program continue to fund training and planning programs. Free hazardous materials emergency response training classes were held for first responders including firefighters, law enforcement, emergency medical, and public works personnel. Over 3,100 people have been trained during the first six years of the training program.

The internet and email are being used to help distribute hazardous materials safety information to responders, regulated companies and the general public. The LEPC



One goal of the LEPC is that every county be able to operate its own decontamination operation.

website (ncflepc.org) is operated out of the Council's office and received around 8,000 visits during 2000.

Hazardous Waste Program

Florida Statutes require that each county in the state conduct annual Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Hazardous Waste Assessment, Notification and Verification programs. For the past ten years many of our counties have contracted with the Council to conduct these programs and have paid for them out of general revenues.

In late 1996, the Council received the first regional SQG grant awarded by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The grant is for up to \$54,000 per year for a five-year cycle. On-site inspections of approximately 20 percent of the businesses in Bradford, Columbia,

Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties were conducted in 2000.

A main goal of the project includes providing additional educational materials and recommendations to local businesses and government agencies that need to improve their waste management procedures. Information is also provided on recycling and reducing the amounts of hazardous waste generated by using less-hazardous materials.

Review Activities

One of the ways the Council implements its regional plan is through several review responsibilities. The Governor has designated the Council as the areawide clearinghouse for all federally-funded projects that affect the region, and several other review activities are undertaken as a result of state legislation.

The Council's Clearinghouse Committee is responsible for overseeing these review activities. In the year 2000, the Committee conducted a review of 207 different projects submitted by private developers, units of local government, and state and federal agencies. Reviews included the following types:

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□ applications for federal assistance

□ developments of regional impact

□ local comprehensive plans and

plan amendments

□ local emergency management plans

□ 10-year site plans of major electric utilities

□ environmental impact statements, assessments, and Army Corps of Engineers permit requests

□ state agency functional plans, projects and proposed rules

The Clearinghouse Committee reviews these projects to:

1. avoid or mitigate potential adverse impacts that may be created by an activity in neighboring communities or counties;

2. insure coordination and consistency with local government and strategic regional policy plans; and

3. avoid duplication or conflict with other local or area plans and programs.



The Council comments on a number of activities proposed within the region such as the Alachua West Development of Regional Impact project which is being planned to surround the new Dollar General site in the City of Alachua.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Council supports increases in economic activity, employment, and the standard of living throughout its service area through its business development program.

Council staff provide technical assistance to new and existing business owners. Assistance includes active partnership roles with other business development entities in the region as well as support with capital acquisition, counseling and referral of new business inquiries.

Certified Development Company

The North Central Florida Areawide Development Company (ADCO) is a U. S. Small Business Administration Certified Development Company (CDC) operated by the staff of the Council. The program is governed by a 9-member Board of Directors whose members include business owners, bankers, and community leaders. The Board provides financing assistance through the SBA 504 Program to small businesses in a 12-county area.

There are more than 260 CDCs in the United States, and nine operate in Florida. Over \$11 billion in SBA 504 loans have been funded by CDCs nationwide as a part of the SBA's Economic Development Program, with \$1.8 billion approved in FYE 2000.

ADCO processed and approved loans totaling \$1.2 million in SBA funding for projects totaling over \$3.3 million during the past year. These six project approvals represented the creation or retention of 71 jobs in the region.

ADCO has funded SBA 504 loans totaling more than \$11.2 million, which have provided 436 jobs, in addition to the impact on

property taxes for their respective counties. The total impact of the projects, including bank financing and owners' equity, was over \$36 million. Ten financial institutions have participated with ADCO in providing this financing.

The SBA 504 Loan Program provides financing for fixed assets, such as buildings, machinery and equipment, when the project will create or retain jobs in the community. Businesses must be "for-profit" and meet size requirements to be eligible. Loans are made in cooperation with a bank or other lending institution to finance as much as 90% of eligible project costs.

The 504 loan is secured by a second lien on the project assets, and provides 20-year, fixed rate maturities for real estate, and 10-year terms for machinery and equipment. New businesses or special purpose properties may require a higher down payment than the typical 10% down for conventional properties and existing businesses.

