

## COORDINATION OUTLINE

The general scope and application of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) is described in 27E-5.001 F.A.C., as a coordinated process whereupon collaboration and consensus among local governments, regional entities, state and federal agencies, other appropriate organizations, and the public guide the development of goals and policies to identify and resolve regional issues. To outline this process, 27E-5.004(8) F.A.C., requires an overview of the Council's cross acceptance, dispute resolution, public participation, and related regional planning and coordination activities. Before reviewing the steps taken in updating the SRPP, it may be helpful to review the role and context of Regional Planning Council functions to be reminded of how they coordinate regional activities. See Appendix for an overview.

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### *DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT*

NEFRC brings together state and regional agencies, local governments, and other interests to identify impacts and resolve issues associated with large-scale projects as defined by Chapter 380 of the Florida Statutes. This allows issues to be resolved collaboratively and early in the development planning process.

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### *DISPUTE RESOLUTION*

NEFRC has adopted a *Regional Dispute Resolution Process* (RDRP) pursuant to 186.509 F.S. and 29F-3 F.A.C. "to reconcile differences on planning, growth management, and other issues among local governments, regional agencies, and private interests."

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### *COORDINATION IMPLEMENTATION*

#### *Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) Update*

The evaluation and appraisal of "Strategic Directions", the Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan was done by an assessment adopted by NEFRC on February 3, 2011. Based on changes to the Region since the 1997 plan and the need for a new plan, NEFRC took a long-range view of the update to the SRPP. NEFRC based the plan on professionally acceptable data and analysis sources and methodologies, the same used pursuant Chapter 163.3177 F.S. NEFRC has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida and WellFlorida Council as required by Chapter 186.507(10) F.S. Pursuant to Section 27E-5.005(2) F.A.C., and 27E-5.005(3) F.A.C., NEFRC coordinated with local governments to ensure cross-acceptance, and with regional and

state agencies in both policy development and draft review of the SRPP. Pursuant to Section 27E-5.005 F.A.C., the Council is required by law to hold one public workshop and three (3) public meetings. The NEFRC held one public kickoff workshop and several additional public meetings as listed below. Noting that leadership, expertise and extensive public involvement should be part of the Plan update, NEFRC took the following path to prepare for the SRPP update:

- **Regional Leadership Academy** (2005 to present): NEFRC creates the Regional Leadership Academy to begin training leaders for this effort in 2005.
- **Regional Community Institute** (2005 to present): Graduates of the Regional Leadership Academy and members of the NEFRC Board of Directors form the membership of this non-profit organization. It is tasked with undertaking a regional vision, to inform the update to the SRPP.
- **Partnerships and Planning for Visioning** (2008): By 2008, a critical mass of regional leaders had been trained, and planning for visioning began that year. Outreach began to other regional, state, federal and local entities and organizations to encourage involvement in a vision for growth and development in the seven county Region for the next 50 years. 2060 is agreed as the planning timeframe.
- **Town Hall Meetings** (2009): Input from public meetings in all seven counties is gathered to help kick-off regional visioning.
- **Reality Check First Coast** (2009): Several regional organization partners and over 100 volunteers help 300 diverse leaders think about their visions for where growth should go for the next 50 years, and what principles should guide it. The exercise established four distinct growth patterns that could describe the future of the Region, all of which show benefits when compared to the trend.
- **County Checks** (2009): The visioning exercise is repeated in all seven counties of Northeast Florida with the public as participants. Growth patterns are validated and County-level input is gathered.
- **Region First 2060** (2009-present): The partners who put on Reality Check First Coast agree to focus on education related to the guiding principles recommended at the exercise.
- **First Coast Consortium** (2010-present): Organizations interested in a regional plan join to seek funding and support the best possible plan.
- **Generation Checks** (2010, 2011): The visioning exercise is repeated exclusively for young people. Growth patterns are validated and youth input is gathered.
- **Growth Pattern Polling** (2010, 2011): Over a thousand people participate in polling on their preferred growth pattern.

- **Design Challenge** (2011): Data from Reality Check and the results of growth pattern polling are combined to inform a design challenge, to create the images for First Coast Vision.
- **First Coast Vision Draft** (2010, 2011): The Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida, Inc. creates committees and drafts First Coast Vision.
- **First Coast Vision Public Input** (2011): Public input on the draft is gathered online and at seven public meetings, one in each County.
- **First Coast Vision** (2011): The final vision is provided to the Northeast Florida Regional Council to assist with the update to the regional plan.
- **Draft Measurable Policies for the Regional Plan** (2012): These are provided to the First Coast Consortium for comment as they become available.
- **Preparation for the Kick-off to the Regional Plan** (2012): First Coast Consortium members and local governments are asked what their hopes were for the SRPP update.

