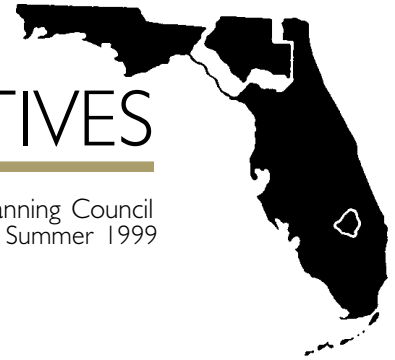


REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

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



GAINESVILLE MTPO WINS \$150,000 GRANT

In a highly competitive environment, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) for the Gainesville Urban Area was successful in its application to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for funds which are to be used to develop methods for improving the integration of land use and transportation strategies in transportation planning models. Current models do not fully account for the role of non-auto trips by individuals who bicycle or walk to nearby shops from their residences.

Faced with increased pressures to develop further and further out from its urban core, the Gainesville MTPO is focussing its efforts on infill and redevelopment of the urbanized area so as to combat urban sprawl and its effect on transportation and community character. The agency consists of the five city and the five county commissioners sitting as a single transportation planning body for the Gainesville urbanizing area.

The grant was one of 35 awarded nationwide, and the only one awarded in Florida. A total of 520 applications were submitted to the FHWA for the planning funds.

COUNCIL ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At its annual meeting held May 27, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council elected a new Board of Directors, along with the following officer positions: Dale McPherson, a gubernatorial appointee from

Gainesville as Chairman; Ray Kirkland, Mayor of Lake City as Vice-Chairman; and James Montgomery, a Columbia County Commissioner as Secretary-Treasurer.



Dale McPherson, Chairman

The Council is composed of two-thirds locally-elected officials who represent member cities and counties from the 11-county region, with the remaining one-third being residents of the region who are appointed by the Governor.

FLORIDA'S HIDDEN COAST® CLAM NURSERY DEDICATED

Excerpt from June 10 Sidney Dosh, Jr., article in the Dixie County Advocate

The sun was bright, the wind soft and breezy, and the crowd enthusiastic - every element as it should be for the official dedication of the **Hidden Coast** land-based clam nursery at Horseshoe Beach held on an early June afternoon. The crowd started to gather about 1:15 p.m. that Thursday afternoon, first taking a tour of the clam nursery and talking with the clam farmers who were on hand to answer questions and show off their seed trays.

The Dixie County Commission had worked quickly through its June 3 meeting agenda, adjourning in time for the dedication. Other agencies, individuals and suppliers who were instrumental in supporting, developing and funding the project, many of whom were in attendance, were acknowledged with a large banner.

Specifically, these agencies and individuals are as follows: **Representative Janegale Boyd, the Central Florida Electric Cooperative, the Dixie County Aquaculture Task Force, the Dixie County Commission, the Dixie County Cooperative Extension, Ed Ellison, Florida Department**

CDBG NEWS

During the past few months, Council staff assisted **8 local governments** with the development of **11 applications** requesting **nearly \$7 million of CDBG grants** as follows:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Bradford Co | \$750,000 HG |
| Lafayette Co | \$600,000 HG |
| Lake City | \$750,000 HG |
| Live Oak | \$600,000 CRG |
| Live Oak | \$600,000 HG |
| Madison (City) | \$600,000 CRG |
| Madison (City) | \$600,000 HG |
| Mayo | \$500,000 NRG |
| Perry | \$600,000 CRG |
| Perry | \$600,000 NRG |
| Suwannee Co | \$750,000 NRG |

HG = Housing Grant
 CRG = Commercial Revitalization Grant
 NRG = Neighborhood Revitalization Grant

Local governments should receive initial notification of the success of their application(s) in October.



