

**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

SERVING



2005 ANNUAL REPORT

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It has been more than a decade since the Legislature thoroughly analyzed the value of regional planning councils. The result was to formally recognize in law the advantages of the involvement of these organizations in growth management and in providing technical assistance to local governments. During the past legislative session, direction was given to again investigate the councils, with the intent of determining whether the current boundaries are effective and efficient. The history of our regional planning council indicates that the north central region is being well served by the current boundary configuration.

The Council's experience during the past year of improving the management of the region's growth, supporting the expansion of our economy, and becoming more proficient in providing services to our cities and counties is evidence that the success we have enjoyed since the organization was formed in 1968 has not diminished. This report is presented to record our accomplishments during that twelve month period.

Our success has been realized through the dedicated work of the Council staff under the guidance provided by our members and by the leaders of our associated agencies: The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization, the Original Florida Tourism Task Force, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the Regional HazMat Response Team. These groups are committed to achieving ever higher levels of excellence as they confront new challenges in future years.

Of course, the principal role of the Council continues to be providing a forum for city and county elected officials and gubernatorial appointees to participate in making decisions on issues that have multi-jurisdictional impacts. In meeting this responsibility, the Council maintains a process of reviewing and commenting upon programs and projects from local, regional and state agencies, through which it aggressively implements its Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

In the following pages, these and other activities of the Council are more thoroughly described. Also provided is a summary of our financial status and a brief look at the year ahead.

The Council members and staff are pleased with the success of the organization. As you review our accomplishments of the past year, I am sure that you will agree with our

conclusion. However, such progress could not have been made without the support of the region's citizens. We appreciate your assistance in helping improve the quality of life in north central Florida.

Sincerely,



Charles T. Maultsby
Chairman



THE REGION

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 sparsely populated although this is changing 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 2005 was 478,438, an increase of 82,300 people over the 1995 estimate of 396,138, representing a 20.8% 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 the total population of the region.



North Central Florida Region

North Central Florida Counties



THE COUNCIL

The Council is an association of 25 general purpose local governments. Membership includes all 11 counties and 14 of the region's larger municipalities. One-third of the total representatives are 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

- Mike Byerly
- * John Carlson
- Paula DeLaney
- * Eddie Martin
- * Gerald O'Neil
- * James Painter
- Lee Pinkoson

ALACHUA

Gib Coerper

ARCHER

Vacant

GAINESVILLE

Rick Bryant
Chuck Chestnut
Jack Donovan

HAWTHORNE

John Martin

HIGH SPRINGS

Kirk Eppenstein

MICANOPY

Vacant

NEWBERRY

John Glanzer

WALDO

Louie Davis

BRADFORD COUNTY

- John Hersey
- * David Dodge

STARKE

Steve Futch

COLUMBIA COUNTY

- Vacant
- * Dixie Donovan

LAKE CITY

Stephen M. Witt

DIXIE COUNTY

- John Driggers
- * Lorene Thomas

GILCHRIST COUNTY

- Mitchell Gentry
- * Vacant

HAMILTON COUNTY

- * Martha Butler
- Lewis Vaughn

JASPER

Matthew Hawkins

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

- Gail Garrard
- * Heather Neill

MADISON COUNTY

- Roy Ellis
- * Tracy Reeves

CITY OF MADISON

Myra Valentine

SUWANNEE COUNTY

- * Sandra Haas
- Randy Hatch

LIVE OAK

Garth "Sonny" Nobles, Jr.

TAYLOR COUNTY

- * Charles Maultsby
- Malcolm Page

PERRY

Emily Ketring

UNION COUNTY

- Melaine "Red" Clyatt
- * Andrew Smith

*** Gubernatorial Appointees**

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Gene Caputo, St. John's River Water Management
Vacant, Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Poole, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Charles Baldwin, Department of Transportation
Kirk Webster, Suwannee River Water Management District

Mission Statement: To improve 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.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

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

Pursuant to state growth management laws, the Council is responsible for preparing and adopting a Strategic Regional Policy Plan addressing five issue areas: Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Emergency Preparedness, Natural Resources of Regional Significance and Regional Transportation.

Goals and policies contained in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan continued to provide guidance for the growth and development of the region. In particular, the Council used the Strategic Regional Policy Plan as the basis for reviewing local government comprehensive plan amendments during the year.

