North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

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2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

MEETING NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on **August 27, 2026**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Suwannee Room, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida,** and via Communications Media Technology at **7:00 p.m.**

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

https://meet.goto.com/826779749

DIAL IN NUMBER: **Toll Free: 1.866.899.4679**

ACCESS CODE: **826 779 749**

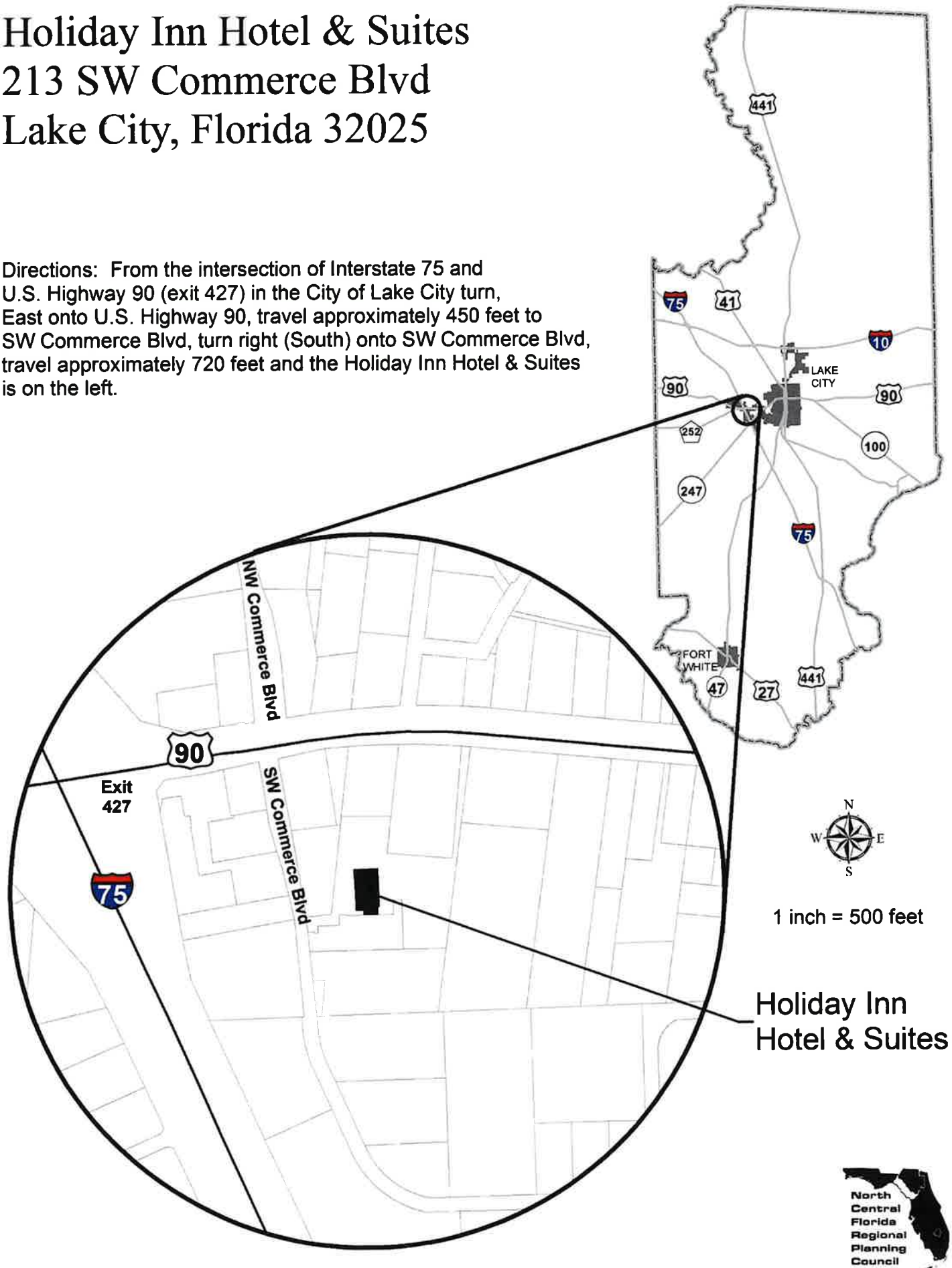
MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

Please** email koons@ncfrpc.org by August 26, 2026 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting **in-person or via communications media technology. THANK YOU.

Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at http://ncfrpc.org (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
213 SW Commerce Blvd
Lake City, Florida 32025

Directions: From the intersection of Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 90 (exit 427) in the City of Lake City turn, East onto U.S. Highway 90, travel approximately 450 feet to SW Commerce Blvd, turn right (South) onto SW Commerce Blvd, travel approximately 720 feet and the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites is on the left.



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

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AGENDA

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Hybrid Public Meeting
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard
Lake City, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

August 27, 2026
7:00 p.m.

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A. Executive Committee

* 1. Resolution No.2026-13 Recognizing 50th Anniversary of Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council **41**

* 2. Resolution No. 2026-14 Concerning Legislation Creating a National Infrastructure Bank **45**

* B. Clearinghouse Committee **49**

Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

1. #49 - City of Waldo Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-2ESR)
2. #51 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
3. #52 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Council welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the Council. If you would like to address the Council, please complete a form, come to the podium when you are called, speak into the microphone and state your name for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than three minutes. Your participation is welcomed.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

* A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report **51**

* B. Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report **55**

* C. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard **57**

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This agenda item provides an opportunity for Council members to make announcements concerning community events and local government projects.