Congress has recently passed new legislation which will enhance the 504 program in the future. Loans to women-owned businesses are now included in the Administration's Public Policy Goals, and financing may

now be provided for up to \$1.3 million for qualified projects, increased from \$1 million. The conventional SBA loan limits were also increased from \$750,000 to \$1 million.

SBA 504 loans are funded by debentures sold in the open market, which are guaranteed by the U.S. Small Business Administration, thus giving small businesses access to the capital markets. As a result, government funds are not used to fund the projects.

In addition to packaging, closing, and servicing its SBA 504 portfolio, ADCO fields inquiries from current and prospective small businesses in the region who are seeking financial advice, and questions are handled and referrals suggested, where appropriate.

The Educational Child Care Center (shown below) has recently opened in Gainesville in a former real estate office. The business was previously home-based, but can now care for up to 30 kids at the new location.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During the past year, the economic development program of the Council consisted of economic development planning and implementation activities, and tourism promotion activities.

Economic Development Planning

Since the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) designated the region as an Economic Development District in 1978, the Council continues to maintain a high level of involvement in providing technical assistance to local governments and development authorities in order to promote economic growth.

8 In 2000, EDA approved a multi-year award (2000-2003) for District Planning Assistance. Also, the Council continued to work with the Florida State Rural Development Council (FSRDC), Enterprise Florida, Inc., VISIT FLORIDA and the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) within the Executive Office of the Governor in defining strategies for dealing with the problems and needs of rural Florida.

"The Original Florida" Tourism Development Activities

The Original Florida tourism promotion program wrapped up another successful year of implementing its strategic plan.

The Original Florida Tourism Task Force is comprised of representatives from each of the participating counties who are appointed by their County Commissions to oversee and direct the tourism promotion effort. The members have varied backgrounds which they bring to the program, but they share one thing in common—the desire to carve out their share of the number of tourists who visit Florida each year, and to do so without harming the very (natural) resources which are the mainstay of the area's attractions.

The region enjoyed another year successfully promoting *The Original Florida* area. To date, over 120 travel writers have visited the area who, in turn, have written and have published in various news media (travel magazines, travel sections in major newspapers throughout the country, etc.) a total of more than 750 articles, reaching an audience exceeding 85 million readers.

During this past year, a photo library of over 1,000 photos was established in the Lake City welcome Center, a 76-page, 16-county Regional Tour Guide Book was developed, and an Education/Information Power Point presentation on the benefits of Nature/Heritage Tourism was completed.

Additionally, the Task Force has been in the process of redesigning its map brochure and plans to print 300,000 of the new document. The brochures are distributed at each of the five Florida Welcome Centers, Lake City Welcome Center, Alachua

County Welcome Center, each of the eleven County Chambers of Commerce, area hotels and lodging establishments, and several real estate agencies.



North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership

In late 1996, the eleven counties of north central Florida joined together in forming a regional partnership known as the North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership. The formation of the regional partnership set in motion the opportunity for local agencies to take full advantage of the re-alignment of functions of the Florida Department of Commerce into OTTED and the creation of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Recognizing that the region has a number of functioning local economic development programs in addition to several regional efforts, the Partnership provides a forum to coordinate, complement, and enhance those economic development programs.

The regional partnership requires financial or in-kind commitments from the private and public sectors. Efforts in 2000 were directed to: (1) promoting a regional identity; (2) active participation in Community

Showcases, Trade Events, and Incoming Trade Missions sponsored by Enterprise Florida and the World Trade Center in Jacksonville; and (3) providing assistance in overseeing the tourism and aquaculture activities of *The Original Florida's Hidden Coast* counties.

Also in 1999, the Council obtained a grant from Enterprise Florida to promote international trade and foreign investments in the region. The grant funding offered the Hidden Coast Shellfish Producers Association, Inc., the opportunity to participate in a graduate program at the University of Florida (IB 2000) promoting international trade. Additionally, the Association president participated in a "Team Florida Trade Mission" to Mexico City which was led by Governor Bush. In 2000, the Partnership Chairman participated in the "Team Florida Trade Mission" to Sao Paulo, Brazil, which was also led by Governor Bush.

