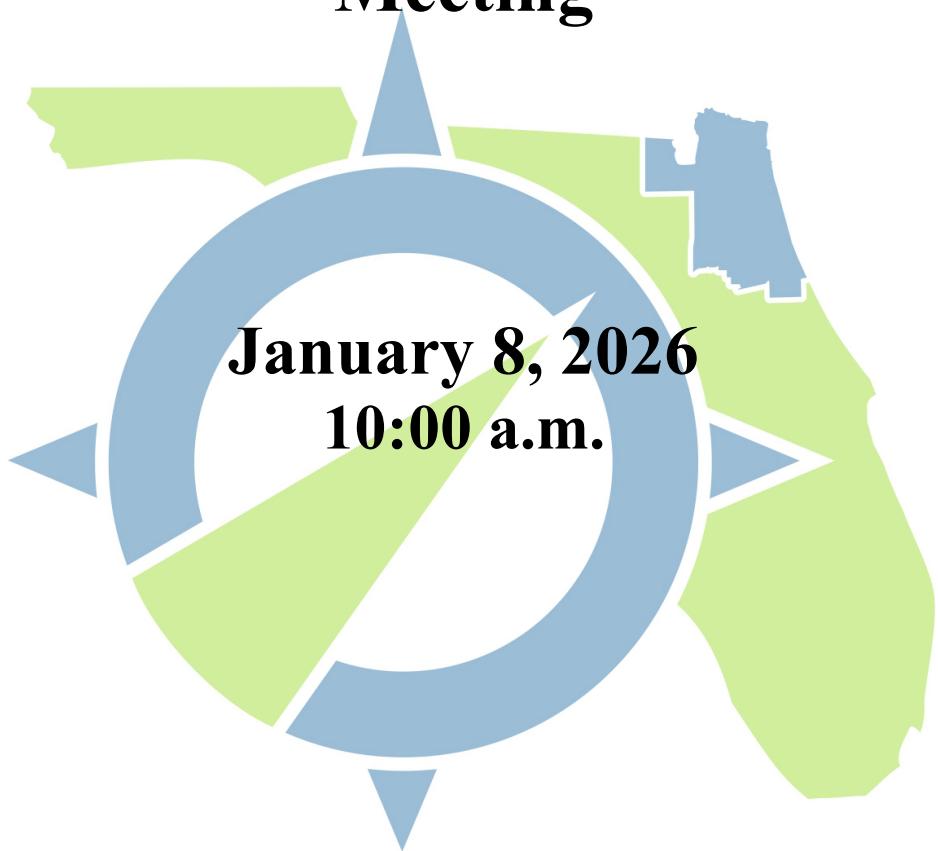


# NEFRC

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



**Northeast Florida Regional Council**  
Hybrid Meeting



40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202  
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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** JANUARY 8, 2026

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

**RE:** NEXT MEETING

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The next **Board of Directors** meeting will be held on **February 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** with the **Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee** meeting preceding it at **9:00 a.m.** These will be hybrid meetings, virtual and in-person, at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 40 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202.



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## Northeast Florida Regional Council

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

### A G E N D A

**Zoom Link:** <https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>  
**Meeting ID:** 874 9977 0491

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**(ADDED OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN BOLD)**  
**(\*Denotes Action Required)**

**TAB**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance
4. Moment of Remembrance – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance
5. Welcome New Members – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance
  - Commissioner Ann Taylor – St. Johns County
  - Commissioner Christian Whitehurst – St. Johns County
6. Invitation to Speak – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance

*Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to speak on any item brought before the Council. The public will be recognized during public comments. At that time, virtual attendees who would like to speak will be asked to raise their (electronic) hand and they will be recognized in the order of response.*

\*7. Consent Agenda – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance

A.	November 6, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes .....	1
B.	Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report .....	2
	• City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR	
	• <b>City of Palatka Transmitted Amendment ORD 2025-21</b>	



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8. Other Reports/Action Items – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance

* A. November 2025 Financial Report – Ms. Starling .....	3
* B. Clay County CTC Continuation Recommendation – Ms. Jones .....	4
* C. Resolution 2026-01: Commissioner Joseph – Ms. Payne .....	5
* D. Resolution 2026-02 Commissioner Murphy – Ms. Payne .....	6
E. Secretary/Treasurer Nomination – Ms. Payne	
F. President Position Discussion – Ms. Payne	
G. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Ilami .....	7
H. 2026 Regional Leadership Academy – Mr. Nolen .....	8
I. 2025 Regional Awards of Excellence Winners – Mr. Nolen .....	9
J. Public Comment – <u>LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER</u>	

9. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dance

10. Ex-Officio Members' Reports:

- Florida Department of Commerce – Mr. Register
- Florida Department of Transportation – Mr. Dixon
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Donaldson
- St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey

11. Chief Executive Officer's Report – Ms. Payne

- NEFRC Staff's County Assignment .....

