

Minutes of the
NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
September 1, 2005

The monthly meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Council was held on Thursday, September 1, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

President Kanbar called the meeting to order with the following members present representing a quorum:

BAKER	Gordon Crews Hugh Fish Charles Prachar
CLAY	Deidra Franklin Harold Rutledge Ms. Vallencourt
DUVAL	Mary Louise Dungey Rea Fleckenstein
FLAGLER	Blair Kanbar Bob Sgroi
NASSAU	Bob Spaeth
PUTNAM	Chip Laibl Linda Myers Brad Purcell Mary Lawson-Brown
ST. JOHNS	Bruce Maguire Karen Stern Harry Maxwell
EX-OFFICIO	Larry Parks Linda Burnette

Excused Absence: Ginger Barber, Glenn Lassiter, Jerry Holland, Paul Parsons, Elaine Brown, Joann King, Ansley Acree, Claire Berry, Wes Larson, Bill Green

Absent: Tom Branan, Don Crichlow

Others: Valerie Britt, Mary Billotti, Kathleen Brown, Allen Scott, Patricia Hairston, Susan McDonald, Margo Moehring, T.R. Hainline, Brian Bailey, Steve Lindorff, Cathy Rhoden, Bob Hancock, Cyndi Stevens, Jason Griffin, and other members of the public.

Staff Present: Brian Teeple, Mario Taylor, Barbara Rovedo, Ed Lehman, Mike Brown, Stephen Jones, Heather Golightly, Maurice Postal, Mike Hadden, Tobin Lilly, Chris Bono, Ed Preston, Amanda Smith, Audrey Smith, Jeffrey Alexander, Maurice Postal, and Peggy Conrad

Ms. Vallencourt led the Council in a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Approval of Minutes

Mr. Sgroi moved approval of the August 4, 2005, meeting's minutes; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion unanimously carried.

*Consent Agenda

President Kanbar asked if any items needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. **Commissioner Stern moved approval of the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; motion unanimously carried.**

President's Report

President Kanbar recognized Representative Dick Kravitz, a former member of the Council, and thanked him for attending the Council meeting. Mr. Teeple read the "Friend of the Council" resolution that was passed at the June 2005. Representative Kravitz reiterated that of all the groups he has represented, the ten years that he served on the NEFRC, had given him the most rewarding experience.

Discussion Agenda

Eminent Domain/Kelo Decision Presentation

Mr. Teeple gave a brief history of the Kelo decision regarding eminent domain then introduced Mr. Steve Lindorff, Planning Director, with the City of Jacksonville Beach. Mr. Lindorff gave a Power Point presentation regarding redevelopment of Jacksonville Beach and South Beach and the use of eminent domain and explained the history and the reasons for the redevelopment. Mr. Lindorff emphasized that economic development and benefits were a result of the City's use of eminent domain, not the reason for using eminent domain.

Representative Kravitz spoke regarding his concerns with the Growth Management bill and

what might happen with eminent domain in Florida.

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
(SAFETEA-LU) Presentation

Mr. Jones introduced Mr. Larry Parks, Council member and liaison to the Florida Department of Transportation, who gave a brief overview of SAFETEA-LU, the \$286.4 billion dollar package that will fund all federal transportation programs for the next five years. Mr. Parks called attention to a map with the earmark projects for Northeast Florida then briefly discussed the projects. District Two has 33 earmarked projects. A statewide workshop regarding SAFETEA-LU will be held in Orlando on September 30, 2005. **Commissioner Myers** asked that Mr. Charles Baldwin, District Two Secretary for FDOT, be invited to one of the Council board meetings.

City of Jacksonville – Transmitted Amendment 05-2

Mr. Lehman reviewed the City of Jacksonville – Transmitted Amendment 05-2 stating that, due to time constraints, no recommendation came from the Planning & Growth Management Policy Committee. Mr. Lehman stated that in the interest of time he would only speak to the issues for which there were comments. Mr. Lehman first called attention to the memorandum containing information on issues #3 & 4. Number 3 proposes changing 11.19 acres from Water Dependent-Water Related (WDWR) to Conservation and number 4, a companion amendment, proposes changing 24.83 acres from WDWR to Community/General Commercial (CGC). Mr. Lehman stated in the staff's comment that "There are always staff concerns when a local government increases residential units in the CHHA."

Mr. Lehman reviewed #10 of the FLUM Amendments detailed in the memorandum, stating that this amendment proposes to change 1,068 acres from Residential-Professional-Institutional, Medium Density Residential, Low Density Residential, Agriculture (ii) and CGC, to Multi-Use. This property is located in the southeast quadrant of S.R. 9A/Butler Boulevard interchange. If this develops under common ownership then it could become a DRI.

Mr. Lehman then reviewed #16 stating that this is located very close to the Nassau County line and proposes to change 1,508 acres from Agriculture (ii), Agriculture (iii), Agriculture (iv), and Rural Residential, to Multi-Use. Staff's comment stated that the City should work with Nassau County in addressing any intergovernmental issues that may arise from approval of this land use.