XIII. NEXT MEETING - September 24, 2026

* See Attachment

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Hybrid Public Meeting
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

July 23, 2026
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
IN PERSON

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne
Rick Davis, Madison County
Don Hale, Suwannee County
Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper
Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer
James Howell, Hamilton County
Ricky Jernigan, City of Lake City
Diane Landry, City of Perry
Kirk Marhefka, Town of Cross City
Melissa McNeal, Union County
J.P. Moore, City of Madison
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(FOR QUORUM)

Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler
Johnny Hiers, Levy County

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Donald Long, City of Newberry

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mary Alford, Alachua County
Wayne Bloodsworth Jr., City of High Springs
Bryan Eastman, City of Gainesville
James Ingle, City of Gainesville
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Austin Burgess, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - In-Person
Shannon Gore, Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Virtual
David Tyler, Florida Department of Transportation - Virtual

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Davis - Virtual
Stew Lilker - In-Person
Rita Najin - In-Person
Patrick Wnek - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In-Person
Garrison Vandegrift - In-Person

Executive Committee Members names are bold

I. INVOCATION

Chair Jhelecia Hawkins noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Melissa McNeal gave the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council and guests pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Hawkins welcomed Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer. Also, in attendance at the meeting was Rita Najin, wife of Council Member Ricky Jernigan. Attending the meeting virtually was Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council Member Louie Davis.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hawkins asked that the consent agenda be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Wheeler made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchonson, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Minutes - June 29, 2026

B. Financial Report - June 2026

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Hawkins asked that the regular agenda be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Mayor Hope, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Patrick Wnek, Executive Director
North East Florida Educational Consortium

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Patrick Wnek, Executive Director, North East Florida Educational Consortium. Dr. Wnek made a presentation concerning the North East Florida Educational Consortium and its initiatives in the north central Florida region. Chair Hawkins thanked him for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. Committee Appointments

ACTION: **Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wheeler, to ratify the appointment by the Chair of Jimmy Norris, Director, Suwannee County Economic Development, as Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee; Jennifer Daniels, Director, Columbia County Economic Development, as Vice-Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee; and Karen VanAernam, Liaison, Dixie County Economic Development, as a member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

B. Florida Association of Counties - Presidential Advocate Awards

Chair Hawkins stated, that at the Florida Association of Counties Annual Meeting held in Orlando on June 25, 2026, Florida Association of Counties President Michelle Lincoln awarded Presidential Advocate Awards to Lafayette County Commissioner Anthony Adams; Alachua County Commissioner Mary Alford; Taylor County Commissioner Thomas Demps; Levy County Commissioner Johnny Hiers; and Union County Commissioner Melissa McNeal.

Chair Hawkins congratulated these county commissioners on their accomplishments.

C. Florida Association of Counties - Board of Directors Election

Chair Hawkins stated that at the Florida Association of Counties Annual Meeting held in Orlando on June 25, 2026, Alachua County Commissioner Mary Alford was elected to the Board of Directors for a two-year term ending in 2028. She congratulated Commissioner Alford.

D. Florida Small County Coalition - Officers and Board of Directors Election

Chair Hawkins stated that at the Florida Small County Coalition Annual Meeting held in Orlando on June 24, 2026, the Coalition held its election of officers and members of the Board of Directors. She reported that Lafayette County Commissioner Anthony Adams will be continuing to serve a two-year term ending in 2027 on the Board of Directors of the Coalition. She congratulated Commissioner Adams.

E. Executive Director Service on Board of Directors
National Association of Development Organizations

Chair Hawkins stated that Joe McKinney, Executive Director of the National Association of Development Organizations recently sent her a letter recognizing Executive Director Scott Koons for his continued service on the National Association of Development Organizations as a Past President of the Organization. She stated that the Association was founded in 1967 and provides advocacy, education, networking and research for the network of 540 regional development organizations. Chair Hawkins further stated that the organization also promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery and comprehensive strategies. She thanked Mr. Koons for his leadership and service.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee -

1 Executive Director Employment Contract Time Extension Amendment

Chair Hawkins reported that the employment contract with Executive Director Scott Koons expires on September 30, 2026. She stated the Executive Committee, in accordance with the extension clause of the contract, recommends a four-year extension to September 30, 2030, with all other terms and conditions of the contract to remain in full force and effect.

ACTION: **Mayor Hope made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wheeler, to approve a four-year employment contract extension to September 30, 2030 with all other terms and conditions of the contract to remain in full force and effect of the employment contract with Executive Director Scott Koons. The motion carried unanimously.**

B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

Scott Koons, Executive Director, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee did not meet earlier in the evening due to a lack of a quorum. He reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendment which was included on the Council agenda for consideration.

#47 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-5ESR)

Mr. Koons stated with regards to this item, the staff report found that the local government comprehensive plan, as amended, was not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. He stated that staff recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local government and the Florida Department of Commerce.