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12. Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 14, 2026 – Resilient First Coast Steering Committee Meeting, Duval County
- **Jan. 19, 2026 – MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- Jan. 21, 2026 – Regional Resiliency Action Plan Implementation Partner Kick-off Meeting
- Jan 22, 2026 – Northeast Florida MIRR Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- Jan. 27, 2026 – Northeast Florida MIRR Steering Committee Meeting, Duval County
- Feb. 9, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Putnam County
- Feb. 9, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Clay County



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#### Upcoming Events Continued:

- Feb. 10, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, St. Johns County
- Feb. 11, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Flagler County
- **Feb. 16, 2026 – PRESIDENT'S DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- Feb. 19, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Baker County
- Feb. 19, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Nassau County
- Feb. 25, 2026 – Resilient First Coast Collaborative Meeting, Duval County
- Feb. 26, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Duval County

#### 13. Next Board/Committee Meeting:

**FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

Northeast Florida Regional Council  
40 E. Adams Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

#### 14. Adjournment

**(\*Denotes Action Required)**



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# Agenda

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**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**November 6, 2025**

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**MINUTES**

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors held a meeting at 40 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, November 6, 2025; President Bennett called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**President Bennett called for a vote to add the Secretary/Treasurer Role as an emergency item to the agenda. Commissioner Minshew motioned to add the Secretary/Treasurer Role to the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. On voice vote the motion passed.** This item is added as item number 11 on this agenda.

Roll call was conducted with the following members present, representing a quorum:

BAKER:           Commissioner Anderson  
                  Commissioner Bennett  
                  Mr. Griffis

CLAY:            Commissioner Renninger  
                  Mr. Kennedy

DUVAL:          Mayor Lynch

FLAGLER:        Commissioner Dance

NASSAU:          Commissioner Huppmann  
                  Commissioner Martin  
                  Commissioner Minshew

ST. JOHNS:       Commissioner Morgan  
                  Commissioner Murphy

EX-OFFICIO:      Mr. Conkey - SJRWMD  
                  Mr. Hart

Excused:          Councilmember Amaro, Commissioner Condon, Councilmember Gay,  
                  Councilmember Gambaro, Commissioner Harvey, Commissioner Joseph,  
                  Commissioner Wilkinson and Ms. Craver

Absent:           Mr. Bourre, Ms. Brown, Commissioner Pennington and Mr. Dixon

Staff:            Eric Anderson, Robert Jordan, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Donna Starling, and  
                  Kenajawa Woody

## INVITATION TO SPEAK

**President Bennett** stated that members of the public are welcome to speak on any item before the Board and will be recognized during public comment.

## REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

### \* October 2025 Meeting Minutes

**President Bennett called for a motion on the October 2025 Draft meeting minutes. Commissioner Martin moved approval of the Minutes; seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried.**

### \*September 2025 Financial Report

Ms. Starling reported that in the month of September, the Council posted a net income of \$28,205 with a year-to-date net income of \$167,526. Discussion followed.

**President Bennett** inquired if there will be a budget reconciliation provided following the audit. Ms. Starling stated this will be provided in February when the audit is presented.

**President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Renninger motioned to approve the September 2025 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Minshew. Motion carried.**

### Alternate Review of Comprehensive Plan Amendment Report

**President Bennett** stated that the alternate review of comprehensive plan amendments is provided for information only.

### Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the comprehensive plans reviewed by staff for consideration. He recommended approval of the staff review report for the Baker County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR and the Nassau County Transmitted Amendment 25-8ESR. He also recommended that the Board find the City of Green Cove Springs Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR, the City of Green Cove Springs Adopted Amendment 25-2ESR, and the City of Palm Coast Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP).

