

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (NCFRPC)
MEETING NOTES (UNOFFICIAL)
JANUARY 25, 2018

ALACHUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2018

ROBERT W. WILFORD, COMMISSIONER
(ALACHUA CITY COMMISSION DELEGATE TO NCFRPC)

Commissioner Wilford Note: The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC) is comprised of the following twelve counties: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union.

Invocation

Robert Wilford, Alachua City Commissioner, delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees recited the pledge to the flag in honor of the United States of America.

Quorum Met

Lorene Thomas, Gubernatorial Appointee for Dixie County, Chair, declared that a quorum was met in accordance with the council's bylaws.

Introduction of Guests

Ms. Thomas recognized guests in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was **approved unanimously.**

Presentation on Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance in North Central Florida - Scott Koons, NCFRPC Executive Director

Mr. Koons made a presentation regarding Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance in North Central Florida. He emphasized that the NCFRPC region is doing well in meeting compliance requirements.

Approval of Minutes

The December 14, 2017, minutes were **approved unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were **approved unanimously:**

Financial Reports for November and December 2017

Highlights included revenues and expenditures are within budget for the first three months of the fiscal year. Mr. Koons reported that the financial condition of the council remains sound.

Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness - Fiscal Year 17/18, to Accept Training Funds in the Amount of \$56,519.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management passes through funds from the United States Department of Transportation for hazardous materials training. The council, on behalf of the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, offers free hazardous materials response training to local government employees. This training includes basic awareness level through a more advanced technical level.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment

Ms. Lisa Walker was appointed as Chair, Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Chair Report

Introduction of New Council Member

Ms. Thomas welcomed new council member, Robert Brown, who will be representing Hamilton County on the council.

Resolutions of Appreciation

A motion was made to present "Resolutions of Appreciation" to Ms. Beth Burnam, Hamilton County, and Mr. Jason Holifield, Union County, for their service on the council, and to Mr. Woody Kitler, Chair, Union County Transportation Coordinating Board, for his leadership role on this board. The motion was **approved unanimously**.

Committee Appointments

Ms. Thomas asked for ratification of the appointment of Daniel Riddick, Bradford County, to the Clearinghouse Committee, Thomas Demps, to the Regional Planning Committee, Helen Warren, Gainesville, as Chair of the Regional Planning Committee, and Tim Murphy, Columbia County, as Vice Chair of the Regional Planning Committee. A motion was **approved unanimously** ratifying these appointments.

Executive Committee Report - No report.

Clearinghouse Committee Report

Commissioner Adams, Lafayette County, presented the report. Local government comprehensive plan adopted amendments/draft amendments for Union County (Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment), City of Alachua (Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment), Town of LaCrosse (Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment), and City of Hawthorne (Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment), were **approved unanimously**.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (Non-Elected Officials) Report - No report.

Finance Committee Report - No report.

Nominating Committee Report - No report.

Program Committee Report - No report.

Regional Planning Committee Report - No report.

Ex-Officio Member Reports

Lauri Shubert, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2, stated that the district has received Small County Road Assistance Program and Small County Program and County Incentive Grant Program applications.

Hugh Thomas, Suwannee River Water Management District, introduced Bill Glass, Project Manager, Agriculture and Environmental Programs. Mr. Thomas stated that the district has received applications for the 2018 springs and river projects.

Roni Jordan, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, stated that the Northeast District is available to assist local governments and individuals regarding permit applications and regulatory compliance issues.

Sean Greene, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, stated the commission is available whenever needed regarding questions regarding fish and wildlife issues.

Citizen Comments

Mr. L.J. Two Spirits, Citizen, Columbia County, suggested that the public comments section of the council be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Ms. Thomas stated that the Executive Committee is looking into this agenda suggestion.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Koons briefed the council on the following items:

Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Monthly Report

FRCA is the statewide organization which is comprised of ten regional planning councils. It strengthens Florida's regional planning councils and partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils to ensure they add value to state, regional, and local initiatives. One of the meetings attended in December was by Webinar on December 19, 2017, with the National Organization for Atmospheric Administration Sea Level Rise. In addition, the association assisted with the review of the 2016 FRCA annual report.

