

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (NCFRPC)
MEETING NOTES (UNOFFICIAL)
March 22, 2018

ALACHUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 9, 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.

Call to Order

Ms. Thomas, Gubernatorial Appointee, Dixie County, Chair, declared the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Quorum

A quorum was met in accordance with the council's bylaws.

Invocation

Commissioner Riddick, Bradford County, delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests

Ms. Thomas recognized the guests in attendance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 22, 2018, meeting.

Financial Report for February 2018

Highlights included revenues and expenditures are within budget for the first five months of the fiscal year. The financial condition of the council remains sound.

Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Membership Certifications

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC) is the designated official planning agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program(s) for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, and Union Counties. As the designated official planning agency, the Council is required to certify memberships on an annual basis for the aforementioned “Local Coordinating Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards” in accordance with **Rule 41-2.012(3) of the Florida Administrative Code**. In certifying memberships, there is a requirement that, to the maximum extent possible, a cross section of local communities is maintained. Each of the above coordinating boards complied with maintaining the required cross section requirement of the representation categories which are:

- Locally Elected Official (Serves as Chair).
- Elderly.
- Disabled.
- Citizen Advocate.
- Citizen Advocate (User of the Services).
- Children at Risk.
- Florida Association for Community Action.
- Public Education.
- Florida Department of Education.
- Florida Department of Transportation.
- Florida Department of Children and Families.
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs.
- Florida Department of Education.
- Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration.
- Regional Workforce Development Board.
- Veteran Services.
- Local Mass Transit.
- Private Transportation Industry.
- Local Medical Community.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator for Bradford County (Resolution No. 2018-01, Recommending that the Suwannee River Economic Council (SREC), Inc., Be Recommended to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged as the Community Transportation Coordinator for Bradford County, Effective July 1, 2018, and Continuing for a Period of Five Years.

As indicated in the previous section, NCFRPC is the official planning agency for the “Transportation Disadvantaged Program” for Bradford County. The “Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged” requires that the designated official planning agency conduct the selection process and to recommend a “Community Transportation Coordinator” at the end of each contract period. The contract of SREC is due to expire on June 30, 2018. Request for Proposals (RFP) were sought in accordance with **Rule 41-2.010(4)(c) of the Florida Administrative Code**. Two firms submitted proposals in response to the RFP: Transitions Commute Solutions (TMS), LLC, and SREC. As required in the **Rule 41-2.010(4)(c)**, in order to be considered, an RFP must include a current financial statement prepared by a licensed certified public accountant and, applicants who do not comply with this requirement, are rejected without further consideration. The RFP presented by TMS did not include a current financial statement prepared by a licensed certified public accountant and, therefore, TMS’s application did not receive any further consideration.

The Council had previously authorized the Executive Director to appoint a “Technical Review Committee” to review and score proposals which were submitted for Bradford County. After determining SREC complied with required submission guidelines, the “Technical Review Committee” determined that SREC was responsive to submission guidelines and it be recommended as the designated “Community Transportation Coordinator” for Bradford County.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator for Lafayette County (Resolution No. 2018-02), Recommending that SREC Be Recommended to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged as the Community Transportation Coordinator for Lafayette County, Effective July 1, 2018, and Continuing for a Period of Five Years.

Please refer to the previous section for the selection and recommendation process as required in **Rule 41-2.010(4)(c)**. SREC was the only firm that submitted an application in response to the RFP. After determining SREC complied with required submission guidelines, the “Technical Review Committee” recommended SREC be the designated “Community Transportation Coordinator” for Lafayette County.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program Planning Grant Resolutions for FY 18/19.

Planning grant resolutions for FY 18/19 were prepared for submission to the “Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged” for the following counties:

- Bradford (Resolution No. 2018-03).
- Columbia, Hamilton, and Suwannee (Resolution No. 2018-04).
- Dixie (Resolution No. 2018-05).
- Gilchrist (Resolution No. 2018-06).
- Lafayette (Resolution No. 2018-07).
- Levy (Resolution No. 2018-08).
- Madison (Resolution No. 2018-09)
- Union (Resolution No. 2018-10).

Approval of Regular Agenda

The regular agenda was **approved unanimously**.

Citizen Comments - None.

Guest Speaker - Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber Foundation

Mr. Carvajal indicated that the Florida Chamber Foundation traveled to each of Florida’s 67 counties over the past eighteen months and engaged more than 10,000 Floridians as a part of the “Florida 2030” research project. Floridians were asked about the state’s ability to compete, ability to ensure prosperity, and ways to secure **vibrant and sustainable communities** today and tomorrow. The one issue which was universally identified as a crisis across the state was the availability of affordable housing for critical workers in particular. Mr. Carvajal also indicated that the drug problem was a major concern across the state. In addition, he stated that 915 people per day are moving to Florida and that 116 million visitors came to the state last year despite Hurricane Irma affecting the number of visitors. Mr. Carvajal indicated that it was interesting to note that one-third of the current voting population was not here ten years ago and in the next ten years this number may raise to a staggering fifty percent.

