

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SERVING



2002 ANNUAL REPORT

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Serving as chairman of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has made me more acutely aware of the very trying year most local governments have had in adjusting to the changing relationships among city, county, state and federal governments. The difficulties of accommodating this change have been magnified by the shortage of resources resulting from recent economic conditions.

We believe that the Council has made a significant contribution in assisting local governments to meet this challenge. This has been done through the provision of services, by assisting in the expansion of a financial base through an active economic development program, and in fostering intergovernmental partnerships.

We have also accepted, without hesitation, our role as protector of the environment of the region. This is done primarily through our regional planning program and the review responsibilities which have been assigned by the State Legislature and the governor.

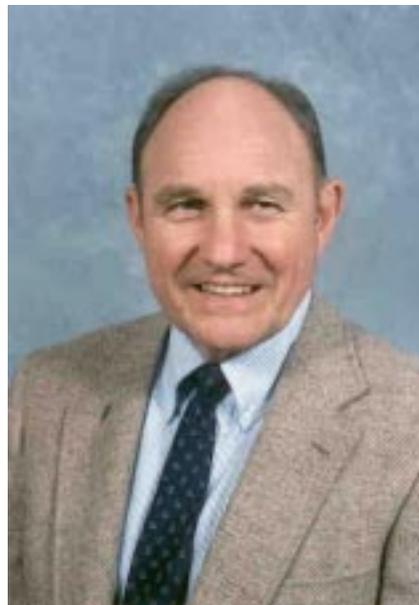
The following pages present our programs and activities for the year just past. Also provided is a summary of the organization's financial status and a brief look at the year ahead. I believe you will find this report to be of interest and, upon reading it, you will conclude that the work of the Council is extremely valuable to our region and to our citizens.

I thank member local governments, council members, citizens of the region and the staff whose efforts have made 2002 a productive year for the Council. On their behalf, I would like to express our interest in working with you on opportunities that lie ahead for the North Central Florida Region.

Sincerely,



James Montgomery
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.

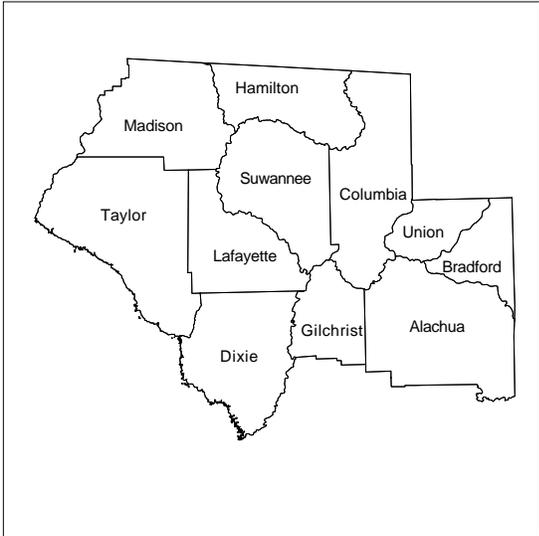
Much of the region is currently sparsely populated although this is beginning to change as people from other parts of the world, nation and Florida are discovering the amenities of north Florida living. According to estimates by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida, the population of the region in the year 2001 was 442,196 an increase of 83,094 people over the 1991 estimate representing a 23.1% increase for the past ten years.

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 retail center and, together with Alachua County, accounts for 50 percent of total population of the region.

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

- * John Carlson
- * Minnie Crevasse
- Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson
- * William Naulls
- Dave Newport
- Penny Wheat

ALACHUA

Tamara Robbins

ARCHER

L. B. Nelson

GAINESVILLE

Ed Braddy
Chuck Chestnut
Tony Domenech

HAWTHORNE

Eddie Martin

HIGH SPRINGS

Bill Coughlin

MICANOPY

Paul Remzey Samarrai

NEWBERRY

Grady Hartzog

WALDO

Louie Davis

BRADFORD COUNTY

- John Cooper
- * David Dodge

STARKE

Steve Futch

COLUMBIA COUNTY

- James Montgomery
- * Dixie Donovan

LAKE CITY

W. Ray Kirkland

DIXIE COUNTY

- John Driggers
- * Lorene Thomas

GILCHRIST COUNTY

- Wilbur Bush
- * Emory Philman

HAMILTON COUNTY

- * Jim Tompkins
- Lewis Vaughn

JASPER

Matthew Hawkins

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Gail Garrard

MADISON COUNTY

- Roy Ellis
- * James King

CITY OF MADISON

Myra Valentine

SUWANNEE COUNTY

- * Sandra Haas
- Douglas Udell

LIVE OAK

Garth "Sonny" Nobles, Jr.