Local Mitigation Strategies

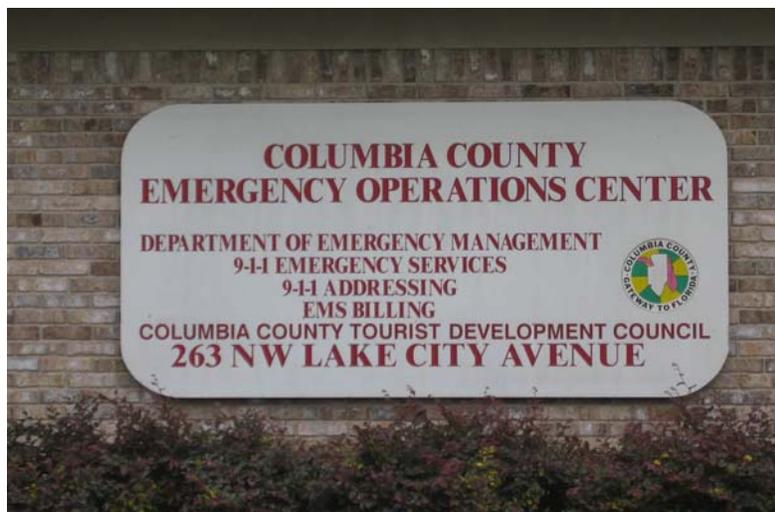
During 2005, the Council assisted local mitigation strategy working groups in Bradford, Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, and Suwannee Counties complete the preparation of local mitigation strategies. Local mitigation strategy working groups are local committees comprised of county, municipal

and regional officials along with representatives from the private sector.

Local mitigation strategies are countywide plans to assist local governments and private not-for-profit organizations reduce the impacts of natural hazards such as sinkholes, hurricanes, floods and wildfires. Local governments must have a locally adopted and federal government-approved local mitigation strategy to be eligible to receive disaster mitigation grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Local mitigation strategies identify and analyze natural hazards. They note variations in risk, vulnerability and hazard for each local government within the county. They identify and evaluate a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions to be implemented by local governments. They describe how these actions are prioritized, implemented and administered. Local mitigation strategies also outline an imple-

mentation time line, identification of potential funding sources and/or other resources which may be used to implement the local mitigation strategy. A prioritized list of projects eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency funding assistance is also included in the local mitigation strategy.



A local mitigation strategy designed to reduce loss of life and property from disaster events was completed by the Council for Columbia County.

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 2005, the Committee conducted reviews of 79 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.

- ◆ 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.



A spring run on the Santa Fe River. The Santa Fe River is recognized as a natural resource of regional significance in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

Hazardous Materials Response

Planning - The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee continued its responsibility to increase chemical safety in our communities. The Council has provided staff support to the Committee since 1989.

The Committee's tools included planning, training, reviewing, exercising, offering How-to-Comply assistance, and educating the public. The emergency response plan for the North Central Florida region is updated every year and exercised biennially.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee website (ncflepc.org) was maintained by the Council and received over 150,000 hits during 2005.

Response - The Council provides staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. The Team is comprised of six counties and three municipalities that have joined together through an interlocal agreement. The Team has drastically reduced hazmat response times for large areas of the region.

In 2005, the Council administered a \$160,300 Emergency Preparedness Competitive grant. Since August 2001, five grants have been used to provide \$676,240 worth of equipment and training to local government responders.

These funds have been used to place four hazmat response trailers in service in primarily rural areas. The Team provided affordable training using a fifth training trailer that

allows local delivery of advanced hazardous materials training. A sixth trailer was used to provide "HazMedic" support in case a responder or victim is exposed to a toxic chemical. This trailer also contains antidotes to some common toxic chemicals located in our area.

Tri-State Mutual Aid Agreement

In 2005, local governments began signing on to an innovative multi-state hazardous materials response agreement. In some parts of north central Florida, the closest hazmat response team is across state lines.

This agreement allows a local government to request mutual aid assistance from the nearest team, either Gainesville; Tallahassee; Valdosta, Georgia or Dothan, Alabama.

Emergency Response Training

The Council staff coordinated a variety of public safety training classes. In 2005, the Council conducted 21 classes for the Local Emergency Planning Committee and another 24 for the Regional Hazmat Team. Over 400 emergency responders attended this training. The Council office served as the home to a "Hazmat Boot Camp" to conduct advanced, hands-on training.