Mr. Lehman then addressed the Other Map and Text Amendments contained in the memorandum, in particular #s 22, 23, & 26. Mr. Lehman reviewed staff comments for each of the map and text amendments. Number 22 addresses the need for the City of Jacksonville to adopt a future transportation map. Number 23 addresses how the Downtown Master Plan and the Neighborhood Action Plan satisfy Section 163 of the Florida Statutes. Number 26 addresses a change to the Future Land use element and Transportation Element that establishes a Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (TCEA) for the entire Downtown area since the whole of the Downtown Area is covered by an area wide DRI. Staff's concern was with a proposed policy that would eliminate transportation conditions within the

Downtown DRI. Mr. Lehman stated that the staff would work with the City to address this issue.

Mr. Lehman stated that staff recommends that the Council approve the report for transmittal to the Department of Community Affairs.

Public Comment

Ms. Margo Moehring, representing the City of Jacksonville, stated that overall there were no concerns regarding Staff's comments then Ms. Moehring briefly reviewed the City's CHHA policy.

Mr. Lehman called attention to a handout from Ms. Valerie Britt titled, "Request That Regional Council Make Objections to Proposed Jacksonville LU Amendment 2005" and to a letter from Ms. Mary Billotti.

Mr. T.R. Hainline, representing the applicant, spoke to item #3 and item #4 of the comprehensive plan amendments and stated that the amendment adopted by the Jacksonville City Council is, after two community meetings, substantially reduced from the original residential component. The district councilman for the area in question supported the revised amendment. Mr. Hainline emphasized that at the moment the area is currently developed as an industrial shipyard and that the proposed development includes public waterfront usage including either a boat-lift or a boat ramp. Mr. Hainline stated that the applicant has met all the criteria regarding the CHHA as stated by Ms. Moehring and that the applicant has followed all the rules set by the comprehensive plan policies of the City.

Ms. Patricia Hairston, 13560 Picarsa Drive, Jacksonville, representing Pablo Point Community Association, and representing herself as a homeowner in the community.

Ms. Harrison emphasized, especially in light of the recent Gulf issue, the danger of increasing the population in the CHHA and stated that the residents cannot get out of their community.

Ms. Hairston stated that the residents already had difficulty when they tried to get out of their neighborhood during an evacuation period. There is one road in and out of their community of 500 plus people and they cannot get out if they are in danger.

Ms. Harrison stated that this is a family oriented neighborhood and asked the Council to keep this in mind when making a decision.

Mary Billotti, 469 Pablo Point Drive, Jacksonville, distributed two handouts, one regarding the level of service on the surrounding roads and the other regarding overcrowding of the schools in the area. Ms. Billotti reiterated that CHHA or not, the residents cannot even get out of their homes to go to the dentist.

Kathleen Brown, 365 Pablo Point Drive, Jacksonville, stated that there are three organizations and over 60 individuals who have expressed they are in opposition to this amendment. Ms. Brown stated that she is concerned regarding residences being added in the area and that San Pablo and Atlantic Boulevard are very congested, heavily traveled roads. San Pablo Road is already at 149% capacity. Ms. Brown is also concerned regarding this being in the CHHA and the residents not being able to get out of their neighborhood. Ms. Brown felt that, in the event of an evacuation, the addition of shelters

would not help them in this case. Another concern is that Part A – the filling of marshlands, is being held back and she is concerned that this will re-appear at the adoption hearing.

Valerie Britt, 378 Tilefish Court, Jacksonville, stated that she also had two handouts. Ms. Britt stated that the asterisk or star on the map can only be done with a text amendment and only be done for the MU category. The major concern is that in this particular case instead of doing the full blown potential and doing the applicant recommended potential and comparing them, they simply acted as though some star on the map for a speculative developer could limited it. There is no companion text amendment, so there is a possibility for maximum potential for CGC which allows for 20 units per acre. This is not an example of clustering. There is no PUD application with it and no way of controlling maximum development. The applicant provided the Hurricane Evacuation report that was referenced. The Emergency Management Chief's report was not provided regarding item #4 where he says to change from WDWR to CGC would be inconsistent. The amount of land to go to conservation was reduced but the community never asked for a reduction in the land going to conservation. Ms. Britt referenced the Southside development policy and stated that this was not in the CHHA. Ms. Britt stated that all of the policies must be looked at and that this amendment was inconsistent with the comprehensive plan. Ms. Britt then begged the Council to make an objection to increasing the density in the CHHA as this is critical to the region.