The process to update the Plan included the following:

- **May 16 Kickoff Meeting** (2012): The hopes of partners are shared at a public meeting at NEFRC offices, along with an overview of the process for the plan update, and gathering of public input. The meeting was advertised on April 27, 2012 in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW). The dates for public meetings to gather input on the draft plan were also shared at that time.
- **On-line Public Input** (May 16, 2012 until November 1, 2012): The public had the ability to comment on-line on plan process at [www.nefrc.org](http://www.nefrc.org) starting on May 16, 2012, and had access to an overview and documents related to the kickoff meeting since shortly thereafter. The public was able to comment on draft plan content and has had access to the draft plan at [www.nefrc.org](http://www.nefrc.org) since August, 2012.
- **Public Meetings** as listed below were held in each of the seven counties in Northeast Florida to gather public input on the draft plan. Meetings were advertised pursuant to 27E-5.005(1)(b)F.A.C. and prominently advertised throughout the region in newspapers of general circulation and not placed where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. All jurisdictions and agencies were notified of each meeting pursuant to 27E-5.005(2)F.A.C.

*Figure 1 – Schedule of Public Meetings*

COUNTY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PUBLICATION AND DATE ADVERTISED
Baker County Public Meeting	Thursday September 20, 2012	6:30 PM	County Commission Chambers 55 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. Macclenny, FL 32063	FAW:V. 38/33, 8/17/12, Baker County Press: 8/23/12

COUNTY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PUBLICATION AND DATE ADVERTISED
Clay County Public Meeting	Thursday October 18, 2012	6:30 PM	Green Cove Springs City Hall 321 Walnut Street Green Cove Springs, FL 32043	Clay Today: 8/23/12
Duval County Public Meeting	Thursday October 25, 2012	6:00 PM	NEFRC 6850 Belfort Oaks Place Jacksonville, FL 32216	Florida Times Union: 8/23/12
Flagler County Public Meeting	Thursday September 27, 2012	6:30 PM	Emergency Operations Center 1769 E. Moody Blvd, Bldg. #3 Bunnell, FL 32110	FAW V. 38/33, 8/17/12, Flagler/Palm Coast News: 8/22/12
Nassau County Public Meeting	Thursday October 11, 2012	6:30 PM	FSCJ Betty P. Cook Center 76346 William Burgess Blvd. Yulee, FL 32097	Nassau County Record: 9/6/12
Putnam County Public Meeting	Thursday October 4, 2012	6:30 PM	Commissioners Board Room 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 100 Palatka, FL 32177	Palatka Daily News: 8/23/12
St. Johns County Public Meeting	Thursday September 6, 2012	6:30 PM	AG Center 3125 Agricultural Center Drive St. Augustine, FL 32092-0572	FAW V. 38/33 8/17/12,, St. Augustine Record: 8/23/12

- **Meetings** with each County and their Local Governments (January, February 2013): Each County hosted a meeting with their local governments and NEFRC to discuss the plan and public comments, and to gather government comments.
- **Incorporation of Input** (February 2013): NEFRC staff reviews and incorporates input from all sources into a second draft SRPP.
- **Local Government Review** of second Draft SRPP (March-June, 2013): NEFRC approves release of the second Draft SRPP on March 7, 2013. All local governments in the Region were provided with a link to the second draft plan, along with draft resolution in support of the plan. They were asked to consider a resolution by June 2013. Ultimately, 21 resolutions of support accompanied the July 26, 2013 transmittal to the Executive Office of the Governor.
- **Proposed SRPP Release to the State** (July 2013): The NEFRC Board authorized release of the Proposed SRPP (as revised based on local government input) on July 11, 2013. The Proposed SRPP was sent, along with resolutions of support, to all local governments and reviewing agencies (Department of Economic Opportunity, Department of Health, Department of Children and Families, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of State, Department of Transportation, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, adjacent Regional Planning Councils, Metropolitan Planning

Organizations and Water Management Districts within the NEFRC's boundary, pursuant to 27E-5.006(1)(a)F.A.C. on July 26, 2013.

- **Proposed SRPP Review** (July 2013): Three copies of the Plan were sent to the Executive Office of the Governor who had 60 days to review from date of receipt. Other state reviewing agencies noted above, and local governments, have 30 days to provide comments to the Office of the Governor. It was understood that the Office of the Governor may issue a "State Findings and Recommendation Report" with suggested revisions consistent with the State Comprehensive Plan. None was received. Concurrent with the submittal to the state, NEFRC submitted a copy of the SRPP to all county and municipal governments within the Region pursuant to 27E-5.006(2)F.A.C. This submission included the cover letter required by 27E-5.006(2)(a) and (b)F.A.C. Local governments had 30 days to provide comments to the Executive Office of the Governor, and 60 days to provide comments to the NEFRC. No local government comments were received. A copy of the SRPP was provided to each Regional Library, a total of 14, pursuant to 27E-5.006(2)(b)F.A.C.
- **Incorporation of Input** (September 2013): NEFRC staff incorporated input into the SRPP as appropriate.
- **Formal Adoption** (December 5, 2013): Within 90 days of the end of the 60 day comment period, NEFRC Board of Directors noticed and conducted rulemaking to adopt the SRPP pursuant to "Rule Adoption and Procedures" (120-54 F.S.). Rule Development Workshops were held on October 7, 2013 and November 7, 2013. A Proposed Rule Amendment Public Hearing was held on December 5, 2013. The NEFRC adopted the Proposed Rule Amendment on that date. The Department of State identified the effective date for rule adoption as January 16, 2014.
- **Final SRPP Submission**: Within 30 days, NEFRC re-submitted the amended SRPP to state reviewing agencies and the Governor's Office. The plan was also submitted to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate.

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