Hands on hazardous materials emergency response training was conducted at the "Hazmat Boot Camp" located on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council office property.

Hazardous Waste Compliance Assistance

All counties in Florida are required by law to conduct annual site visits to verify the hazardous waste management practices of 20 percent of the businesses and government agencies in a county. In 2005, a How-to-Comply seminar was held in Perry.

The Council program continued to provide compliance assistance during the required verification visits. A goal of the program continued to be helping facilities properly manage its waste in a cost efficient manner.

Terrorism Preparedness

In Florida, terrorism preparedness is a regional effort. There are eleven regional planning councils and seven terrorism planning districts.

The Planning Council district is divided between Jacksonville and Tallahassee Regional Domestic Security Task Force Districts used for terrorism response planning. Council staff was involved in activities in both.

Exercises - In 2005, Council staff helped plan and conduct tabletop and computer-based functional exercises for Regional Domestic Security Task Force districts. These exercises tested incident management without the activation of hundreds of responders.

Training - Council staff taught seven classes on the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program. This new exercise methodology is required for any exercises funded with federal Homeland Security funds. The methodology was

used for evaluating the various terrorism exercises conducted in 2005.

Planning - In 2005, Buffer Zone Protection Plans were prepared by the Council for the Ben Hill Griffin, Jr. Stadium, the Oaks Mall and the nuclear training reactor at the University of Florida. These plans developed strategies for increasing site security and will result in \$50,000 being provided per site to the local law enforcement agency.

In 2005, Council staff conducted seven vulnerability assessments to enable counties to be eligible to secure funding to enhance their emergency operations centers. A Homeland Security Comprehensive Assessment Model vulnerability assessment was conducted for these emergency operation centers.

The Council, working with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, developed a Multi-Agency Coordination Group plan to guide the deployment of regional assets available during a terrorism response.



The Council prepared Buffer Zone Protection Plans to increase security and provide funding for local law enforcement at locations identified as being part of the region's critical infrastructure, such as Ben Hill Griffin, Jr. Stadium at the University of Florida.

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.

Tourism as a Means of Economic Development

Recently, *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force* was expanded to include two new counties for a total of 14 members, including each of the 11 counties of the regional planning council. During 2005, the Task Force was successful in obtaining a \$3,500 Nature Tourism/Heritage Tourism Regional Marketing matching grant for the creation of a Black Heritage Trail through the region, and a \$2,500 Education grant to provide a video training library for area tourism professionals. While the group was not funded, it applied for and raised matching fund commitments for a \$750,000 grant from the Kellogg Foundation. This grant application forged many new economic development, preservation and tourism partnerships.

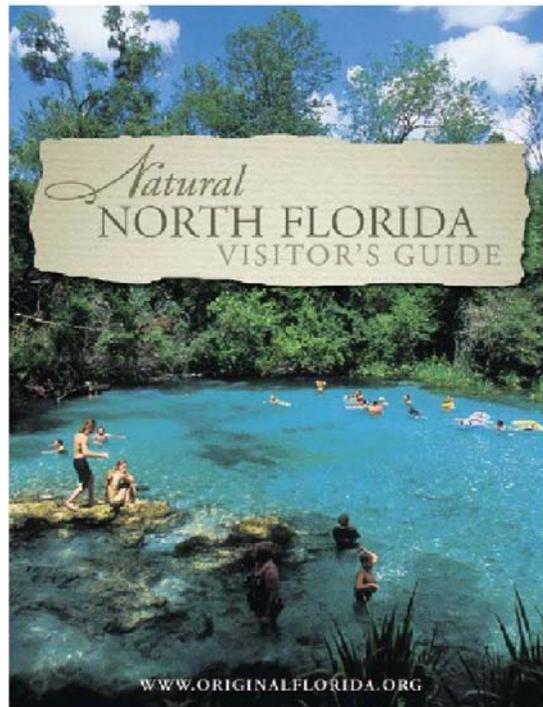
The group completed a 64-page Visitor's Guide and generated \$55,000 in private and public investment outside of their normal dues to pay for the guide. The guide will have a distribution of 100,000 copies. This group has received several accolades recently, including notification that the program will receive a pilot program investment of \$25,000 for the 2006 Fiscal Year from Visit Florida to further their mission of economic development in the form of eco-tourism.