ACTION: **Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson, to approve the staff report concerning Item #47 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-5ESR). The motion carried unanimously.**

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Austin Burgess, Senior Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, discussed chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological illness affecting deer. He requested that anyone witnessing abnormal behavior by deer should report the issue to the Commission by calling the Commission's Wildlife Hotline at 866.293.9282.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. He stated that the Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. Mr. Koons also stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the June 2026 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the June 2026 report.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. He stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. Mr. Koons noted that the Scorecard reports metrics for each of the following Six Pillars: Talent and Supply Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems, and Quality of Life and Quality Places. He reviewed the July 2026 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Office Building and Warehouse Roof Replacement

Mr. Koons reported that on April 11, 2025, a severe hail storm occurred in northwest Gainesville dropping up to two-inch (golf ball size) hail resulting in damage to the Council's office building metal roof and warehouse metal roof. He noted that the office building metal roof had previously been treated with a polyurethane sealant in 2007. Mr. Koons stated that following the hail storm, the Council's property and casualty insurance carrier, Florida Municipal Insurance Trust, had its inspector inspect both roofs and verified damage necessitating the replacement of the office building metal roof and replacement of approximately 25 percent of the warehouse metal roof.

Mr. Koons reported that the Trust's TurnKey Recovery Program was used for the roof replacement project. He noted that the Trust's recovery program manager, Syngery/NDS, prepared technical specifications and used the Program's Qualified Managed Vendor Program contractor list to solicit bids. Mr. Koons stated that construction repair work was completed on April 14, 2026. He reported that the new acrylic-coated galvalume metal roof has a 25-year material warranty and the construction repair work has a 12-month workmanship warranty. Mr. Koons noted that the total cost of the project was $333,837 with the Council's share being limited to the property and casualty insurance policy deductible of $500.

D. 2025-26 Member James H. Montgomery Certificates of Outstanding Attendance

Mr. Koons stated an essential component of the ability of the Council to conduct its business is the regular attendance of members at Council meetings. He stated a Council Member Attendance Recognition Program was established by the Council at the May 22, 2008 Council meeting to recognize the commitment of those Council members actively engaged in the organization by regularly attending Council meetings.

Mr. Koons stated the Council named the Member Attendance Recognition Program the James H. Montgomery Certificate of Outstanding Attendance in honor of Mr. Montgomery at the February 26, 2020 Council meeting. He stated James H. Montgomery served on the Council from 1976 to 2004 as a member representing the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida. Mr. Koons stated that from 2010 to 2019, he also served on the Council as a gubernatorial appointee. He stated he provided 38 years of distinguished leadership and service to the Council.

Mr. Koons presented James H. Montgomery Certificates of Outstanding Attendance Award in recognition of their attendance at every scheduled Council meeting during Program Year 2025-26 to Vice-Mayor Patricia Bouie Hutchinson; City of Hawthorne; Mayor Frank Davis, City of Live Oak; County Commissioner Thomas Demps, Taylor County; Mayor Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper; County Commissioner James Howell, Hamilton County; and Vice-Mayor Janice Mortimer, City of Starke.

E. Executive Director's Cup

Mr. Koons stated that in furtherance of the Council Member Attendance Recognition Program and to encourage attendance at Council meetings, an Executive Director's Cup is awarded each year to recognize the most members with 100 percent attendance by either county, city or gubernatorial members during a program year.

Mr. Koons presented the 2025-26 Executive Director's Cup to City members Vice-Mayor Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne; Mayor Frank Davis, City of Live Oak; Mayor Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper; and Vice-Mayor Janice Mortimer, City of Starke. He also stated that the Executive Director's Cup is prominently displayed at the Council office.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Moore reported that the City of Madison will hold a swearing in ceremony for the new City of Madison Police Chief on July 28, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the Madison Woman's Club.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Hawkins stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on August 27, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

_____
Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

8/27/26
Date

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - July 2026

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for July 2026. The following paragraphs discuss revenues and expenditures to the budget for the month and year to date.

Revenue

The total revenue for the Council for year to date is within budgeted figures. Revenue at the end of ten months is 74 percent of budget.

Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of ten months are 74 percent of budget.

Conclusion

In conclusion, staff is pleased with the financial condition of the Council. The adjusted general fund balance should remain at an acceptable level at the end of the fiscal year.

Overall, as is regularly reported, the financial condition of the Council is sound. Staff is not aware of anything in the current fiscal year that will change this situation.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)

July 31, 2026

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking / Savings	2,468,355
Accounts Receivable	828,389
Other Current Assets	23,133
Total Current Assets	3,319,877
TOTAL ASSETS	3,319,877
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	11,833
Other Current Liabilities	351,903
Total Liabilities	363,736
Equity	2,956,141
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	3,319,877

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
July 31, 2026

SUMMARY STATEMENT

	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	July 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue	1,453,100	2,750	1,081,979	74%
Expenses	1,453,100	93,229	1,076,792	74%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
July 31, 2026

REVENUE

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	July 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Program Development	51,100	2,750	46,713	91%
Regional Planning				
Regional Planning & Review	70,000	0	70,408	101%
Regional Mitigation Resiliency	70,900	0	41,360	58%
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance				
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	58,900	0	0	0%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	149,000	0	106,430	71%
Hazards Analyses	18,800	0	13,371	
Transportation				
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	29,300	0	20,217	69%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	234,100	0	166,209	71%
Economic Development				
Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	115,000	0	97,611	85%
Economic Disaster Recovery	100,000	0	75,000	75%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	36,500	0	15,000	41%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	52,500	0	86,918	166%
Local Government Assistance				
General Technical Services	35,000	0	35,204	101%
City & County Planning Services	225,200	0	254,188	113%
Community Development Block Grant Administration	206,800	0	53,350	26%
Total Revenue	1,453,100	2,750	1,081,979	74%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
July 31, 2026