FRCA Policy Board Meeting Report

Mr. Koons reported that Ms. Thomas and Rick Davis, NCFRPC Immediate Past President, attended the semi-annual meeting of FRCA in Tallahassee on January 12, 2018. He reported that the association heard reports from Leslie Wollack, Executive Director, National Association of Regional Councils, Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber Foundation, Lee Constantine, Seminole County Commissioner, Susan Harbin, Senior Associate Director, Florida Association of Counties, and David Cruz, Legislative Associate, Florida League of Cities. Mr. Koons also reported that the association:

- Heard reports regarding various projects of regional planning councils throughout the state.
- Received the 2016-17 FRCA annual report.
- Heard a report from its legislative advocate.

- Adopted a 2018 legislative agenda.
- Agreed to become a partner of the Resiliency Florida Partnership.
- Reviewed an association financial report.
- Approved a Certified Public Accountant agreement to prepare assembled financial statements.
- Elected association officers for the remainder of 2017-18.
- Appointed a Nominating Committee for 2018-19.

FRCA 2016-17 Annual Report

Mr. Koons stated that the 2016-17 FRCA Annual Report was included in the council packet. He further stated that the following council members currently serve on the FRCA Policy Board: Lorene Thomas, Chair, Rick Davis, Immediate Past Chair, and Robert Wilford, Secretary/treasurer. The following NCFRPC-specific information is included in the report:

Florida Regional Councils Demographics (NCFRPC)

- Date established: May 7, 1969.
- Regional population: 557,004.
- Governing board size: 44.
- Staff full staff equivalents (FTE's): 11.
- Square miles: 8,660 (second largest geographical area in the state).
- Budget: \$1.9 million.
- The following programs are included as part of NCFRPC's services:

Emergency Preparedness

- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Support.
- Emergency Management and Disaster-related Training Exercises.
- Hazardous First Responder Training.
- Hurricane Evacuation and Shelter Planning.
- Local Emergency Planning Committee.
- Local Hazard Mitigation Strategies.
- Regional Domestic Security Task Force Training and Exercises.
- Sea Level Rise/Climate Change Studies.
- Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator Monitoring.
- Statewide Regional Evacuation Study.

Transportation and Planning

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Training.
- Local Government Transportation Technical Assistance.
- Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization.
- Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

Regional Planning

- Energy Initiatives.
- Federal Clearinghouse.
- Military Base Compatibility.

- Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Economic Development

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy/Economic Development District.
- Eco/Cultural/Heritage Tourism Development.
- Economic Development Organization Collaboration.
- Economic Impact Analyses Modeling.
- Rural Area of Opportunity.
- Rural Economic Technical Assistance.

Community Development

- Affordable Housing Initiatives.
- Coastal Zone Planning.
- Developments of Regional Impact.
- Dispute Resolution.
- Downtown Redevelopment and Urban Design.
- Geographic Information Systems Mapping/U.S. Census Data Center.
- Grant Writing and Administration.
- Local Government Comprehensive Plan Review.
- Land Use and Community Planning.
- U.S. Census State Data Center Affiliate.

Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard

Mr. Koons reminded council members that the Florida Chamber Foundation developed the Florida Scorecard to provide state leaders with the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. In performing this task, the Florida Chamber's primary objective is to develop a 20-year statewide strategic plan which requires a commitment to measuring the state's current status toward accomplishing the stated goals of the "Six Pillars" which were established to measure trends and progress. The "Six Pillars" incorporate the strategic thinking of a diverse range of stakeholders including the Century Commission for a Sustainable Future, Florida Council of 100, Enterprise Florida, Florida State University, Workforce Florida, 1000 Friends of Florida, and others. The "Six Pillars" are:

- Talent Supply and Education.
- Innovation and Economic Development.
- Infrastructure and Growth Leadership.
- Business Climate and Competiveness.
- Civic and Government Systems.
- Quality of Life and Places.

Mr. Koons reviewed the latest "State of Florida Metrics" for January 2018:

Talent Supply and Education

- Third Grade Scores: Reading (58% - Improving) and Math (62% - Improving).
- Fourth Grade Scores: Reading (55% - Declining), Math (46% - Declining), and Science (48% - Unchanged).
- National Eighth Grade Rankings: Math (42nd - Declining) and Reading (32nd - Declining).
- High School Graduation Rate: 82.3 % (Improving).

- College Affordability: Second (4-Year Unchanged).
- Educational Attainment: Bachelor (28.6% - Improving) and Associate Degrees (38.3% - Improving).
- Jobs Created Over Last Year: 195,000.