He indicated that, in the early 2000’s, Florida decided it needed a united strategy which would focus on creating prosperity and therefore ensure that Florida remained globally competitive and fostered **vibrant and sustainable communities**. As a result, the Florida Chamber Foundation created the “Six Pillars” framework which identifies key factors that drive Florida’s future economy and helps communities, agencies, and organizations speak with one voice. The “Six Pillars” are:

Talent Supply and Education

- Early Education.

- K-12.
- Higher Education.
- Workforce.

Innovation and Economic Development

- Florida's Economic Portfolio.
- Innovation Economy.
- Entrepreneurism.
- Capital and Investments.
- Global Trade.

Infrastructure and Growth Leadership

- Planning and Development.
- Transportation and Logistics.
- Water.
- Energy.
- Communications.
- Waste Management.
- Environmental Issues.
- Risk Preparedness and Mitigation.

Business Climate and Competitiveness

- Commercial Insurance.
- Taxes.
- Regulation.
- Permitting.
- Property Rights.
- Legal Reform.
- Workplace and Employment.

Civic and Governance Systems

- Florida's Budget.
- Governmental Systems.
- Federal Issues.
- Ethics and Elections.
- Local Government Issues.
- Regional Stewardship.
- Civic Infrastructure.
- Public Private Partnerships.

Quality of Life and Quality Places

- Health and Wellness.
- Safety and Security.
- Housing and Livability.

- Families and Children
- Retirement and Lifelong Engagement.
- Economic Opportunity and Prosperity.
- Sense of Place and Community.

Chair Report

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee - Ratification of Mai Khuu Appointment as Vice Chair.

Ms. Thomas, indicated that the Council has been designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District since 1978. As such, the Council is responsible for developing and adopting a “Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).” The purpose of the strategy is to analyze the regional economy and serve as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources.

The CEDS is designed to bring together both public and private sectors in creating an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies by attracting private investment aimed at creating jobs. The strategy must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process which is developed by a CEDS committee representing both public and private sectors, and must set forth the goals and objectives which are necessary to solve economic development problems within the region.

A majority of the CEDS committee must be private sector representatives and include representatives of public officials, community leaders, workforce development boards, higher education, and minority and labor groups. The committee is responsible for the development and maintenance of the strategy and making recommendations concerning the strategy to the Council for adoption. It is recommended that Mai Khuu, Senior Director, Economic Development for the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce be appointed as the Vice Chair, of the CEDS committee. Ratification motion ***approved unanimously***.

Executive Committee Report

Resolution No. 2018-11, Recognizing the 12th Anniversary of the City of Lake Butler

Scott Koons, NCFRPC Executive Director, stated that the City of Lake Butler affectionately known as “Your Welcome Home Community” was established as the county seat of the newly created New River County in 1859, later to be named Bradford County in 1861. The lake and city were named in honor of Colonel Robert Butler, the first Surveyor General of the Florida Territory and later as the Acting Governor of East Florida. A post office was established in Lake Butler in 1860 and, by 1890, the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad had crossed the county with depots located at Guilford and Lake Butler.

Lake Butler prospered and was incorporated as a city in 1893. The Jacksonville and Southwestern Railroad, later a branch of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, was completed in 1899 serving Raiford, Johnstown, Lake Butler, Danville, Dukes, and Worthington Springs. The Florida Legislature created Union County in 1921 from the portion of Bradford County lying west of the New River. Lake Butler was designated as the county seat for Union County.

It is interesting to note that actor, Jay North, who played the character Dennis in the television series “Dennis the Menace,” between 1959 and 1963, moved to Lake Butler in 1993, which was the hometown of his wife Cindy Hackney. Motion of Resolution No. 2018-11 ***approved unanimously***.

Proclamation Declaring April 2018 as County Government Month

Mr. Koons reported that the month of April is celebrated as “County Government Month” on annual basis across the country to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. The National Association of

Counties encourages counties across the country to promote county government programs and services throughout the month. Awareness is traditionally accomplished by hosting a variety of community outreach events and activities to include tours of county facilities, recognition ceremonies for county employees and volunteers, distribution of information about county programs and services, sponsoring student essay and/or art contests, meetings with businesses and community leaders, and adoption of resolutions. Motion of Proclamation ***approved unanimously.***

Clearinghouse Committee Report

Commissioner Adams, Lafayette County, presented the report. Local government comprehensive plan adopted amendments/draft amendments for the City of Newberry (Two Comprehensive Plan **Adopted** Amendments and One **Draft** Amendment), Columbia County (Comprehensive Plan **Adopted** Amendment), Union County (Comprehensive Plan **Draft** Amendment), and the City of Gainesville (**Draft** Amendment) were ***approved unanimously.***

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (Non-Elected Officials) Report - This report was previously covered in the Chair's report.

