



*Bringing Communities Together*

Baker • Clay • Duval • Flagler • Nassau • Putnam • St. Johns

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### What Comes after Reality Check First Coast? County Checks!

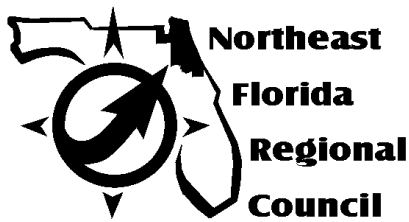
**Regional Visioning Workshops to be held in Baker, Duval, Clay, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns and Putnam Counties during October and November**

On May 21, 2009, Reality Check First Coast brought nearly 300 leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors together in groups to discuss, analyze and develop growth scenarios for the 1.6 million new people and 650,000 new jobs expected to be added to our region by 2060. At the Reality Check First Coast event, regional leaders were challenged to rethink where and how to grow the First Coast in a way that adds value to the local economy, while preserving our environment and quality of life. By placing Lego® bricks on large-scale regional maps, Reality Check First Coast participants constructed growth scenarios and were able to review and compare the growth patterns created in the exercise.

The next step in creating a regional vision is co-sponsored by Region First 2060, the partnership that put on Reality Check First Coast, and the Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida, Inc., which is working on a regional vision at the request of the Northeast Florida Regional Council. County Check exercises will share the results of the Reality Check First Coast exercise, and then repeat it in each of the seven counties (Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns) that make up the Northeast Florida region during the months of October and November. County Checks will allow participants to share the experience of thinking about how the region should grow. The County Checks will not change the results of Reality Check First Coast, and they will add useful perspectives to efforts to create and implement a regional vision.

County Checks will be held on the dates provided below. All County Checks will last from 6:00 p.m. until approximately 8:30 p.m.

County	Date	Venue
Baker County	Thursday, October 15, 2009  * Registration Closes October 15 <sup>th</sup> at NOON.	Baker County Agricultural Center 1025 Macclenny Avenue Macclenny



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<b>County</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Duval County	Thursday, October 22, 2009	Jacksonville University Frances Kinne Center 2800 University Boulevard North
Clay County	Monday, October 26, 2009	Clay County Agricultural Center 2463 S.R. 16 West Green Cove Springs
Flagler County	Wednesday, October 28, 2009	Flagler County Emergency Operations Center 1769 E. Moody Avenue Bunnell
Nassau County	Thursday, November 5, 2009	FSCJ – Betty P. Cook Nassau Center, 76346 William Burgess Blvd., Yulee
St. Johns County	Tuesday, November 10, 2009	St. Johns County Agricultural Center 3125 Agricultural Center Drive, St. Augustine
Putnam County	Monday, November 16, 2009	Putnam County Agricultural Center 111 Yelvington Road East Palatka

Registration is now open for County Check at [http://www.regi.biz/RCFC\\_Registration.html](http://www.regi.biz/RCFC_Registration.html). There is no charge to participate in County Checks, but pre-registration is required. Registration generally closes 2 business days before the event, except where noted. Please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at (904) 279-0885, extension 104, if you would like additional information regarding the County Check events. Additional information about Reality Check First Coast, including results of the multi-county event held on May 21, 2009, may be found at [www.realitycheckfirstcoast.com](http://www.realitycheckfirstcoast.com).