Council staff continued working with the Task Force, local development authorities, chambers of commerce, and tourist development councils in implementing the strategic tourism plan which includes hosting press familiarization tours for travel writers, consumer/trade shows, and press releases. For the 2004-2005 period ending March 31, 2005, the Task Force hosted three familiarization tours with 16 travel writers, responded to one editorial press lead weekly on average and attended four trade shows reaching over 20,000 potential visitors. For the past year, this represents over \$850,000 in advertising equivalency generated for tourism in the region.

The past year saw several new tourism products for the region. The Suwannee River Water Management District and Florida Department of Environmental Protection celebrated

the grand opening of cabins along the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail. This trail is a means to provide economic development for small hospitality related businesses in rural Florida. *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force* worked with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to hold two press trips promoting the Wilderness Trail.

Similarly, VISIT FLORIDA celebrated the grand opening of a new Welcome Center at I-75 in Jennings. The dramatic new design features regional kiosks, interactive screens and a play area for children. *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force* held an area-wide showcase event at the new facility and greeted an estimated 3,000 visitors at the one-day event.



The Natural North Florida Visitor's Guide was updated and published as a recruiting tool for several area chambers and businesses. The guide has a distribution of 100,000 copies.

Economic Development Planning

The Planning Council's Economic Development staff wrote or provided assistance with grants for major philanthropic foundations, state tourism and infrastructure, Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program and Economic Development Administration grants.

The region also received a \$150,000 U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Grant for the counties of Madison, Hamilton and Suwannee to stimulate small business growth utilizing the federal Historically Underutilized Business Zone status of the region.

Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern

A "Next Step" Meeting was organized with the help of Council staff and held in September 2005 to solidify a work plan for the newly revamped North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership, an interlocal agreement agency established by the Council in late 1996, that will be the non-governmental organization for the Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern in this region. The North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership, was created to coordinate the economic development activities of local economic agencies and to allow these local agencies to combine resources to complete tasks they are unable to do individually.

Council staff attended meetings, gave staff support and prepared the work plan for the Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. The plan ideas will now be incorporated into the Rural Tourism and Economic Development Summit scheduled for May 2006, and the Council will use the work plan to shape the new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy process of the Council.

The Original Florida's "Hidden Coast Shellfish"

Area clam farmers formed a non-profit corporation named "Hidden Coast Shellfish Producers Association, Inc." In 2005 there were 21 members of this group. The Council's efforts to create a

revolving loan fund have resulted in micro-loans of \$23,000 currently outstanding to help members of the association purchase clam seed. In addition, Council staff developed a Hidden Coast Shellfish Producers Association website that showcases the region's aquaculture and serves as a resource for those interested in buying clams from the group.



Harvey Campbell, Marketing Director for The Original Florida Tourism Task Force, holds a baby gator at the August 2005 grand opening of the VISIT FLORIDA Welcome Center on I-75 north of Jennings.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

During 2005, 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 continued to place a significant emphasis on comprehensive planning assistance for local governments.

During 2005, 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 8 counties and 8 municipalities process 242 development-related applications. This assistance included the review and adoption of 83 comprehensive plan map and text amendments. The Council also assisted these local governments in making 97 land development regulation map and text amendments, 28 land development regulation special exceptions and special permits, 34 concurrency assessments

for plats, variances, nonconforming use changes and development orders, and site and development plans.

The 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, storm-water drainage, and recreation facilities.



The Council provided municipalities and counties with development review services for projects such as the new Haven Hospice of the Suwannee Valley facility in Columbia County.

Community Development Block Grants

The Council assisted local governments in assessing their community development needs in 2005. 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 2005:

Neighborhood Revitalization

City of Live Oak - \$700,000

Commercial Revitalization

City of Madison - \$700,000

Economic Development

City of Perry - 700,000

Council continued to provide administrative assistance on current projects for Bradford and Taylor Counties, Lake City, Mayo and Perry. In addition, the Council initiated administrative assistance for a new project in Lake City.

Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program

The Council assisted Bradford County with the preparation of the following Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant application.

Park Development

Bradford County - \$125,000



Community Development Block Grant funds were used by the City of Trenton to construct a new wastewater treatment plant.