TAYLOR COUNTY

- * Charles Maultsby
- Edd Sadler

PERRY

William Alexander

UNION COUNTY

- Melaine "Red" Clyatt
- * Alan "Bo" Hammock

**Gubernatorial Appointees*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Gene Caputo, *St. John's River Water Management District*
Marvin Miller, *Department of Environmental Protection*
Dave Byrd, *Department of Transportation*
Kirk Webster, *Suwannee River Water Management District*

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

The 11 counties comprising the North Central Florida Region, whose number of residents continues to increase, 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 Few 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 which was required to address all 16 goals of the State Comprehensive Plan, to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan 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 Strategic Regional Policy Plan in May 1996 and amended the plan in 1997 to include maps depicting the locations where threatened and endangered species have been seen in past years, along with policies for their protection.

In accordance with Florida law, the Council completed a 5-year assessment of its regional plan during 2000. 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

proposed changes underwent state and local review during 2002. It is anticipated that the changes will be formally adopted by rule in early 2003.



During 2002, Alligator Lake Public Recreation Area improvements were completed in Columbia County.

Regional and Local Emergency Response Plans

With the challenges to public safety present in our communities today, it is critical that local responders know the location of dangerous chemicals stored in our communities. The Planning Council maintains a database of chemical storage locations. The Local Emergency Planning Committee continues its efforts to ensure that emergency personnel are properly trained to protect the general public from potential dangers of an accidental or a deliberate chemical release.

Hazards analyses were updated in 2002 for facilities that contain extremely hazardous substances in Columbia, Dixie, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties.

Hazardous Materials Planning Program

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act gives Local Emergency Planning Committees 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 Central Florida Region was last updated May 2002.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee helped to start the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, which has now received over \$370,000 of grant funding. In 2002, Planning Council staff assisted the Regional Team in updating an interlocal agreement to allow responders from additional counties and municipalities to join the Regional Hazmat Team.

Grants from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Program continue to fund hazardous materials training and planning programs. Hazardous materials

emergency response training classes were held for first responders, including know the location of dangerous classes were held for first responders, including firefighters, law enforcement, emergency medical and public works personnel. Over 4,200 people have been trained during the first eight 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 Local Emergency Planning Committee website (ncflepc.org) is operated out of the Council office, and received over 135,000 hits during 2002.



Training trailers allow the Regional Hazmat Team to provide advanced, hands-on training at the local level.

Review Activities

One of the ways the Council implements the regional plan is through its 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 2002, the Committee conducted reviews of 147 different projects submitted by private development, private not-for-profit corporations, units of local government, as well as 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 U.S. 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. ensure 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.



Lake Butler Rail Trail grant application was reviewed by the Clearinghouse Committee.

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, community leaders, and bankers. The Board provides financing assistance through the SBA 504 Program to small businesses in a 17-county area. The area was increased from 12 counties previously served, by virtue of an expansion request that was approved by the SBA in August.

Nine loans, totaling \$1,681,000, were approved in Fiscal Year 2002, and three loans totaling \$1,916,000 were funded. These approvals will account for 70 new or retained jobs in the area. Three loans approved in prior years, totaling \$672,000, are also pending closing.

ADCO has funded SBA 504 loans totaling more than \$13 million, which have provided 454 jobs, in addition to the impact on property taxes for their respective counties. The total impact of the projects, including bank financing and owner's equity, was over \$53 million. Seventeen 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. Business 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.

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 Other Store is a new convenience store located in Lake City on US 90, near I-75. Financing was provided by an SBA 504 loan, together with first mortgage financing by Columbia County Bank.



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 U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development District in 1978, the Council has continued to maintain a high level of involvement in providing technical assistance to local governments and development authorities in order to promote economic growth.