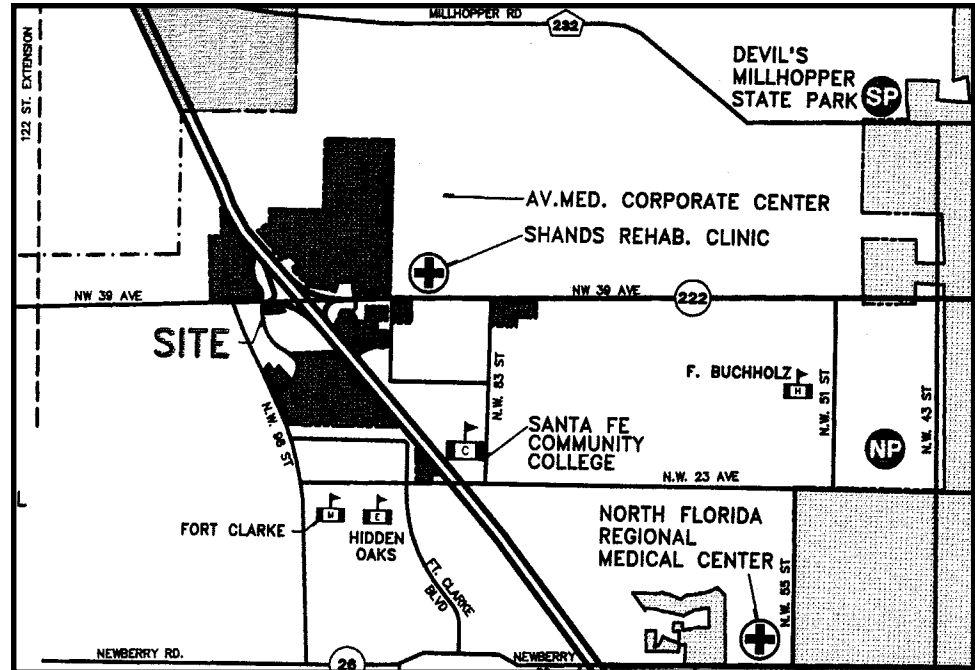
Tasting the Product (Clam Nursery in background)

of Environmental Protection, Florida Forest Products Building Supply, The Ford Foundation, the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Harris Fence and Farm Supply, Kight Brothers Construction, Liles-Ace Hardware Co., Kenneth O'Steen, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, the Town of Horseshoe Beach, Dr. Hank Stoddard, and the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

(Continued on Page 4)

PLANNING COUNCIL RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF SPRINGHILLS DRI

Also at its May 27 meeting, the Council agreed to forward on a recommendation to Alachua County to approve a very large, mixed-use development at the interchange of I-75 and 39th Avenue. Due to a number of concerns about the project's potential impact on the transportation system serving the area and the environment, the Council further recommended that the county require the applicant to monitor and restudy the project's transportation impacts prior to starting phase 3 in the year 2006, and for the applicant to monitor the project's impact on subsurface water quality. As shown in the accompanying picture, the project site lies in all four quadrants of the interchange covering nearly a square mile of area.



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

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>

(Florida's Hidden Coast *Continued from Page 2*)

Up to 12 farmers are able to use the facility at one time, each able to nurse 300,000 seed over a one to two month period. With weather conditions allowing it to operate 9 months a year, the facility has the potential of nursing over 20 million clam seed and accommodating 72 farmers each year.

The local clam farmers and supporters are extremely enthusiastic about the project. Ed Ellison said, ***"I have never been so excited about anything in my life. Anyone who is interested in business, and working part-time, can earn from \$30,000 to \$80,000 a year."***

Many of those associated with the project recognize that, in addition to the continued growth in clam production, other products such as scallops could also be introduced into the area. With a year-around multiple product base, several seasonal or part-time jobs could easily add up to a full time occupation.

Once the guests had finished the tour, they were treated to a bountiful supply of boiled clams, complete with their choice of butter-garlic dip or cocktail sauce. Scallop-shaped dinner plates and clam-shaped serving bowls made the whole affair a well-orchestrated Florida-style clam-bake. Crackers and ice tea rounded out the menu.

North Central Florida
Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67 Place, Suite A
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603

BULK-RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Gainesville, FL 32601
Permit No. 475

OFFICERS

Dale McPherson
Chairman

Ray Kirkland
Vice-Chairman

James Montgomery
Secretary-Treasurer

Charles F. Justice
Executive Director

Charles L. Kiester
Assistant Executive Director
and Editor