Innovation and Economic Development

- Patents Granted: 4,243 - Improving.
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP): \$964.9 Billion - Improving.
- Venture Capital: \$1,118,500 - Improving.
- Visitors: 112.3 Million.
- Visitors Spending: \$108.8 Billion.
- Exports: \$52 Billion - Declining.
- Imports: \$73.7 Billion - Improving.
- Industry Diversification: 20th.
- Employment by Foreign Countries: 327,200 - Improving.

NOTE: If Florida was a country and it reaches \$16 trillion in GDP, it would become the sixteenth largest country in the world.

Infrastructure and Growth Leadership

- Land in Conservation: 27%.
- Population: 20.98 million.
- Vehicle Miles Traveled: 214.64 Billion - Improving.
- State Housing Starts: 6,232 - Declining.
- State Housing Sales: 19,990 - Declining.

Business Climate and Competitiveness

- Probability of Recession: 9% - Unchanged.
- Consumer Sentiment: 95.95 - Declining.
- Sales Tax Revenue: \$2.118 Billion Per Month - Declining.
- Open Jobs: 265,200 - Increasing.
- Unemployed Persons: 369,000 - Increasing.
- State Ranking for Automobile Insurance Affordability: 44th.

Civic and Governance Systems

- Voter Participation: 75% - Improving.
- Right/Wrong Direction: Right (56%) and Wrong (27%).
- Inmate Population: 122,090.
- State Government Employment: 212,800.
- Volunteerism: 19.1% (Florida ranks 50th in the Country).
- State Debt: \$22.7 Billion.
- Citizens Insurance Exposure Policies: Exposure (\$116.4 Billion) and Policies (453,329).

Quality of Life and Quality Places

- Free and Reduced Lunch: 60.2% - Increasing.
- Youth Obesity: 12.3% - Worse.
- Per Capital Income: \$45,819 - Improving.

- Homeless School Children: 69,596.
- Poverty Rate: 16.1% - Worse.
- Home Ownership Rate: 63.8% - Improving.
- Floridians without Health Insurance Coverage - 12.5% - Declining.

Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated that the 2018 legislative session convened on January 9, 2018, and is scheduled to adjourn on March 9, 2018. He reviewed the following legislative bills/items decided or under consideration:

Regional Planning Council Funding

Governor Scott did not recommend any funding for regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2018-19. He has not recommended funding for regional councils during his entire tenure as governor.

Regional Economic Development Initiative

- **Senate Bill 170** by Senator Grimsley revises the duties, responsibilities and membership of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, deletes the provision limiting the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be designated, deletes a provision listing the economic development incentives for which the governor may waive the criteria or similar provisions. This bill was **passed** by the Commerce and Tourism and Agriculture Committees and is now in the Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.
- **House Bill 1403** by Representative Avila revises legislative intent, redefines the term rural area of opportunity, revises duties, responsibilities and membership on the Rural Economic Development Initiative, deletes the provision limiting the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be designated, deletes a provision listing economic development incentives for which the governor may establish criteria or similar provisions, and deletes the requirement that certain catalyst projects be identified as such by Enterprise Florida, Inc. This bill is now in the Agriculture and Property Rights Committee.

Developments of Regional Impact

- **Senate Bill 1244** by Senator Lee revises the statewide guidelines and standards for developments of regional impact, specifies that amendments to a development order for an approved development may not alter the dates before which a development would be subject to downzoning, unit density reduction or intensity reduction, except under certain conditions, and requires local governments to file a notice of abandonment under certain conditions. This bill was referred to the Community Affairs Committee, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, and the Appropriations Committee.
- **House Bill 1151** by Representative La Rosa repeals, creates, and revises the provisions for statewide guidelines, standards, and requirements of developments of regional impact relating to authorizations to develop and many other areas related to developments of regional impact thereby, in effect, limiting local government autonomy. This bill **passed** the house on first reading.

Community Redevelopment Agencies

- **Senate Bill 432** by Senator Lee prohibits a person from lobbying a community redevelopment agency until he or she has resigned as a lobbyist with that agency, authorizes community redevelopment agencies to adopt rules to govern the registration of lobbyists, and requires ethics training for community redevelopment agency commissioners. This bill is now in the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

- **House Bill 17** by Representative Raburn provides reporting requirements, revises requirements for operating community redevelopment agencies, prohibits the creation of community redevelopment agencies after a certain date, provides a phase out period, creates criteria for determining whether a community redevelopment agency is inactive, provides hearing procedures, authorizes certain financial activity from inactive community redevelopment agencies, revises requirements for use of redevelopment trust fund proceeds, revises county and municipal government reporting requirements, revises criteria for finding that a county or municipality failed to report, and requires the Florida Department of Financial Services to provide a report to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity concerning community redevelopment agencies with no revenues, no expenditures, or no debts. This bill **passed** the house with “72 yeas” and “26 nays” being cast.