EXPENDITURES

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	July 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Audit	19,000	0	0	0%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	42,000	2,378	23,928	57%
Contractual Services	103,000	2,774	53,537	52%
Dues, Publications, Subscriptions & Training	42,000	6,768	68,149	162%
Furniture & Equipment	25,000	0	0	0%
Insurance & Bonding	38,000	0	27,059	71%
Legal Services & Public Notices	15,000	390	8,927	60%
Machine Rental & Maintenance	5,000	0	3,843	77%
Meeting Expenses	25,000	1,635	14,216	57%
Office Supplies	17,000	13	15,441	91%
Personnel	972,100	73,443	758,154	78%
Postage	5,000	285	3,096	62%
Printing	5,000	0	0	0%
Reproduction	4,000	0	1,354	34%
Telephone	3,000	508	4,957	165%
Travel	30,000	4,178	27,370	91%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	52,500	857	66,761	127%
Contingency	50,500	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	1,453,100	93,229	1,076,792	74%

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Local Government Comprehensive Planning Assistance Services Agreements - Fiscal Year 2026-27

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to execute technical assistance services agreements on a fixed fee basis to assist counties and cities with implementing their comprehensive plans and land development regulations for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

BACKGROUND:

Each year the Council enters into technical assistance services agreements to assist local governments with implementing their comprehensive plans and land development regulations. The scope of services are, as follows.

I. General Technical Assistance - conducting research, answering questions and assisting with comprehensive plan and land development regulations interpretations.

II. Amendment Assistance - all Level I services, plus preparing public notices, draft ordinance, data and analysis and concurrency review for comprehensive plan text and map and land development regulations text and zoning map amendments.

III. Development Review Assistance - all Level I and II services, plus reviewing site and development plans, subdivision plats and other development proposals for comprehensive plan and land development regulations compliance.

The names of the counties and cities and the fixed fee amount of each associated agreement are as listed on the attached list.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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FISCAL YEAR 2027

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

AGREEMENTS

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council proposes to enter into technical assistance services agreements on a fixed fee basis to assist counties and cities with implementing comprehensive plans and land development regulations. The scope of services and amount of each agreement are as listed below.

I. General Technical Assistance - conducting research, answering questions and assisting with comprehensive plan and land development regulations interpretations.

Local Government	Amount
N/A	N/A

II. Amendment Assistance - all Level I services, plus preparing public notices, draft ordinances, data and analysis and concurrency review for comprehensive plan text and map and land development regulations text and zoning map amendments.

Local Government		Amount
1.	Lafayette County	$ 13,000
2.	Madison County	$ 13,000
3.	Suwannee County	$ 23,500
4.	Taylor County	$ 12,500
5.	Union County	$ 3,500
6.	Archer	$ 7,000
7.	Cedar Key	$ 7,000
8.	Chiefland	$ 7,000
9.	Cross City	$ 7,000
10.	Fanning Springs	$ 5,250
11.	Inglis	$ 7,000
12.	Lake Butler	$ 7,000
13.	Lake City	$ 23,500
14.	Madison, City	$ 17,000
15.	Mayo	$ 7,000
16.	Perry	$ 9,000
17.	Starke	$ 10,000

III. Development Review Assistance - all Level I and II services, plus reviewing site and development plans, subdivision plats and other development proposals for comprehensive plan and land development regulations compliance.

Local Government		Amount
1.	Columbia County	$ 35,000
2.	High Springs	$ 10,000

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Hazardous Waste Monitoring Verification and Notification Services Agreements - Fiscal Year 2026-27

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to execute agreements with Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties for hazardous waste monitoring for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

BACKGROUND:

Florida Statutes require each county to annually monitor the waste management practices of 20 percent of the government organizations and businesses that may potentially generate small quantities of hazardous waste. The majority of these operations involve motor vehicle maintenance. On-site visits are required to collect information that is entered into an on-line database.

During these site visits, Council staff will provide recommendations on correcting problems with management techniques. A one-page summary of how to avoid the most common mistakes will also be provided to the facility operators.

These services will be provided on a fixed fee basis to the counties in the amounts as listed below.

Bradford	$7,882	Lafayette	$ 1,409
Columbia	$9,731	Levy	$16,500
Dixie	$2,717	Madison	$ 4,880
Gilchrist	$2,697	Suwannee	$ 7,421
Hamilton	$2,899	Union	$ 2,778

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Appoint Katie Holder as the voting Veterans Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**
- **Appoint Penny Spence as the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards. It is recommended Katie Holder be appointed the voting Veterans Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. It is recommended Penny Spence be appointed the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Janice Mortimer

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Janice Mortimer.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since December 2016 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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Resolution

OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Janice Mortimer has been representing the City of Starke on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since December 2016;

WHEREAS, Janice Mortimer has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Janice Mortimer for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for all citizens of the region to view and recognize the accomplishments and service of Janice Mortimer.

_____
Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Don Hale, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING OF AUGUST 27, 2026.