TRANSPORTATION

Through an interlocal agreement signed by the Florida Department of Transportation, Alachua County and the City of Gainesville, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization 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.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

In the year 2005, a number of transportation planning activities were conducted, including the following.

Plan East Gainesville Symposium

In December, a Plan East Gainesville Symposium was held. Plan East Gainesville is a comprehensive economic revitalization plan for East Gainesville. This Plan balances environmental preservation with land development and improved transportation mobility. The purpose of the Symposium

was to discuss how this plan is being implemented.

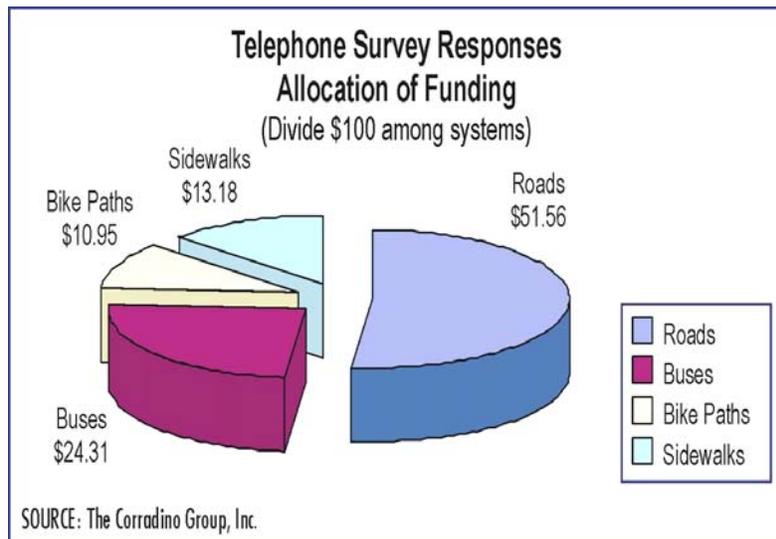
Year 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan

Over the last 12 months, work was continued on updating the Year 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. In November 2005, the Year 2025 Cost Feasible Plan was adopted by the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization. This study included extensive public outreach and visioning processes. The adopted Plan includes a priority list of financially constrained transportation investments. It also contains a vision describing how a multi-modal transportation system can pre-

serve the area's quality of life in the area, support its economic vitality and promote a more sustainable development pattern.

Transportation Survey

In 2005, a telephone survey was conducted to seek public input on a series of transportation issues. Highlights of the survey indicate that the 450 respondents are most interested in investing in maintaining existing facilities. They prefer that about half of future transportation funds be spent on roads, with about one quarter spent on transit and the remaining quarter spent on sidewalks for pedestrians and paths for bicyclists.



A transportation survey was conducted by the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization in 2005.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

During 2005, the Council continued to serve as the designated official planning agency for nine counties in the region for Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization 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 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization appoint and staff ten transportation disadvantaged boards in the region.

This past year, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization received \$48,588 in Federal Transit Administration United States Code Section 5311 grant funds through the Florida Department of Transportation. These funds will be used to provide additional public transportation service in Alachua County.

The Council also assisted the Alachua County Transportation Coordinator apply for Rural Capital Assistance Grant Funds. As a result of this coordinated effort, Alachua County was awarded \$60,000 in State grant funds to purchase one vehicle.

At the 13th Annual Training and Technology Conference, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged awarded Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. the 2005 Safety Award. This award recognizes a Community Transportation Coordinator in the State of Florida that had an outstanding safety record. In addition, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority was named the 2005 Rural Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year.

Also, during the past year, the Council began monitoring the provision of Medicaid non-emergency transportation in the region.



MV Transportation staff took trip reservations from individuals who are unable to transport themselves because of age, disability or income status.

COMMUNICATIONS

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 2005.

Regional Programs

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

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program

- Local Emergency Planning Committee Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan 2005 Update
- Hazards Analysis 2005 Updates for Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton and Lafayette Counties
- Hazardous Waste Summary Reports for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties
- After Action Reports for North Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force Table Top and Functional Exercises
- School District Emergency Plan Reviews for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor Counties

- Homeland Security Comprehensive Assessment Model Vulnerability Assessments for Emergency Operation Centers for Baker, Clay, Dixie, Hamilton, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Taylor Counties

- Buffer Zone Protection Plans for the Oaks Mall, Ben Hill Griffin, Jr. Stadium and the nuclear training reactor at the University of Florida.