"The Original Florida's Hidden Coast"

Subsequent to the successful attainment of a grant from the Ford Foundation, the Big Bend Tri-County



Task Force was formed in late 1995. The task force was comprised of residents, business owners, and local government officials from Dixie, Levy, and Taylor counties. The Council utilized the grant to employ a coordinator to work with the task force as it addressed the economic revitalization of the tri-county area.

Efforts in 2000 included continued promotion of and assistance to the aquaculture industry and nature based tourism for the tri-county area. The 4th Annual Naturefest will be held at Fanning Springs on March 31, 2001.

Given the successes and progress of the program in its first and second two-year grants, the Ford Foundation agreed to continue providing financial assistance to the Council over a third two-year period ending in March, 2002.



Eddy Hillhouse, Chairman of the Partnership and President of the Suwannee County Economic Alliance at the Partnership exhibit in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

During 2000, the Council offered technical assistance to local governments which do not have available staff or expertise for certain activities. These activities ranged from comprehensive planning to community development.

Comprehensive Planning

In response to the requirements of Florida growth management legislation, the Council places a significant emphasis on comprehensive planning assistance for local governments.

During 2000, the Council continued to assist the region's counties and cities in complying with the requirements of the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act.

On-going comprehensive planning assistance was provided to local governments to assist with interpretations of comprehensive plans and land development regulations, preparation of comprehensive plan and land development regulation amendments, concurrency assessments of plats, and site and development plans.

In particular, the Council assisted 7 counties and 12 municipalities process 338 development-related applications. This assistance included the review and adoption of 73 comprehensive plan map and text amendments. The Council also assisted these local governments in making 109 land development regulation map and text amendments, 95 land development regulation special exceptions and special permits, 35 concurrency assess-

ments for plats, variances, non-conforming use changes and building permits, and 26 site and development plans.

In addition, the Council assisted 8 counties and 4 municipalities with the preparation of Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based amendments to their comprehensive plans. These amendments were developed using the recently completed Evaluation and Appraisal Report documents adopted by these local governments. The reports evaluated the comprehensive plans for these jurisdictions and identified any amendments needed to bring the comprehensive plan into compliance with statutory and administrative rule revisions.

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



Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

The Council assisted local governments in assessing their community development needs in 2000. These assessments addressed the need for housing rehabilitation, commercial revitalization, economic development and neighborhood revitalization. These community development needs assessments resulted in the Council assisting with the preparation of the following Community Development Block Grant applications in 2000:

Housing

Bradford County - \$750,000
Lafayette County - \$600,000
Union County - \$600,000
Lake City - \$750,000
City of Madison - \$600,000

Neighborhood Revitalization

Suwannee County - \$750,000
Trenton - \$550,000

Commercial Revitalization

City of Madison - \$600,000

The Council continued to provide administrative assistance on current projects for Taylor County, Live Oak, Perry, Trenton and White Springs. In addition, administrative assistance was initiated for new projects in Columbia County, Live Oak, Mayo and Perry.

Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)

The Council assisted Union County with the preparation of a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant application for the development of a park totaling \$50,000 in recreation improvements.

Community Development Block Grant funds were utilized to provide a turn lane and extend water lines to a site enabling the construction of a new hotel which resulted in the creation of new employment opportunities in Perry.



Through an interlocal agreement signed by the Florida Department of Transportation, Alachua County and the City of Gainesville, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) was formed to conduct transportation planning activities in the Gainesville metropolitan area. This coordinated planning program is required in order for the area to receive federal funds for transportation projects. The Council serves as staff, providing technical and administrative assistance in developing transportation plans and programs.

Another major transportation planning activity is the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. This program is required in order for counties to receive state funds for transportation services to low-income individuals, elderly individuals, persons with disabilities and children-at-risk.

MTPO ACTIVITIES

In the year 2000, the MTPO conducted a number of transportation planning activities.

Year 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

During 2000, the MTPO continued updating the long range transportation plan for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. This planning effort examined the following four distinctly different alternative land use patterns, each requiring a different set of transportation projects.

Westward growth- a continuation of historical and current development patterns orientated toward a predominately suburban, low-density segregated land use pattern. **Compact growth**- a pattern which would promote development in the traditional urban core area of the County's municipalities to encourage more pedestrian, bicycle and transit travel.

Town/Village Center- A pattern which would concentrate development in a limited number of intensively developed, mixed use centers.