Certificate of Service

has been awarded to

Janice D. Mortimer

as an expression of appreciation for nine years of dedicated service to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council as a representative of the City of Starke from December 2016 to July 2026.

9 Years

Witness the Seal of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the signatures of its duly authorized chair and executive director thereunto affixed.

Given this 27th day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Six

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Brittany Howerton.

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Brittany Howerton served as the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Brittany Howerton has served as the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since October 2025; and

WHEREAS, Brittany Howerton. ably discharged the duties as the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the members and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Brittany Howerton for dedicated service rendered to the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Levy County and the State of Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for all citizens of the community to view and recognize the accomplishments and service of Brittany Howerton.

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

August 27, 2026
Date

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

SUBJECT: Florida League of Cities
Home Rule Hero Awards

The Florida League of Cities recently recognized Mayor Louie Davis, City of Waldo, as a recipient of a 2026 Home Rule Hero Award. This prestigious award was presented for tireless efforts to advance the Florida League of Cities legislative agenda and help protect the home rule powers of Florida's cities during the 2026 Legislative Session.

In addition, the following municipal officials in the north central Florida region were also 2026 Home Rule Hero Award recipients.

- City Manager Susan Beaudet, City of Williston;
- City Utility Director, Jonathan Bishop, City of Williston;
- Council Vice-President Michael Cox, City of Williston;
- Town Manager Elmon "Lee" Garner, Town of White Springs;
- Mayor Charles Goodman, City of Williston;
- Council President Darferness Hinds, City of Williston;
- Mayor Lewrissa Johns, City of Chiefland;
- Councilwoman Delores Jones, City of Williston;
- Commissioner Danny Nugent, City of Starke;
- Fire Chief Lamar Stegall, City of Williston;
- Councilwoman Monique Taylor, City of Waldo;
- Mayor Noah Walker, City of Lake City; and
- City Clerk Latricia Wright, City of Williston.

Home rule is the ability for a city to establish its own form of government and enact ordinances, codes, plans and resolutions without prior state approval. The Home Rule Hero Award recipients are local government officials, both elected and nonelected, who consistently responded to the League's request to reach out to members of the Legislature and help give a local perspective to an issue.

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities. Florida's cities are formed by their citizens and governed by their citizens. The League is founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy.

Congratulations Mayor Davis.

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\flc home rule hero award.08.26.docx

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

SUBJECT: Executive Director 50 Years of Service
Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Resolution

At its July 31, 2026 meeting, the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board adopted attached Resolution No. 26-02 celebrating the 50 years of service by our Executive Director, Scott Koons, to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and his many contributions to the Florida Regional Councils Association.

The resolution recognizes the 20 years of service by Mr. Koons as Executive Director of the Council as part of a 50-year career that also included serving as Assistant Executive Director, Director of Economic Development, and Director of Regional and Local Government Programs for the Council.

The Policy Board also recognized leadership roles of Mr. Koons for having served as President of the National Association of Development Organizations, President of the National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation, Chair of the University of Florida Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Program Advisory Council, Vice-Chair of the Southeast Regional Directors Institute Council of Peers, and a member of the Florida Chamber Foundation Board of Trustees.

In addition, the Policy Board acknowledged the service and contributions of Mr. Koons to the Florida Regional Councils Association for having served as Chair of the Association's Executive Directors Advisory Committee for three terms.

Congratulations to Scott.

Attachment

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FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION #26-02

A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING SCOTT R. KOONS 50 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was created in 1969 to serve citizens and member local government of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union counties; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is to improve the quality of life of the region's citizens, by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development, and providing technical services to local governments; and

WHEREAS, Scott R. Koons has served as Executive Director for the last 20 years, part of a 50-year career at the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. He previously served as Assistant Executive Director, Director of Economic Development, and Director of Regional and Local Government Programs for the Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Koons has served as President of the National Association of Development Organizations, President of the National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation, Chair of the University of Florida Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Program Advisory Council, Vice-Chair of the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute Council of Peers, and a member of the Florida Chamber Foundation Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Koons has served and contributed to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) with distinction and honor, having served as the Chair of FRCA's Executive Directors Advisory Committee for three terms.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Florida Regional Councils Association hereby congratulates Mr. Koons on the 50th anniversary of his service to the North Central Florida region and to the State of Florida, and thanks him for his many contributions on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Florida Regional Councils Association.

DULY ADOPTED by the Florida Regional Councils Association, Inc. this 31st day of July 2026.

Commissioner Jack Mariano
1st Vice President, FRCA, Inc.

Thomas Lanahan, Treasure Coast RPC
Secretary-Treasurer, FRCA, Inc.

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Resolution Recognizing 50th Anniversary of Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

For the past 50 years, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has brought together elected officials and regional leaders in Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie and Palm Beach Counties to address complex issues affecting the region. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has played an essential role in advancing solutions in areas such as urban design and town planning, economic development, transportation and land use planning, emergency preparedness, and natural resources planning, while fostering cooperation among local governments and partner agencies.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2026-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council was formed in 1976; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Treasure Regional Planning Council is to encourage and enable local governments and citizens to cooperate on regional issues, promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the public, and plan for future regional development that keeps the area competitive while maintaining a high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has provided a vital forum for regional collaboration, planning and technical assistance helping communities work together to shape a more sustainable and resilient future; and

WHEREAS, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has played an essential role in advancing solutions in areas such as urban design and town planning, economic development, transportation and land use planning, emergency preparedness, and natural resources planning, while fostering cooperation among local governments and partner agencies; and

WHEREAS, for the past 50 years, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has brought together elected officials and regional leaders in Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie and Palm Beach Counties to address complex issues affecting the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council on its 50th Anniversary and recognizes its contributions in advancing the regional agenda.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 27th day of August 2026.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

_____ _____

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2026-14 Requesting Congress to Pass Legislation Creating a National Infrastructure Bank

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt attached Resolution No. 2026-14 Requesting Congress to Pass Legislation Creating a National Infrastructure Bank.