Private Property Rights

- **Senate Bill 362** by Senator Perry requires local governments to address the protection of private property rights in their comprehensive plans, requires the comprehensive plan to include a private property rights element that sets forth principles, guidelines, standards and strategies to achieve certain objectives, provides a deadline by which each local government must adopt a private property rights element, and requires the state land planning agency to approve the private property rights adopted by each local government if it is substantially in a specified form. This bill was referred to the Community Affairs, Environmental Preservation and Conservation, and Rules Committees.
- **House Bill 207** by Representatives McClain and Clemons requires local governments to address protection of private property rights in their comprehensive plans, requires comprehensive plans to include a private property rights element, requires counties and municipalities to adopt and amend land development regulations consistent with a private property rights element, provides deadlines, and requires the state land planning agency to approve the private property rights element if it is substantially in a specified form. This bill **passed** the house on first reading.

State Housing Trust Fund and Local Government Housing Trust Fund

- **Senate Bill 874** by Senator Passidomo (Senator Co-sponsors: Farmer, Mayfield, Montford, Stewart, Taddeo, Torres, and Thurston) exempts the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund from a provision authorizing the Legislature, in the General Appropriations Act, to transfer unappropriated cash balances from specified trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund. This bill is now in the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development.

NOTE: There is no companion house bill to this legislation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the council will be held on February 22, 2018, at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in Lake City beginning at 7:00 p.m. Committee meetings, if applicable, will precede the council meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Ms. Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

NCFRPC 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.

NCFRPC Executive Director (Contact Information)

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Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director (Extension 101)
Andre M. Davis, Finance Director (Extension 107)
Dwayne L. Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director (Extension 108)
Kevin D. Parish, Information Technology and Property Management Director (Extension 133)

Steven Dopp, Senior Planner, Regional Planning (Extension 109)
Michael Escalante, AICP, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning (Extension 114)
Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner, Transportation Disadvantaged (Extension 110)
Sandra Joseph, Senior Planner, Local Government Comprehensive Planning (Extension 111)
Lauren Yeatter, AICP, Senior Planner, Geographic Information Systems (Extension 113)

Carmelita Franco, Planning Administrative Assistant, Local Government Comprehensive Planning (Extension 125)
Jean Strong, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director (Extension 134)
Tara Tucker, Secretary II (Extension 100)

Alachua County Representation on NCFRPC

David Arreola, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
Patricia Bouie, Commissioner, City of Hawthorne
Harvey Budd, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
Charles Chestnut, IV, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Rick Coleman, Commissioner, City of Newberry
Ken Cornell, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Louie Davis, Mayor, City of Waldo
Fletcher Hope, Commissioner, City of Archer
Robert Hutchinson, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Helen Warren, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
William Whitelock, Non-Voting Delegate, City of High Springs
Robert Wilford, Commissioner, City of Alachua

Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Mission Statement

Fosters regional strategies, solutions, and partnerships to support economic growth and improve quality of life; promotes a standard of excellence in the delivery of regional planning council programs and technical professional assistance and expertise; and, advocates for the role of regional planning councils as the state's primary organizations to address problems that are of greater-than-local concern.

There are ten (10) regional planning councils in Florida which serve the state's sixty-seven (67) counties. They are:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Number of Counties Served</u>	<u>Headquarters</u>
West Florida Regional Planning Council (WFRPC)	7	Pensacola
Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC)	9	Tallahassee
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC)	12	Gainesville
Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (NEFRPC)	7	Jacksonville
East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC)	8	Altamonte Springs
Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC)	5	Bartow
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)	6	Pinellas Park
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)	6	Fort Myers
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC)	4	Stuart
South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC)	3	Hollywood

Membership on regional planning councils consists of one-third of the total representatives being gubernatorial appointees with the remainder being member local government appointees. Two-thirds of council representatives must be locally-elected officials. Regional councils provide a large variety of services to benefit its local governments in addition to coordinating regional planning and review activities. Services include: technical planning assistance, grant and loan planning assistance, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities.

COMMISSIONER WILFORD NCFRPC APPOINTMENTS

Executive Committee (Secretary/Treasurer)
Finance Committee (Chair)
Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA - NCFRPC Delegate)
North Central Areawide Development Company (ADCO - NCFRPC Delegate)