Regional Planning Committee Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Council voted at its December 14, 2017, meeting to authorize the addition of a proposed amendment to the "Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR)" to the "North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan" as recommended by the "Regional Planning Committee." In addition, the Council authorized the initiation for the rule making process, in accordance with ***Chapter 120, Florida Statutes,*** to adopt the proposed amendments to the regional plan.

Pursuant to the aforementioned action of the Council, rule development workshops were held on March 13, 2018, in Chiefland, and on March 15, 2018, in Gainesville. The Committee will meet on March 22, 2018, to review comments from the workshops. In addition, the Committee will also review a request from the **Alachua County Board of County Commissioners** concerning the inclusion of additional areas to the "Regional Ecological Greenways Network" map of the regionally significant natural resources of the proposed amendments to the plan.

Finance Committee Report

Review of FY 16/17 Audit and Authorization to Pay Powell & Jones, Certified Public Accountants, Auditor, for Performing Said Audit

Commissioner Wilford, City of Alachua, presented an overview of the audit. He indicated that the audit conforms with both federal regulations and the rules of the "Auditor General of the State of Florida." In adhering to these rules, the auditor is required to take into account both internal and administrative controls. Mr. Wilford stated that the auditor's report indicates the records audited: **"Present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, as of September 30, 2017, and the changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparisons of the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America - A clean audit."**

Revenues exceeded expenditures for the year in the amount of **\$2,533** which was reflected as an increase in the "General Fund Balance." The audit did not reflect any material weaknesses. Consequently, there were no findings of non-compliance or reportable conditions in the audit. The members of the Finance Committee are: Robert Wilford, City of Alachua, Chair, Ken Cornell, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners, Vice Chair, and Bill Hunter, Governmental Appointee, Hamilton County. Motion accepting the audit and paying the auditor the previously authorized amount was ***approved unanimously.***

Nominating Committee Report - No report.

Program Committee Report - No report.

Ex-Officio Member Reports

Barney Bennett, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2 - No report.

Ben Glass, Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) - Mr. Glass stated that the district recently completed the ranking applications for river projects and will start ranking springs projects in April. He also reported that **Ms. Virginia Johns of the City of Alachua** was recently elected as the Chair of the SRWMD Board of Directors.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection - No report.

Sean Green, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - Mr. Green indicated the second round is underway for seeking applications regarding the amelioration of problems with sunken ships in local waters.

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. The mission of the Association is to strengthen Florida's regional planning councils and its partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improve the consistency and quality of regional planning councils to ensure they add value to state, regional, and local initiatives. During February, the association participated in the following meetings in order to enhance partnerships and build and/or strengthen relationships:

- American Planning Association (APA) Public Policy Workshop.
- Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Monthly Meeting.
- Florida Coastal Resilience Forum.

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 as a tool to secure Florida's future as previously explained in ***Mr. Carvajal's*** presentation. In performing this task, the Florida Chamber's primary objective is to develop a 20-year statewide strategic plan which requires an ongoing 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).
- Eighth Grade Scores: Reading (55% - Declining), Math (46% - Declining) and Science (48% - Unchanged).
- National Fourth Grade Rankings: Math (18th - Improving), and Reading (10th - Declining).
- National Eight 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 (46% - Current) and Associate Degrees (37.4% - Improving).
- Unemployment Rate: 3.9% - Increasing.
- Jobs Created Over Last Year: 15,900.

Innovation and Economic Development

- Patents Granted: 4,243 - Improving.
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP): \$976.7 Billion - Improving.
- Venture Capital: \$2,139,300 - Improving.
- Visitors: 112.4 Million.
- Visitors Spending: \$111.7 Billion.
- Top Six Importers: Market Share (29.7% - Declining and Amount - 15.44 Billion - Declining).
- Exports: \$52 Billion - Declining.
- Imports: \$73.7 Billion - Improving.
- Industry Diversification: 20th - Improving.
- Employment by Foreign Countries: 327,200 - Improving.

NOTE: If Florida was a country, and when it reaches \$16 trillion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it will become the equivalent of 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: 6,090 - Declining.
- State Housing Sales: 16,564 - Declining.
- Population Estimate for 2030 - 26 Million.

NOTE: Florida is third in the country behind California and Texas.

