

NEFRC Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

July 2010

NEFRC Partners with Clay County Development Authority for Brownfields Grant

The Northeast Florida Regional Council and the Clay County Development Authority partnered for an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant application to facilitate community involvement in a Green Cove Springs area-wide planning approach to Brownfields assessment, cleanup and subsequent reuse. The planning grant funding and technical assistance will be directed toward properties along S.R. 16 and U.S. 17. The result will be an area-wide plan that will inform the assessment, cleanup and reuse of Brownfields properties and promote area-wide revitalization. Specifically, this grant proposal can be divided into the following tasks:

- Task 1: Develop an inventory of stakeholders, community leaders, etc. to develop a methodology for community visioning, charrettes, and green / sustainable redevelopment;
- Task 2: Inform and engage the public through an aggressive public involvement campaign;
- Task 3: Intensive community workshops, visioning, and charrettes;
- Task 4: Hold a workshop to present findings, and provide opportunities for comments and discussion to government agencies, stakeholders, and adjoining local governments;
- Task 5: Create a Redevelopment Plan that includes: a land use compatibility map and land use matrix (e.g., retail, office, etc); horizontal and vertical design examples and guidelines; redevelopment and community goals and objectives; and an action plan that will address gaps in service, promote a continuum of coordination and will include sustainable and energy efficiency strategies to achieve the Redevelopment Plan's goals and objectives.

This proposal is currently under review by the Environmental Protection Agency, with a response anticipated by October 2010. For more information on this grant application, please contact Guy Parola at 279-0885 x135, or gparola@nefrc.org.

2010 Regional Leadership Series Concludes

The 2010 Regional Leadership Series concluded on July 14th with a hypothetical exercise that "brought it all together". In this exercise, class members were asked to develop a pilot program for regional governance that included representation, funding, distribution of resources, regional priorities and equitable participation. The exercise spawned lively discussion and many creative ideas. In total, 23 Regional Leadership Series participants earned enough credits to graduate as part of the 2010 Regional Leadership Academy class. A graduation ceremony and induction into the Regional Community Institute (RCI) will be held following the quarterly meeting of the RCI Board on September 23, 2010. For more information on the Regional Leadership Series, please contact Jennifer Hewett-Apperson at 279-0885 x104, or jhewettapperson@nefrc.org.

2010 Regional Directory is Now Available!

The NEFRC 2010 Regional Directory is now available on our website: www.nefrc.org. This publication is your one-stop source of contact information for government offices and public agencies throughout the seven-county Northeast Florida Region.



Type III All Hazards Communication Leader (COML) Training

NEFRC held a COML training class at the FDLE Jacksonville office July 19 through 21. This 3-day class was attended by 24 students from multiple disciplines and agencies. Ten (10) units were taught by instructors Victor Cullars and David Byrum. The final exam was a tabletop exercise involving a train derailment in one of our local communities that included hazardous material. This course is an important step in training to become a Communications Leader, a position in the emergency response field that requires deep understanding of the communications systems used by responders and the ability to maintain communications under any conditions.

Funding for this 3-day COML class was from the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP). This Grant provides funding for training on interoperable emergency communications throughout the State in response to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters. One course participant stated, "It was by far the best class that I have attended

this year."

For more information on COML or IECGP, please contact Traci Hochhalter at 279-0885 x155, or thochhalter@nefrc.org.



Above: Participants in the COML training class held at FDLE during July 2010.

Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program

The Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program (SRESP) will wrap up in the coming months. After three years and \$40 million, this statewide project will be finished. Each Region's Study will be made up of eight (8) volumes. Volume 1 is the Technical Data Report which is a summary of all volumes in the Study. Volumes 2 and 3 are Behavioral Survey Data and the resulting Analysis. Volumes 4 and 5 are the Evacuation Transportation Analysis and the Supplemental Data Report, which detail the analysis, methodologies and inputs and outputs of the transportation model runs. Additional volumes include Storm Tide Atlases for each county, an Emergency Managers Toolkit, as well as an additional volume on transportation modeling documentation.

Currently, NEFRC is using the recently flown Light Detection and Ranging Systems (LiDAR) data and best available Sea Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes

(SLOSH) Basin data to run a storm surge inundation model that produces inundation zones for storm categories 1 – 5. These inundation zones are the basis for each County's Evacuation Zones. Evacuation zones are utilized in the Evacuation Transportation Model to produce clearance times, shelter demand and the population at risk.

Northeast Florida's study is projected for completion in November. Once the Study is finalized, it will be delivered to the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) for approval before being presented to the Region at an overview workshop. When complete, it is anticipated that the study will be used to update Emergency Response and Operation Plans and become a tool for Growth Management purposes. However, changes will not be immediate; a study of this magnitude will require time for local planners to review and determine what, if any, changes need to be made to local plans. For more information on the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program, please contact Beth Payne at 279-0885 x133, or epayne@nefrc.org.

2010 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 Grantee Workshop

Staff attended the 2010 EPA Region 4 Brownfields Grantee Workshop held July 20-22, 2010, in Jacksonville. This workshop offered a unique opportunity to gain knowledge of the Brownfields program and to meet with others involved in Brownfields revitalization and reuse. Experts from the Brownfields community shared their knowledge and experience with attendees. The workshop was attended by Brownfields grantees and land use practitioners from around the Southeast region of the United States. The workshop was divided into several different sections that ranged from focusing on the scientific aspects of environmental cleanup to the fundamentals of successful Brownfields grant writing. Highlights of the workshop included examples of where strong, multi-agency and organization partnerships, and the matching and leveraging of funds from multiple sources has been used to create successful Brownfields projects. For more information on this workshop, please contact Guy Parola at 279-0885 x135, or gparola@nefrc.org.