Radial development - A pattern which would locate a limited number of intensively developed, mixed use centers along major linear corridors linking outlying municipalities with Gainesville.

After testing and evaluating these alternative land use patterns, the MTPO adopted a hybrid that combines elements of the compact, town/village center and radial concepts. This adopted plan was called the "Livable Community Reinvestment Plan." This plan contains the following three key components:

1. re-investing in the traditional core areas of Gainesville and other municipalities in Alachua County to develop walkable downtown centers;
2. connecting a limited number of highly developed mixed-use centers; and
3. providing a high level of premium transit service in the Archer Road corridor.



Over \$400,000 is being spent to beautify Gainesville's eastern entrance after a section of State Road 20 was 4-laned during this past year. The MTPO Design Team worked with the state DOT to develop a landscape plan for the corridor.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

During the year, the Council continued to serve as the designated official planning agency for nine counties in the region under the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPo) for the Gainesville Urbanized Area serves as the planning agency for Alachua County. As the planning agency, the Council conducts planning studies to increase transportation services to the elderly, low-income, persons with disabilities and children at risk. The Council and the MTPo appoint and staff ten transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards in the region.

As required by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, the Council issued seven requests for proposals for Community Transportation Coordinators this year. Through this process, a new Community Transportation Coordinator was selected for Alachua County. The Council assisted the users of the system and the new Coordinator with the transition process. In addition, the Council continued to participate

on an ADA Transportation Task Force. The purpose of this Task Force is to improve public transportation services for persons with disabilities.

This year, the Council was invited to present the Job Access Planning Challenge project at the Transportation Research Board's 80th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The objective of this project was to facilitate the development of transportation services for job related trips for WAGES participants.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Program helps individuals who are unable to transport themselves because of age, disability or income status.



COMMUNICATIONS

A quarterly newsletter is published to inform Council members, government agencies, the private sector, and the general public about new programs and other various activities in which the Council is involved. Brochures and informational briefs are also published for special programs, studies and projects.

In addition to the numerous planning and other technical studies prepared under contract with local governments throughout the region, the Council prepared the following materials in the year 2000.

Regional Programs

□ Evaluation Reports on Local Comprehensive Plans, Developments of Regional Impact and other Council review items

□ Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan 2000 Update

□ Strategic Regional Policy Plan 5-Year Evaluation and Appraisal Report

Economic Development

□ Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 1999 Annual Report

□ North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc. Annual Report, Oct. 1, 1999 - Sep. 30, 2000

Transportation

□ Fiscal Years 2001-2005 Transportation Improvement Program

□ Fiscal Year 2001 Unified Planning Work Program

□ Annual Report for Regional Transit System Ridership

□ MTPO Year 2020 Transportation Plan

□ Transportation Disadvantaged-Coordinated Transportation Development Plans

General

□ NCFRPC Annual Report

□ NCFRPC Overall Program Design

The Council also provides general planning assistance and referral services to the public along with the following maps and information resources which are available at reproduction cost.

□ Existing and Future Land Use Maps

□ Census Information

In 2001, the Council will continue a number of programs started in the year 2000 or earlier, and initiate a number of new projects and activities as follows.

Regional Activities

I-75 Corridor Council

In late 1997, the Withlacoochee and North Central Florida Regional Planning Councils established the I-75 Corridor Council composed of local-elected officials whose jurisdictions are bisected by or abuts the corridor. The Council will continue to address the issues of corridor beautification and tourism promotion during 2001.

Regional and Local Emergency Response Plans

Due to the constantly changing situation facing emergency service personnel, the regional emergency response plan will be updated to incorporate the most recent information on the location of hazardous materials. The Local Emergency Planning Committee will continue its efforts to ensure that emergency personnel are properly trained and the general public informed of potential dangers facing their communities.

Hazards analyses will be updated for facilities that contain extremely hazardous substances for Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties.

Economic Development

The Council will continue to provide assistance to local governments and area development authorities in securing federal funds and assistance from other sources to accommodate additional industrial and business growth.

The Original Florida Tourism Promotion

The Council will continue to assist local governments and organizations in the implementation of the tourism plan.

North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership

The Council will continue working with this organization which joins the resources of 11 counties addressing regional economic development problems and opportunities.