Also in 2002, the Council continued to work with the Florida State Rural Development Council, the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, and Enterprise Florida, Inc., in further developing the state's strategic plan as it addresses the problems and needs of the North Central Florida Region.

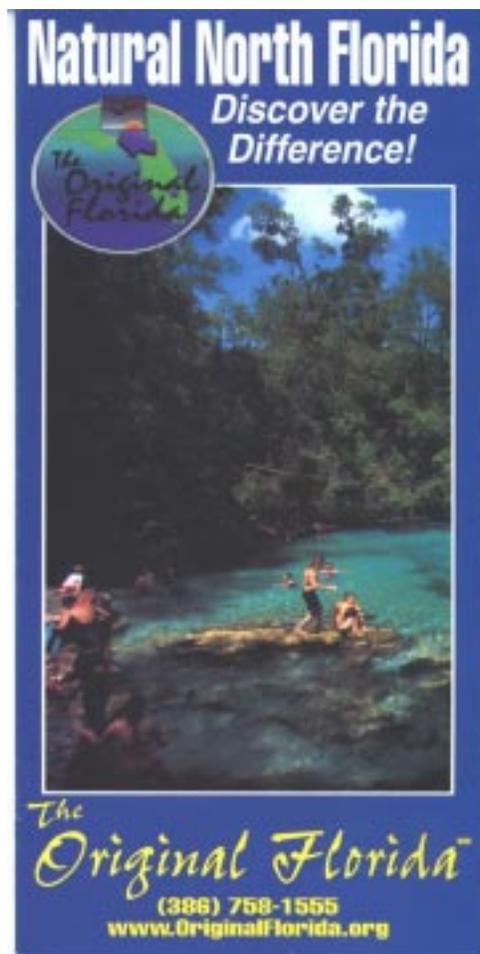
"The Original Florida" Tourism Development Activities

The Original Florida Tourism Task Force is comprised of representatives from each of the participating counties who are appointed by 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 and historic resources which are the mainstay of the area's attractions.

With financial assistance from VISIT FLORIDA and the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development the Task Force was able to participate in a number of *Small Business Partner Opportunities* as offered by VISIT FLORIDA. Additionally, the Task Force participated in a number of consumer shows during this past year.

Further, in the past year the Task Force provided funding for the design and printing of 100,000 "Rack Cards" for each of the member counties. VISIT FLORIDA provides space, free of charge, on a special kiosk in each of its five welcome centers for distribution of the rack cards. Also, each county has a supply for their own distribution.

Finally, the Task Force was successful in updating and printing for distribution 200,000 of the **Natural North Florida** brochure and map. The publication was made possible with the financial assistance of Tourist Development Councils, and local governments of the eleven counties of *The Original Florida* Tourism Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc., the Planning Council, The Ford Foundation, Economic Development Administration, VISIT FLORIDA, and Florida Power. Additionally, Florida Power provided funding assistance so the Task Force was able to print the 200,000 copies.



The Original Florida map and brochure is used to promote nature and heritage-based tourism in the region.

North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership

In late 1996, the eleven counties of the North Central Florida Region 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 realignment of functions of the Florida Department of Commerce into the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development within the Executive Office of the Governor, 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.

With assistance from the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development and Enterprise Florida, Inc., efforts continued in the past year with promoting a regional identity. Also, the Partnership participated in three trade shows in Chicago and one trade show in New Orleans.



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.

Given the successes and progress of the program in its first two years, the Ford Foundation agreed to continue providing financial assistance to the Council over a second two-year period commencing October 1, 1997 and a third commencing October 1, 1999. The completion date for the third grant extended through December 31, 2002.

In 1998, the Council assisted the shellfish farmers in forming a not for profit corporation named the "Hid-

den Coast Shellfish Producers Association, Inc." With technical assistance from the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Harbor Branch International, and the Planning Council, along with grant funds from the State of Florida, and the donation of land by the Dixie County Commission, the Association was successful in building a land based shellfish nursery capable of producing over 20 million clam seed annually for area clam farmers. During the past year, the Council provided \$12,000 to assist the Association with needed improvements to the nursery. Further, the Council provided \$40,000 for the acquisition of hard clam seed and the establishment of a revolving loan program to assist the clam farmers with future seed purchases.



