

NEFRC Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

December 2013

Elected Officials and Regional Leaders Recognized at Annual Awards Reception

At the Annual Elected Officials and Regional Leadership luncheon on December 5, 2013, the Northeast Florida Regional Council recognized the best and the brightest leaders in the Region. Awards were given for Regional Excellence in a broad range of areas that will help define the future of Northeast Florida. This is the eleventh year that the Regional Council has recognized the special people, programs, and communities in Northeast Florida that are making a difference. This year's honorees and photos are listed below.

The Regional Awards recognition program is anchored by the Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Award, given to a leader who exemplifies service to community and commitment to regionalism. This year's recipient of the Northeast Florida Regional Council Regional Leadership Award is Mr. John W. Edwards, Jr., longtime Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Community Action Agency.



NEFRC Regional Leadership Award
From left to right: NEFRC President Wendell Davis, NFCAA Executive Director John W. Edwards, Jr, NEFRC CEO Brian Teeple



2013 Regional Award of Special Achievement
JCCI
Accepted by Ben Warner



Regional Award for Excellence in Economic Development and Tourism
One Spark
Accepted by Meredith Johnson



Regional Quality of Life Award
Town of Beverly Beach
Accepted by Comm. Sandra Siepietoski



Regional Award for Excellence in Education
Data Busters Summer Youth Program
Accepted by John W. Edwards, Jr



Regional Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing
Bill Lazar
St. Johns Housing Partnership



Regional Award for Excellence in Public Safety
Sheriff David Shoar
St. Johns County



Regional Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship
NAS Jacksonville
Accepted by Captain Roy Undersander



Regional Award for Excellence in Transportation
Keep the Ferry Task Force
Accepted by Rich Redick and Councilmember John Crescimbeni



Regional Award for Excellence in Planning & Growth Management
Tom Ford
Accepted by Nassau County Planning Director Peter King

This year's event would not have been possible without the generous support of these great sponsors:

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New Strategic Plan Approved

A completely revamped Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) for Northeast Florida was approved for adoption by the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors on December 5, 2013. The plan, adopted as an administrative rule, becomes effective on January 16, 2014. The new SRPP replaces the old plan which was adopted in July 1997. A unique feature of the new plan is the "crosswalk" in the plan to the Six Pillars for the Future of Florida's Economy. Six Pillars is an organizing framework developed by the Florida Chamber Foundation. Northeast Florida is a Six Pillars Region recognized by the Foundation for the Council's previous work in organizing its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy around the Six Pillars framework. Under State law all local government comprehensive plans must be consistent with the SRPP. For more information, contact Margo Moehring at mmoehring@nefrc.org.

Regional Transportation Commission

The newly formed Northeast Florida Regional Transportation Commission held their third meeting on December 18th. The Commission is in the process of organizational development and fact finding. At the meeting NEFRC CEO, Brian Teeple, provided the Commission with an overview of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) which has just been revised and will become effective in January. Mr. Teeple provided an overview of the development of the new SRPP starting with Reality Check First Coast through the development of the First Coast Vision; all activities that laid the groundwork for the new plan. Finally, the SRPP's Regional Transportation element was highlighted and it was noted that it is very consistent with the work of the Regional Transportation Study Commission and the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization. For more information, contact Brian Teeple at bteeple@nefrc.org.

Did you know

That the Northeast Florida Regional has 140 miles of coastline and five barrier islands boasting some of the State's most magnificent beaches making Northeast Florida truly "Florida's First Coast"

(Source: NEFRC 2012 Annual Report)



The Northeast Florida Regional Council is on Facebook