BACKGROUND:

The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that there is a $3.7 trillion shortfall in financing for urgently needed infrastructure. In addition, when broadband, passenger transit, high speed rail, clean water, flood control, energy distribution, ferries, fish passage barriers and power grid upgrades are added an additional $2 trillion shortfall exists for additional needed infrastructure.

A National Infrastructure Bank would finance projects within all regions of the United States. In the past, the United Stated has employed four national banking systems to build out infrastructure.

The National Infrastructure Bank would perform as a traditional commercial bank and be able to provide financing in the form of loans to states, cities, counties, authorities and multi-state entities to address the infrastructure crisis in the nation. It is estimated that the National Infrastructure Bank would create an estimated 25 million new high paying jobs, increase the tax base and increase the productivity of the entire economy.

Legislation, H.R. 5356, has been introduced in Congress to establish the National Infrastructure Bank to assist in addressing the infrastructure needs of the nation. It is recommended that the Council adopt the attached resolution requesting the United States Congress to pass legislation to create a National Infrastructure Bank.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2026-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL REQUESTING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION CREATING THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

WHEREAS, the American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that there is a $3.7 trillion shortfall in financing for urgently needed infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, broadband, passenger transit, high speed rail, clean water, flood control, energy distribution, ferries, fish passage barriers and power grid upgrades add an additional $2 trillion shortfall for additional needed infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank would finance projects within all regions of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the United Stated has employed four national banking systems to build out infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank would perform as a traditional commercial bank and be able to provide financing in the form of loans to states, cities, counties, authorities and multi-state entities to address the infrastructure crisis in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank would create an estimated 25 million new high paying jobs, increase the tax base and increase the productivity of the entire economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council requests the United States Congress to pass H.R. 5356 to create the National Infrastructure Bank.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 27th day of August 2026.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

_____
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

_____
Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: James Howell, Chair
Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

I. COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:15 p.m., August 27, 2026. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting conducted both in-person and via communications media technology. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level items which require Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

1. #49 - City of Waldo Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-2ESR)
2. #51 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
3. #52 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)

Please be advised that the Clearinghouse Committee meeting packet is posted on the Council website at http://ncfrpc.org (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on Clearinghouse Committee Full Packet).

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives.

The Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying-out the following objectives.

- Ensure regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the State of Florida, its local governments, and the citizens they serve;
- Ensure regional planning councils are consensus builders and problem solvers, and serve as conveners of the region by helping to articulate those multijurisdictional issues that need resolution;
- Encourage and promote opportunities for regional planning councils to become partners in state programs and initiatives, while promoting the unique themes of each region within the state and legislative environments;
- Monitor substantive state and federal legislative issues for the benefit of its members, and promote mutually supportive policy positions among the regional planning councils;
- Represent regional planning councils in national organizations, such as the National Association of Regional Councils, National Association of Development Organizations, and SouthEast Regional Directors Institute; and
- Foster relationships and partnerships and coordinate with state, regional, and national associations and organizations; non-profit entities; public-private partnerships; the Governor's Office; state agencies; and others, on issues of mutual interest and concern, and with whom the Association shares mutual goals and programs.

Please find attached the July 2026 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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FRCA Monthly Report

Florida Regional Councils Association

July 2026 Activity Report

Kristin Dozier, Executive Director

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Coordinated and prepared agenda for the July EDAC meeting and FRCA's Summer-Annual Policy Board meeting in Tampa, Florida.
- Coordinated meetings, hotel and Policy Board dinner for the Summer-Annual Policy Board meeting.
- Prepared agenda and hosted 2026 FRCA Policy Board Nominating Committee meeting and drafted report for the Summer-Annual Policy Board meeting.
- Received updates from FRCAs Legislative Consultants after Legislative Special Session and coordinated Special EDAC meeting to discuss property tax reform
- Prepared agenda and coordinated July EDAC Executive Committee meeting
- Monthly meeting with FRCA's Bookkeeper to review May and June Financial Reports
- Reviewed FRCA finances and drafted proposed FY26-27 FRCA Budget, approved by the EDAC on July 30th and the Policy Board on July 31st
- Coordinated speakers and presentations for the Summer-Annual Policy Board meeting.
- Continued work on FRCA Policy Board Manual, FRCA Policy Manual, website and marketing materials.

RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH

- Researched large scale data center projects in Florida and the local government response to projects and public concerns; Prepared report for EDAC and Policy Board and associated files to support additional research and RPC assistance for local governments as needed.
- Continued work with Government AI company to explore opportunities for Florida's RPCs

SPECIAL UPDATES

FRCA Summer-Annual Policy Board Meeting
July 30th – 31st Tampa FL

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report

Commissioner Charles Chestnut IV, Commissioner Thomas Demps and I attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Tampa on July 31, 2026.