"Hidden Coast Shellfish Producers Association, Inc.," President David Capo, The Original Florida Tourism Task Force member Steve Holland and The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Economic Development Director W. D. Higginbotham, Jr. look over the first screen of seed clams. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council earmarked \$40,000 of a \$75,000 Ford Foundation grant to provide seed money for members of the Hidden Coast Clam Association.

Photo Courtesy of Dixie County Advocate

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

During 2002, 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 2002, 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.

Ongoing 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 6 counties and 12 municipalities process 265 development-related applications. This assistance included the review and adoption of 79 comprehensive plan map and text amendments. The Council also assisted these local governments in making 105 land development regulation map and text amendments, 47 land development regulation special exceptions and special permits, 19 concurrency assess-

ments for plats, variances, non-conforming use changes and development orders, and 15 site and development plans.

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.

First Federal Savings Bank under construction in Lake City.



Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

The Council assisted local governments in assessing their community development needs in 2002. 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 2002:

Housing

Town of Mayo - \$600,000

Neighborhood Revitalization

City of Trenton - \$650,000

Council continued to provide administrative assistance on current projects for Columbia, Suwannee and Taylor Counties, Lake City, Live Oak, Mayo and Perry. In addition, administrative assistance was initiated for new projects in Bradford and Taylor Counties and the City of Madison.



Before

Community Development Block Grant funds were utilized to rehabilitate homes in Live Oak.



After

TRANSPORTATION

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.

transportation plans for this area. Included in the preliminary recommendations is the development of a bus rapid transit system to connect East Gainesville with employment, social and shopping activities in downtown and western Gainesville. The bus rapid transit system would use transit vehicles with distinctive markings and stations. These vehicles would receive priority treatment at key traffic signals, and in some locations, operate on dedicated bus lanes.

US 441 Paynes Prairie Bicycle Safety Study-During the year, the MTPO completed a study that developed and evaluated alternative cross-section options to improve bicycle safety on U.S. 441 across Paynes Prairie. After considering this study, the MTPO recommended a design option to the Florida Department of Transportation to improve safety in this area.

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MTPO ACTIVITIES

In the year 2002, the MTPO conducted a number of transportation planning activities, including the following.

MTPO Boundary and Voting Membership Report - The MTPO evaluated the advantages and disadvantages of expanding its planning boundary to include all of Alachua County. Currently, this boundary only includes the City of Gainesville and some of the surrounding unincorporated area. In addition to the boundary issue, the MTPO researched possible changes in its voting membership to include other municipalities in Alachua County. A final report concerning these issues will be completed in 2003.

Plan East Gainesville-The MTPO continued to coordinate a special area plan for East Gainesville that overlaps City of Gainesville and Alachua County boundaries. This planning effort will result in an updated land use, conservation and



Plan East Gainesville charrette participants at work.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

During 2002, the Council continued to serve as the designated official planning agency for Florida's 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 provide transportation services to individuals who are unable to transport themselves because of age, disability or income status. The Council and the MTPO appoint and staff ten transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards in the region.

This year, the MTPO received \$42,000 in Federal Transit Administration U.S.C. Section 5311 grant funds through the Florida Department of Transportation. These funds will be used to provide additional public transportation service in Alachua County.

In addition, the Council assisted ATC Paratransit apply for Shirley Conroy Capital Assistance Grant Funds. As a result of this coordinated effort, ATC Paratransit was awarded \$110,000 in grant funds to purchase two vehicles. The Council is currently assisting ATC Paratransit and the City of Archer plan for a shuttle service that will serve residents in the City of Archer. The vehicle used to provide this service will be purchased with Shirley Conroy Capital Assistance Grant funds.

At the 10th Annual Training and Technology Conference, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged made the following awards.

- 2002 Rural Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year Award to Suwannee Valley Transit Authority. Suwannee Valley Transit Authority operates in Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties. This award recognizes a rural Com-

munity Transportation Coordinator that has performed in an outstanding manner for their community.