Economic Development

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2004-2005 Annual Report
- *The Original Florida's* brochure and map

Transportation

- Fiscal Years 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program
- Fiscal Year 2006 Unified Planning Work Program
- Annual Report for Regional Transit System Ridership
- Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization List of Priority Projects - 2005
- Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinated Transportation Development Plans

General

- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Annual Report
- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council 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 2006, the Council will continue a number of programs started in the year 2005 or earlier, and initiate a number of new projects and activities as follows.

Regional Activities

The Council will review federal grant and loan applications for consistency with area-wide plans.

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Programs

Homeland Security

The Council will assist with tabletop and computer-based functional exercises to be conducted by Regional Domestic Security Task Force districts. The Council will help evaluate the statewide hurricane exercise. The Council will teach classes on the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program. Buffer Zone Protection Plans and Homeland Security Comprehensive Assessment Model Vulnerability Assessments will be conducted for local governments. Regional terrorism response plans will also be updated.

Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will continue to promote training. Hazards analyses will be updated for facilities that handle extremely hazardous substances. The Regional Emergency Response Plan will be updated. A regional hazardous materials emergency response exercise will be planned and conducted. Public seminars will be con-

ducted concerning hazardous materials. The Council will continue to provide staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Economic Development

The Council will continue to provide assistance to local governments and area development authorities in securing grant funds 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.

Transportation

Fiscal Years 2006/2007 to 2010/2011 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.

Regional Planning Task

Council staff will create an existing and future land use map series of Alachua County and adjacent counties. In addition, a community vision for the area will be developed.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program

The Council will continue to provide staff support to local coordinating boards and technical support to the Community Transportation Coordinators. In 2006, the Council will recommend the designation of several 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 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

2004-2005 Revenues

Sources

Federal		\$	67,426
State			638,835
Local Government Contracts for Planning			529,454
Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area			610,685
North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team			160,300
The Original Florida Tourism Task Force			105,073
Council Members' Contributions (\$.30 per capita)			111,745
Other			39,056
Other Agencies and Organizations	\$	15,058	
Miscellaneous		23,998	
Total Revenues		\$	2,262,574

2004-2005 Expenditures

Programs

Regional Activities		\$	223,391
General Planning and Intergovernmental Coordination	\$	208,333	
Review Activities		15,058	
Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance			361,245
Local Emergency Planning Committee, Planning and Training		34,587	
Hazardous Materials Planning and Monitoring		74,117	
Continuity of Operations Plans/ Terrorism Response Annexes		30,406	
Hazardous Analyses		32,033	
Regional Emergency Response Team		160,300	
Homeland Security		19,519	
Other Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance		10,283	
Economic Development			210,908
Original Florida Tourism Promotion Program		104,482	
General Economic Development		106,426	
Local Technical Assistance			504,119
Community Development Block Grant Administration		138,001	
Comprehensive Planning		323,155	
Local Mitigation Strategy		37,963	
Other Local		5,000	
Transportation			874,218
Comprehensive Transportation Planning		422,004	
Mass Transit Planning		105,097	
Transportation Disadvantaged Planning		248,196	
Other Transportation		98,921	
Program Development			28,523
Total Expenditures		\$	2,202,404

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

2009 NW 67 Place

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Scott Koons, Assistant Executive Director	104
Scott Koons, Director of Regional & Local Government Programs	104
Marlie Sanderson, Director of Transportation Planning	103
Tony Marshall, Finance Director	107
Jayne Moraski, Economic Development Program Director	106
Dwayne Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director	108
Kevin Parrish, Database and Property Manager, Geographic Information System	133
Carol Laine, Office Manager	134
Robin Barnes, Secretary	100
Steve Dopp, Senior Planner, Regional Planning, Census Information	109
Enid Ehrbar, Senior Planner, Local Government Assistance	111
Michael Escalante, Senior Planner, Transportation	114
Brian Waterman, Senior Planner, Transportation	149
Lynn Franson-Godfrey, Senior Planner, Transportation Disadvantaged	110
Martha Orthoefer, Principal Planner, Community Development Block Grants	112
Tori Busseno, Planning Administrative Assistant	125
Vickie Vandernoot, Planning Administrative Assistant	124

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: **originalfloridabusiness.org**

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

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

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

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