A discussion followed regarding the asterisk on the map and the amount of development allowed. A transportation discussion followed. The current evacuation clearance times were discussed. Mr. Teeple stated that the Council is working on an updated Hurricane Evacuation Study. **Mr. Maxwell made a motion of denial; seconded by Mr. Laibl.**

Mr. Lehman stated that since the Council is recommending comments to transmit to DCA, any motion should be worded as a recommendation to the state for their review. A recommendation of denial would affect the whole package. Since this affects every single one of the amendments, it is recommended that they be voted upon individually. **Mr. Maxwell then withdrew his original motion; seconded by Mr. Laibl.**

Commissioner Maguire made a motion to transmit City of Jacksonville – Transmitted Amendment 05-2 to DCA with the recommendation and comments that, “The Council is concerned with the proposal to increase residential densities in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA). The Council has not been presented with sufficient justification for the proposal by the City to increase densities on the subject parcel, and believes that such an increase of residential densities within the CHHA is not within the best interests of the region. The Council recommends that the City reconsider the adoption of a land use category that allows residential development on this parcel, and that a more appropriate land use category should be adopted. The Council also recommends that additional review of the data, assumptions and conclusions and the hurricane evacuation study submitted with this amendment is necessary”; seconded by Mr. Laibl; motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Myers requested that at the next Board meeting, discussion needs to be held to establish basic criteria regarding evacuation times.

Putnam County – Transmitted Amendment 05-2

Mr. Lehman reviewed the Putnam County – Transmitted Amendment 05-2, stating that the Committee had unanimously adopted Staff's recommendation. **Commissioner Myers moved approval of the Putnam County – Transmitted Amendment 05-2 for transmittal to DCA; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; motion unanimously carried.**

*St. Johns Pellicer-Pringle Transmission Project

Ms. Audrey Smith gave a power point presentation and information regarding the Florida Power and Light Application for Corridor Certification for the St. Johns Pellicer-Pringle Transmission line project. This is a 26.1-mile transmission line connecting the St. Johns County station and the Pringle station in Flagler County. The Florida Public Service Commission has approved this project. Staff recommends that the project is consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). **Mr. Laibl moved approval of the St. Johns Pellicer-Pringle Transmission Line Project; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; motion unanimously carried.**

*Election of FY 05/06 Officers

Mr. Teeple stated that he was presenting the slate of officers for 2005/2006 at the request of the Vice-Chair of the Personnel, Budget, and Finance Policy Committee. The new term begins at the October Board meeting.

President:	Karen Stern – St. Johns County
1 st Vice-President:	Ansley Acree – Nassau County
2 nd Vice-President:	Chip Laibl – Putnam County
Secretary/Treasurer:	Hugh Fish – Baker County

Commissioner Lawson-Brown moved approval of the FY 05/06 Slate of Officers; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion unanimously carried.

Elected Officials Reception/Regional Leadership Awards and Selection Committee Update

Mr. Hadden stated the date of the event has been changed to Friday, November 11, 2005. The Selection Committee will now meet on Thursday, October 6, 2005, following the Board meeting. Mr. Hadden called attention to the Regional Leadership Awards forms and stated these are also available on the Council's web site.

Healthy Start and KidCare Update

Ms. Brady updated the Council on current enrollment in the KidCare program. Ms. Brady also

mentioned that the state's proposal for Medicaid reform is posted on the Agency for Health Care Administration web site. This will have a direct impact on our citizens since Northeast Florida is the first area in the state to be piloting this. There are 30 days to post comments.

Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Appointments

Mr. Jones called attention to the memorandum containing information on confirmation of new representatives for the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) in Nassau County. The two new members are:

Mr. John Martin – representing Veterans Services

Ms. Mary von Mohr – representing the Local Medical Community

Commissioner Stern moved approval of the appointment of the above named individuals to the TDLCB in Nassau County; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Myers requested that the Council draft a letter to the Agency for Health Care Administration regarding concerns over Medicaid non-emergency transportation.

Identifying Regional Issues and Solutions (IRIS) – Public Policy Development Issues

Baker County

Ms. Amanda Smith stated that the Council had recently concluded their community focus group meetings in Baker County. It is hoped to have the results of the surveys in October, which will then be presented to the Baker County Board of County Commissioners by November.

Nassau County

Ms. Smith stated that the interviews had begun in Nassau County with the assistance of Mr. Jack Osterholt, a consultant who has previously assisted the Council. The Council is taking another look at how to proceed with the Nassau County meetings.

At this point Mr. Prachar introduced Mr. Jason Griffis, Ms. Cathy Rhoden, and Mr. Robert Hancock from Baker County.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Teeple called attention to Highlights stating it contained great information. Mr. Hadden will have his camera available at the next Board meeting to take Officers' Portraits for the Annual Report and for any other Board member desiring to have a photograph taken.

Mr. Teeple asked that the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) survey comments be submitted to him. The Florida Regional Council Associations' Annual Report was distributed for information purposes. Mr. Teeple stated that

the Regional Leadership Academy Invitation is for Board members and that Mr. Robert Grow would be giving a presentation on Regional Visioning at the Deerwood Campus of FCCJ on Friday, September 23, 2005. News Articles will continue to be distributed in the mail out package then cease to be sent when these are available on the web site although if any Board member would like them to be mailed, staff will continue to do so.

Mr. Alexander gave an update on Hurricane Katrina.

Members Reports

None.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Blair Kanbar
President

Brian Teeple
Chief Executive Officer