- 2002 Sheila Winitzer Shining Star Award to Jimmy Swisher. Mr. Swisher is the Administrator for Suwannee Valley Transit Authority. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated long-term support for Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program, who has been successful in implementing programs to assist disadvantaged individuals and has generated grass roots support for Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

- Certificates of Achievement to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Board, ATC Paratransit, Big Bend Transit, Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Board, Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Board and Suwannee River Economic Council.



Jimmy Swisher, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority Administrator, receives the Rural Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year Award at the 10th Annual Training and Technology Conference.

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 2002.

Regional Programs

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

☐ Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan 2002 Update

Economic Development

☐ Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2001-2002 Annual Report

☐ North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc. Annual Report, Oct. 1, 2001 - Sept. 30, 2002

☐ *The Original Florida's* Brochure and Map

Transportation

☐ Fiscal Years 2003-2007 Transportation Improvement Program

☐ Fiscal Year 2003 Unified Planning Work Program

☐ Annual Report for Regional Transit System Ridership

☐ MTPO List of Priority Projects - 2002

☐ 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 2003, the Council will continue a number of programs started in the year 2002 or earlier, and initiate a number of new projects and activities as follows.

Regional Activities

I-75 Corridor Council

The Withlacoochee and North Central Florida Regional Planning Councils have established an I-75 Corridor Council composed of local elected officials whose jurisdictions are bisected by or abut the corridor. The Council will continue to address the issues of corridor beautification and tourism promotion during 2003.

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 staff this organization in the implementation of the tourism plan.

North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership

The Council will continue to staff 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 2003/2004 to 2007/2008 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 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization 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 required by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, the Council will issue requests for proposals for Community Transportation Coordinators as contracts expire. The Council will also continue to provide staff support to the local coordinating boards and technical support to the Community Transportation Coordinators.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

2001-2002 Revenues

Sources

Federal		\$ 98,640
Direct	\$ 70,618	
Pass-through from State	28,022	
State		402,829
Local Government Contracts for Planning		405,076
Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area		445,277
North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc.		110,179
North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership		9,520
North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team		271,176
The Original Florida Tourism Task Force		83,587
Council Members' Contributions (\$.30 per capita)		107,307
Other		192,063
Ford Foundation	79,261	
Other Agencies and Organizations	93,678	
Miscellaneous	19,124	
Total Revenues		\$ 2,125,654

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2001-2002 Expenditures

Programs

Regional Activities		\$ 640,122
Emergency Planning	\$ 70,802	
North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team	271,176	
General Planning and Intergovernmental Coordination	207,028	
Review Activities	91,116	
Economic Development		391,250
North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership	97,027	
North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc.	110,179	
Original Florida Tourism Promotion Program	94,376	
General Economic Development	89,668	
Local Technical Assistance		461,881
Community Development Block Grant Administration	154,195	
Comprehensive Planning	253,746	
Hazardous Waste Planning & Monitoring	53,940	
Transportation		554,529
Comprehensive Transportation Planning	339,667	
Mass Transit Planning	46,651	
Transportation Disadvantaged Planning	168,211	
Program Development		34,596
Total Expenditures		\$ 2,082,378

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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Scott Koons, Assistant Executive Director	102
Ann Brosius, Finance Director	105
Jim Emerson, Business Development Program Director	107
W.D. Higginbotham, Economic Development Program Director	106
Scott Koons, Director of Regional & Local Government Programs	104
Marlie Sanderson, Director of Transportation Planning	103
Robin Barnes, Secretary	100
Gerry Dedenbach, Senior Planner, Transportation	115
Steve Dopp, Senior Planner, Regional Planning, 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	123
Debbie Le Van, Planning Administrative Assistant, Local Government Assistance	124
Dorcas Ramseur, Secretary	111
Dwayne Mundy, Senior Planner, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Hazardous Materials	108
Kevin Parrish, Database Manager, Geographic Information System	133

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: **ncfrpc.org**

The Original Florida: **originalflorida.org**

North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership: **originalfloridabusines.org**

North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee: **ncflepc.org**

North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc.: **adco.org**

I:75 Corridor Council: **i75floridagateway.com**

Scenic U.S. 441: **scenicus441.com**

NCFRPC

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Gainesville, FL 32601

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