Business Development

The Council will continue assisting businesses with SBA 7(a) loans and, through its contract with the North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc., (ADCO), SBA 504 loans, both guaranteed by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Transportation

Fiscal Years 2001/2002 to 2005/2006 Transportation Improvement Program

Working in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation, Council staff will update this five-year funding program of transportation projects for the Gainesville metropolitan area.

Level of Service Studies

Each year, Council staff update level of service information concerning the amount of traffic congestion on arterial and collector roads in the Gainesville metropolitan area.

Review Year 2020 Priorities

The MTPO will be reviewing the currently adopted long-range transportation plan to identify whether any changes need to be made in the project priority list.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program

As the designated official planning agency, the Council will continue to provide staff support to the local coordinating boards. The Council will also continue to serve on the ADA Transportation Task Force and assist in the development of transportation services for WAGES participants.

Local Government Assistance

Community Development Block Grants

Applications will be prepared for local governments in the region. Other community development assistance, including administrative services, will be provided as requested.

Local Planning Assistance

The Council will continue its services in assisting the region's counties and cities in complying with the requirements of the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act.

FINANCIAL REPORT

1999-00 Revenues

Sources

Federal		\$ 62,120
Direct	\$ 44,436	
Pass-through from State	17,684	
State		385,216
Local Government Contracts for Planning		522,877
Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area		430,014
North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc.		74,084
North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership		27,597
The Original Florida Tourism Task Force		37,826
Council Members' Contributions (\$.30/capita)		106,110
Other		231,483
Ford Foundation	144,373	
Other Agencies and Organizations	47,567	
Miscellaneous	39,543	

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Total Revenues		\$ 1,877,327
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1999-00 Expenditures

Programs

Regional Activities		\$ 269,558
Emergency Planning	\$ 74,072	
General Planning and Intergovernmental Coordination	156,601	
Review Activities	38,885	
Economic Development		378,333
North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership	194,970	
North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc.	74,084	
Original Florida Tourism Promotion Program	64,843	
General Economic Development	44,436	
Local Technical Assistance		591,877
Block Grant Administration	116,742	
Comprehensive Planning	421,135	
Hazardous Waste Planning & Monitoring	54,000	
Transportation		564,423
Comprehensive Transportation Planning	376,221	
Mass Transit Planning	38,117	
Transportation Disadvantaged Planning	150,085	
Program Development		68,810

Total Expenditures		\$ 1,873,001
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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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Chuck Kiester, Assistant Executive Director	102
Ann Brosius, Finance Director	116
Jim Emerson, Business Development Program Director	107
W.D. Higginbotham, Economic Development Program Director	106
Chuck Kiester, Director of Regional Programs	102
Scott Koons, Director of Local Government Assistance	104
Marlie Sanderson, Director of Transportation Planning	103
Robin Barnes, Secretary	100
Gerry Dedenbach, Senior Planner, Transportation	115
Steve Dopp, Senior Planner, Regional Planning, SRPP, Census Info	109
Michael Escalante, Principal Planner, Transportation	114
Lynn Franson-Godfrey, Senior Planner, Transportation Disadvantaged	110
Lowell Garrett, Senior Planner, Local Government Assistance	111
Carol Laine, Planning Administrative Assistant, CDBG	123
Debbie Le Van, Planning Administrative Assistant, Local Government Assistance	124
Dwayne Mundy, Senior Planner, LEPC, Hazardous Materials	108
Kevin Parrish, Database Manager, GIS	133
Candy Ramseur, Secretary	117
Andrea Vogler, Associate Planner, Transportation	113
Marcy Wilson, Administrative Secretary	134

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

General e-mail address for Council is ncfrpc@ncfrpc.org. E-mail addresses for each staff member is the last name @ncfrpc.org, e.g., justice@ncfrpc.org.

WEB PAGES OF INTEREST

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - <http://ncfrpc.org>

The Original Florida - <http://originalflorida.org>

North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership - <http://originalfloridabusines.org>

North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee - <http://ncflepc.org>

North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc. - <http://adco.org>

I-75 Corridor Council - <http://www.i75floridagateway.com> or <http://www.i75project.com>

NCFRPC

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