The Policy Board heard presentations from Jeff Brandes, President and Chief Executive Officer, Florida Policy Project concerning State Constitution Referendum Amendment No. 3 Ad Valorem Property Taxes and Kloee Cluperger, Gallo Pavo LLC. concerning strategies for disposal of biosolids.

The Policy Board accepted Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2024-25 and received a financial report.

The Policy Board also adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27, received a legislative report and elected officers for the 2026-27 Policy Board Executive Committee.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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August 20, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director SRK

SUBJECT: Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

The Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective of developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan.

The Scorecard reports metrics for each of the following Six Pillars.

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

Please find attached the August 2026 Scorecard.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...

TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION | INNOVATION & ECON. DEVELOP. | INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP | BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS | CIVICS & GOVERNANCE | QUALITY OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics

Click any metric to get more information! (What is this?)

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 08/17/2026

23,735,695

JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

30,700

(Gain)

Growth Rate

0.3%

(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by 2030

779,127

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

16.5%

(Decreasing)

<10%

2030 Goal

711,576

(Decreasing)

3RD GRADE READING SCORES

60%

(Improving)

82,821

Not Reading at Grade Level (Decreasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

100%

2030 Goal

Florida Gap Map

OPEN JOBS

483,309

(Increasing)

525,000

Unemployed Persons (Declining)

109

Unemployed People per 100 Jobs

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.7%

(Declining)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

30,700

View Statewide Heat Map

STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS

$134.9

Billion Visitor Spending

143.3

Million Visitors

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING STARTS & SALES

9,943

Starts (Declining)

26,036

Sales (Improving)

$432,000

Median Sale Price (Increasing)

POVERTY RATE

12.6%

(Unchanged)

View Statewide Heat Map

CONSUMER SENTIMENT

69.3

(Declining)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

92.2%

(Improving)

View Statewide Heat Map

VOTER PARTICIPATION

79%

(Improving)

RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

53%/39%

LAND IN CONSERVATION

33.2%

STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

$432,000

Median Price (Increasing)

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Community Development Partnership Council

THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...

TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION | INNOVATION & ECON. DEVELOP. | INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP | BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS | CIVICS & GOVERNANCE | QUALITY OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information!

KINDERGARTEN READINESS
44%
View Statewide Heat Map
100%
2030 Goal

3RD GRADE READING SCORES
60%
(Improving)
82,821
Not Reading at Grade Level (Decreasing)
View Statewide Heat Map
100%
2030 Goal
Florida Gap Map

3RD GRADE MATH SCORES
66%
(Improving)

8TH GRADE READING SCORES
60%
Reading (Improving)
100%
2030 Goal

8TH GRADE MATH SCORES
67%
Math (Unchanged)
100%
2030 Goal

8TH GRADE SCIENCE SCORES
52%
Science (Improving)

NATIONAL 4TH GRADE RANKINGS
2nd
Math (Improving)
10th
Reading (Declining)

NATIONAL 8TH GRADE RANKINGS
41st
Math (Declining)
43rd
Reading (Declining)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE
92.2%
(Getting Higher)
95%
2030 Goal

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE WITH DISABILITY
89.1%
(Getting Higher)

COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY
1st
4 Year (Unchanged)
5th
2 Year (Unchanged)

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
54.8%
Current
60%
2030 Goal

WITHOUT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
232.4K
Ages 18-24 (Increasing)
1.6M
Ages 25+ (Decreasing)

DEGREE ATTAINMENT
45.9%
Any (Improving)
35.0%
Bachelor+ (Improving)
View Statewide Heat Map

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
4.7%
(Declining)
View Statewide Heat Map
Jobs Year Over Year Change
30,700

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
9.1%
Unemployment Rate (Unchanged)
379,854
Number Working (Improving)

APPRENTICESHIPS
18,526
Apprentices (Increasing)
363
Programs (Increasing)

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METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...

TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION | INNOVATION & ECON. DEVELOP. | INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP | BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS | CIVICS & GOVERNANCE | QUALITY OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Innovation & Economic Development

Click any metric to get more information!

BUSINESS STARTUPS
- #1 — Business Startup Ranking
- #1 — 2030 Goal
- 65,332 — July 2024 (Increasing)

BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES WITH EMPLOYEES
- #1

HISPANIC-OWNED BUSINESSES WITH EMPLOYEES
- #2

WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES WITH EMPLOYEES
- #2

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
- $1.90 — Trillion (Improving)

GLOBAL ECONOMY RANKING
- 14th — Largest Economy in the World (Improving)

STATE GDP RANKING
- #4 — (Unchanged)
- #1 — 2030 Goal

GDP PER CAPITA
- $70,799 — (Improving)

PERCENT EMPLOYED BY SMALL BUSINESS
- 29.2% — (Decreasing)

PATENTS GRANTED
- 7,358 — (Improving)

PATENTS ISSUED RANKING
- #9 — (Unchanged)
- Top 3 — 2030 Goal

VENTURE CAPITAL
- $3,654 — Million (Improving)

STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS
- $134.9 — Billion Visitor Spending
- 143.3 — Million Visitors