Business Climate and Competitiveness

- Probability of Recession: 15.6% - Increasing.
- Chief Executive Officer Rank: 2nd - Unchanged.
- Business Tax Climate: 4th.
- Consumer Sentiment: 99.8 - Improving.
- Sales Tax Revenue: \$2.389 Billion Per Month - Improving.
- Open Jobs: 250,100 - Declining.
- Unemployed Persons: 397,000 - 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: 97,794.
- State Government Employment: 212,800.
- Local Government Employment: 752,400.
- Volunteerism: 19.1% (Florida ranks 50th in the Country).
- State Debt: \$22.7 Billion.
- Citizens Insurance Exposure Policies: Exposure (\$109,300 Billion) and Policies (452,354).
- Underfunded State Pension: \$892.6 Million.

Quality of Life and Quality Places

- Free and Reduced Lunch: 60.2% - Increasing.
- Youth Obesity: 12.3% - Worse.
- Per Capita Income: \$45,953 - Improving.
- Homeless School Children: 69,596.
- Poverty Rate: 14.8% - Better.
- Home Ownership Rate: 64.5% - Improving.
- Floridians without Health Insurance Coverage: 2,544 Thousand - Declining.

Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated that the 2018 legislative session convened on January 9, 2018, and was scheduled to adjourn on March 9, 2018, but was extended. He indicated that 3,912 bills were filed during the regular legislative session and only 200 bills were passed which represents 6.3 per cent of the total bills filed. Mr. Koons reviewed the following legislative bills which were passed/not passed:

Regional Planning Council Funding

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

Rural 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; and, 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, Agriculture, and Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committees. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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 was referred to the Agriculture and Property Rights Subcommittee, Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, and Commerce Committee. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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 **passed** by the Community Affairs Committee and Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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 includes many other provisions related to developments of regional impact thereby, in effect, seriously limiting local government autonomy. **BILL PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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 was **passed** by the Community Affairs Committee. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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 was referred to the Agriculture and Property Rights Subcommittee, Local, Federal and Veterans Subcommittee, and Commerce Committee. **BILL NOT PASSED by the LEGISLATURE.**

Senate Bill 874 by Senator Passidomo (Co-sponsors: Farmer, Mayfield, Montford, Stewart, Taddeo, Thurston, and Torres) 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 was **passed** by the Community Affairs Committee. **BILL NOT PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

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

Florida Job Growth Fund

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Job Growth Fund is a new economic development program designed to build Florida's success and economic prosperity since 2010. In its first year, FY 17/18 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018), this fund will provide \$85 million for public infrastructure and job training projects which support growth and employment in Florida's diverse industries. Public infrastructure projects can also include transportation and utilities elements which are needed so support economic development. Workforce training projects will provide Floridians with transferable and sustainable skills which are applicable to many employers. The Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida, Inc., will be responsible for making project recommendations to the governor who can approve projects for funding based on local and regional needs. Specific requirements for each area include:

Public Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

Promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification or economic enhancement in a targeted industry.

Are not for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation, or business entity.

Are not for infrastructure which is owned by the public and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.

Workforce Training Grant Eligibility

Support programs and associated equipment at state colleges and technical centers.

Provide participants with transferable and sustainable workforce skills which are applicable to more than a single employer.

Are offered to the public.

Are based on criteria which is established by the state colleges and technical centers.

Prohibits the exclusion of applicants who are unemployed or underemployed.

Mr. Koons further stated that, since the legislature created the **\$85 million** pool of funds for economic development, more than 235 requests had been received from local governments, schools, and business groups totaling **over \$821 million**. The proposals range from **\$24,110 to \$25 million** and the requests are divided into two grant areas: public infrastructure and workforce.

On February 6, 2018, Governor Scott made an announcement at the Florida Department of Transportation, District 2, offices in Jacksonville, identifying the initial nine recipients to receive funds totaling \$35 million under this grant. Three of the nine initial recipients are located in the North Central Florida Region:

Columbia County. This county will receive **\$3,135,600** for the construction of the North Florida Mega Industrial Park Rail project to construct a rail spur to allow access to an industrial park.

Suwannee County. This county will receive **\$3,125,000** to provide water supply and fire protection to the interchange located at Interstate 75 and County Road 136.

City of Alachua. This city will receive **\$6,755,000** to construct the San Felasco Parkway with nearby utilities connecting a large bioscience cluster, including the Sid Martin Biotechnology Institute to a shovel-ready site of 280 acres. **Of note... This amount is 8% of the total \$85 million available in this grant:**

On March 6, 2018, Governor Scott released an additional **\$22.9 million** in awards for eleven "Florida Job Growth Fund" projects across the state. These awards included the following project in the North Central Florida Region:

Big Bend Technical College (Taylor County). This technical college will received **\$100,000** start a Diesel Mechanic Technician Technician Program and a Technical "1" Program which will train students in working with diesel transportation vehicles and diesel engines and purchasing equipment needed for a hands-on laboratory.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the council will be held on April 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 was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (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

NOTE: Commissioner Budd was not reelected in the recent City of Gainesville election. Therefore, a replacement will be sought from the Gainesville City Commission to fill this slot.

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)

