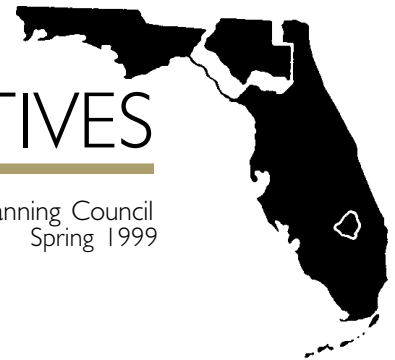


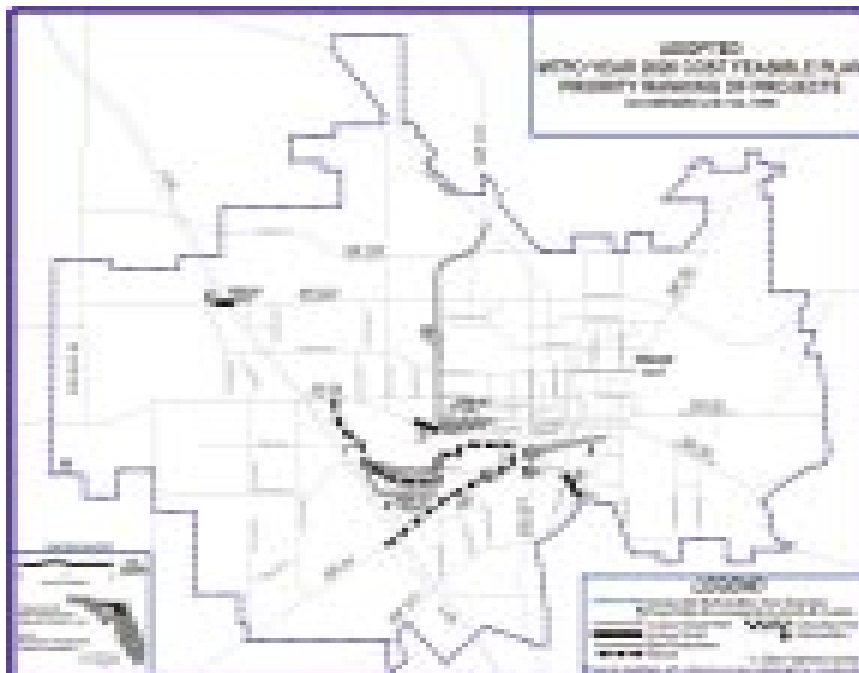
REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

A Quarterly Publication of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Spring 1999



YEAR 2020 TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE GAINESVILLE MET- ROPOLITAN AREA

Over the next several years, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) will be updating the long range transportation plan for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. The planning process will emphasize the development of a strategic vision for the community's future transportation system. Quality of life issues will be an important consideration in the entire visioning process.



LOCAL BUSINESSES SET SIGHTS ON INTERNATIONAL MARKET

Local businesses may soon have an opportunity to enter the international marketplace if an Enterprise Florida grant awarded to the North Central Florida Economic Development Partnership spawns the hoped-for success. Over the next eight months, 40 companies located within the 11-county region representing a variety of businesses types, will be helped by the \$50,000 grant to investigate potential export markets for their products.

The grant proceeds will be used to complete the following activities. First, through a partnership with the University of Florida IB2000 (International Business 2000) program, six students will begin surveying Spain, Mexico and China to see what products from the eleven-county area would most likely find overseas buyers. These bilingual students will then act as liaison between the potential exporters and foreign buyers. In conjunction with this, the second step will be to provide counseling in the complex legal and regulatory areas of

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(Year 2020 Transportation Plan... Continued from Page 1)

Therefore, an important part of this plan update will be the public involvement program. This effort will search for the widest possible range of public opinions from all segments of the population. In addition, it will directly involve a cross-section of the community in setting a long-term policy agenda for the area's future transportation system.

The future land use pattern of an area is the primary determinant of the transportation network that will be needed to provide safe and efficient accessibility to homes and businesses. Thus, rather than just testing alternative transpor-



tation networks against a fixed future land use forecast, the MTPO will test distinctly different future land use alternatives, such as: 1) continuation of existing land use trends; 2) reducing the amount of low density suburban residential development; 3) concentrating development along major corridors and/or in outlying satellite communities; and 4) encouraging mixed use developments to reduce the amount of trips generated to off-site locations. The updated plan is scheduled to be completed by February, 2001.