IMPORTS & EXPORTS
- $78.9 — Billion Exports (Improving)
- $115.8 — Billion Imports (Declining)

TOP 6 IMPORTERS
- 35.7% — Market Share (Improving)
- $17.63 — Billion (Declining)

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS
- 12.472 — Million (Improving)
- Top 10 Countries

CRUISE PASSENGERS
- 22.4 — Million (Improving)

EMPLOYMENT BY FOREIGN COMPANIES
- 487.0 — Thousand (Improving)

INCOME MIGRATION
- $2.36M — Per Day

OVERSEAS VISITORS
- 2nd — (Unchanged)
- #1 — 2030 Goal

TECHNOLOGY JOBS
- 4th — (Unchanged)
- Top 3 — 2030 Goal

VENTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS
- 7th — (Unchanged)
- Top 3 — 2030 Goal

MANUFACTURING JOBS
- 427,800 — (Increasing)
- Workforce Critical Mass
- 11th — (Declining)
- Top 5 — 2030 Goal

FLORIDA MANUFACTURING
- Share of Jobs: 4.9% — (Unchanged)
- Annual Wages: $81,973 — (Increasing)
- Wage Share: 5.8% — (Unchanged)

GDP FOR RURAL COUNTIES
- 2.92% — (Increasing)
- 5.56% — 2030 Goal

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT FUNDING
- #12 — (Improving)
- Top 3 — 2030 Goal

SERVICES EXPORTS
- $62.0 B — (Increasing)
- $129.9 B — 2030 Goal

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METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...

TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION | INNOVATION & ECON. DEVELOP. | INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP | BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS | CIVICS & GOVERNANCE | QUALITY OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

Click any metric to get more information!

LAND IN CONSERVATION
33.2%

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING STARTS & SALES
9,943
Starts (Declining)
26,036
Sales (Improving)
$432,000
Median Sale Price (Increasing)

ENERGY STATE RANKING
#50
Expenditures (Unchanged)
#46
Consumption Per Capita (Increasing)

POPULATION ESTIMATE 2030
24.90M
View Statewide Heat Map

SEAPORTS CARGO
$72.6
Billion (Declining)

CONTAINERS (TEUS)
4.27
Million (Declining)

HIGH SPEED COMMUNICATIONS
97.8%
(Increasing)
View Statewide Heat Map
100%
2030 Goal

MEDIAN RENT (APARTMENTS)
$1,506
(Decreasing)

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State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!

INFLATION RATE
- 3.4% National (Decreasing)
- 3.2% Southern Region (Decreasing)

CONSUMER SENTIMENT
- 69.3 (Declining)

CEO RANK
- 2nd (Unchanged)

STATE LEGAL CLIMATE RANKING
- 46th (Unchanged)
- Top 12 2030 Goal

BUSINESS TAX CLIMATE
- 5th
- #1 2030 Goal

OPEN JOBS
- 483,309 (Increasing)
- 525,000 Unemployed Persons (Declining)
- 109 Unemployed People per 100 Jobs

STATE RANKING FOR AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY
- #50

HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY
- Homeowners' Insurance Affordability data is available at the county level.
- View Statewide Heat Map

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State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Civic & Governance Systems

Click any metric to get more information!

VOTER REGISTRATION
- 41.0% (Republican)
- 30.5% (Democrat)
- 28.5% (NPA/Other)

VOTER PARTICIPATION
- 79% (Improving)

RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION
- 53%/39%

INMATE POPULATION
- 104,129

DEPENDENCY RATIO
- 2015: 56.5%
- 2030 Estimate: 70%

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT
- 256.6 Thousand (State)
- 732.7 Thousand (Local)

VOLUNTEERISM
- 20.4% of Floridians Volunteer
- 47th Florida's Rank
- Top 12 2030 Goal

STATE DEBT OUTSTANDING
- $14.6 Billion

CITIZENS INSURANCE EXPOSURE POLICIES
- $79.6 Billion Exposure
- 278,246 Policies

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State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Quality of Life and Quality Places

Click any metric to get more information!

TOTAL FLORIDIANS IN POVERTY
2,759,397
(Increasing)
View Statewide Heat Map

CHILDREN IN POVERTY
16.5%
(Decreasing)
<10%
2030 Goal
711,576
(Decreasing)

ALICE & POVERTY HOUSEHOLDS
47%
(Unchanged)
34%
ALICE Only(Unchanged)
12%
Poverty Only(Decreasing)

HOUSING COST BURDENED
56.3%
Renters (Increasing)
27.1%
Owners (Increasing)
36.6%
Overall (Increasing)
<10%
2030 Goal

CENSUS UNDERCOUNT FUNDING LOST
$11.44B
(Loss)

CHILD HEALTH RANKING
32
(Decreasing)

CHILD WELL-BEING RANKING
35
(Decreasing)

FLORIDIANS WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
2,549
Thousand (Declining)
11.5%
(Declining)

FREE & REDUCED LUNCH
71.6%
(Unchanged)
View Statewide Heat Map

YOUTH OBESITY
16.4%
(Worse)

PER CAPITA INCOME
$73,006
(Improving)
View Statewide Heat Map

HOMELESS SCHOOL CHILDREN
77,203
(Increasing)

HOME OWNERSHIP RATE
66.3%
(Improving)

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