(Local Businesses Set Sights... Continued from Page 1)

foreign trade to companies which are successful in finding foreign buyers. Finally, Council staff will develop an international trade element to be added to the existing Partnership web site.

It is also anticipated that the grant will help fund a Partnership presence at a trade mission to Mexico City during July 12-15 this year. Team Florida, which will be led by Governor Jeb Bush, has the goal of promoting Florida export business to Mexico by showcasing export products at the U.S. Trade Center in Mexico City.



GOOD NEWS FOR OUR "HIDDEN COAST" CLAM FARMERS

by Ron Matus (reprint of March 17 article in Gainesville Sun)

More chowder should be filled with Dixie County clams soon, thanks to changes in the state management plan that determines when Horseshoe Beach is open for harvesting. Supporters hope the changes which went into effect March 18 will allow clambers to spend more time harvesting instead of waiting for state environmental officials to determine whether harmful bacteria is in the water.

Under the old plan, Horseshoe Beach was closed for harvesting whenever area rainfall exceeded 0.83 inches in 24 hours. That turned out to be about 10 days a month. The threshold was based on data showing high levels of harmful bacteria may be washed into harvesting areas whenever rainfall exceeds that level. Harvesting areas re-open after tests determine there is no harmful bacteria.

New thresholds, based on more recent data, differ each season. Between October and March, the threshold is 1.62 inches in 48 hours. The rest of the year, harvesting will be restricted only during emergency conditions, such as a tropical storm or flooding.

Frequent closures have kept Dixie County clambers from securing regular customers as well as fellow harvesters in Cedar Key. The changes also apply to oyster harvesting.

NCFRPC SERVICES AVAILABLE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND BUSINESSES

- local comprehensive plans
- land development regulations
- transportation plans
- transportation disadvantaged plans
- disaster mitigation and recovery plans
- emergency response plans
- hazardous waste verification
- CDBG grant applications
- CDBG grant administration
- FRDAP grant applications
- tourism development
- general economic development
- small business loans

second mortgages subordinated to conventional first mortgage loans from traditional lenders. Loans are for long-term fixed assets (real estate and machinery/ equipment) for new and expanding businesses that will create or retain jobs in the communities in which they operate. Under recent updates, projects occupied by two or more businesses may now be financed under one loan.

ADCO is also participating in a Pilot Program with the SBA District Office in Jacksonville to modify the mortgage loan closing process to eliminate a significant portion of closing costs for 504 loans.

Since its inception in 1980, the SBA Certified Development Company loan program has generated over **\$10 billion** in project financing, creating more than **350,000** jobs.

Direct inquiries to Jim Emerson at (352) 955-2199, Extension 107.



ADCO NEWS

The North Central Florida Areawide Development Co., Inc. (ADCO) structures Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loan financing for small businesses in the region. The Board of Directors recently approved, for submission to the SBA, an application for a \$888,000 loan as a part of a \$2.4 million project in Lake City. The company is also currently processing applications for two loans for expansion of existing businesses in Gainesville, totaling over \$600,000.

The essence of the 504 program is to make available long-term, low down payment, reasonably-priced financing to small businesses by providing

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://www.afn.org/~lepc/>

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

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY NOTICE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION

The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) requires emergency planning, and emergency notification of accidental releases. The legislation also mandates that information concerning chemical inventories of certain facilities be made available to the public. Regional Planning Council provides staff to the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee which serves as a repository of Title III chemical data.

The public has access to a variety of chemical specific data and information about facilities reporting under provisions of the Act. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 324 of the Title III Act, the following information is available to the public upon request during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- * Section 302: Chemical Notification
- * Section 304: Emergency Follow-up Notice
- * Section 311: Materials Safety Data Sheets
- * Section 312: Hazardous Chemical Inventory (Tier two) Form
- * North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Plan

Citizens and businesses seeking information on any of the above provisions should contact **Dwayne Mundy at 352/955-2200, ext. 108 or email: mundy@ncfrpc.org.**

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