**President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Anderson moved approval of the comprehensive plan amendment review report as recommended by staff; seconded by Commissioner Minshew. Motion carried.**

### \* Resolution 2025-09:

Ms. Payne presented Resolution 2025-09 recognizing Mr. Steve Kennedy for his service to the Regional Council and Northeast Florida. A brief discussion followed.

**Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve Resolution 2025-09; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion carried.**

### \*Draft Strategic Regional Policy Plan Update

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of staff's actions regarding the update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). Staff conducted the required public meetings to seek input and/or

comments from the public. Following approval from the Board, staff will post the draft document on our website, send it to local governments and the Governor's office. Local governments will have 30 days to provide comments to the Governor's office. The Governor's office will then have 60 days, from date of submission, to provide comments to the NEFRC. A brief discussion followed.

**President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the Draft 2025 Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan for Transmittal, pursuant to FAC 27E-5.006 "Procedures for Plan Submission and Review"; seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried.**

\*Secretary/Treasurer Position

**President Bennett** informed the Board that he expects to receive a letter from the Secretary/Treasurer resigning from the position. The reason for adding this item as an emergency is because the Regional Council's policy requires two signatures on all checks; one is staff – either the CEO or the CFO – and the other is the Treasurer. With the position being vacant, we would not be able to sign checks until another Treasurer is elected. With that, President Bennett offered two options: 1) to immediately take action to add the President as the Board signatory for all checks in addition to staff; 2) temporarily suspend the requirement of a Board representative to sign checks and require both staff members, CEO and CFO, to sign all checks. Discuss followed.

**Commissioner Martin motioned to accept option 1 to add the President to the accounts and as a signatory for all checks in addition to staff until a new Secretary/Treasurer is elected; seconded by Mayor Lynch. Motion carried.**

**President Bennett** stated that by the next meeting he would like staff to review the current requirements for the Secretary/Treasurer position and Chair of the Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee. Any suggestions/recommendation of change be brought to the next meeting for discussion. Additionally, he asked the Board to be prepared to elect the next Treasurer at that time.

**Commissioner Anderson** recommended that the Executive Committee make a recommendation for the full Board to vote on. **President Bennett** concurs that the Executive Committee will review the policy, provide any recommended change, and provide potential recommendations for the Treasurer position for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

Upcoming Regional Leadership Awards: Process / Ceremony

Ms. Payne provided information that the next Board meeting will be followed by the Awards Ceremony and Elected Officials luncheon. This meeting will be held on January 8<sup>th</sup> at our old building at WJCT. The nomination packets have gone out and we look forward to recognizing the excellent work taking place in our region. The registration link will be provided shortly.

Public Comment – None.

#### Ex-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver

No report. She will be on leave from December through April. Ms. Candi Donalson, Business

Planning Program Administrator, will be filling in during this time. Please feel free to direct your inquiries to her.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey

With the time change, lawn watering has been reduced to one day per week. An update was provided on programs such as the Rebates Program, Water Facilities Supply Plan and its relationship to comprehensive plans.

Mr. Conkey provided positive comments on the Council's work and achievements and thanked Mayor Lynch for his efforts in keeping the City of Jacksonville a member of the Council.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:45a.m.

Next Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

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Andy Dance  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Elizabeth Payne  
Chief Executive Officer

# Agenda

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## Item

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025  
**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER   
**FROM:** ROBERT JORDAN, SENIOR REGIONAL PLANNER   
**RE:** LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEWS

---

Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, Council review of transmitted and adopted amendments to local government comprehensive plans is limited to adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). The review is also limited to extra-jurisdictional impacts that are inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any local government within the region. Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, a written report with an impact evaluation should be provided to the local government and the State land planning agency (Florida Commerce) within 30 calendar days of receipt (of the amendment).

A regional map of the listed amendments is provided on the next page, and site-specific maps and policy texts are provided in the appendix herein. Upon approval of this report by the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) Board of Directors for transmittal to the State land planning agency, a copy will be provided to the respective local government.

### **Recommendation**

**Staff respectfully recommend that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the City of Palatka Transmitted Amendment 2025 – 21.**

**Staff also respectfully recommend that the NEFRC Board of Directors find the City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.**



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## REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

## January 2026 Board Review- Comprehensive Plan Amendments

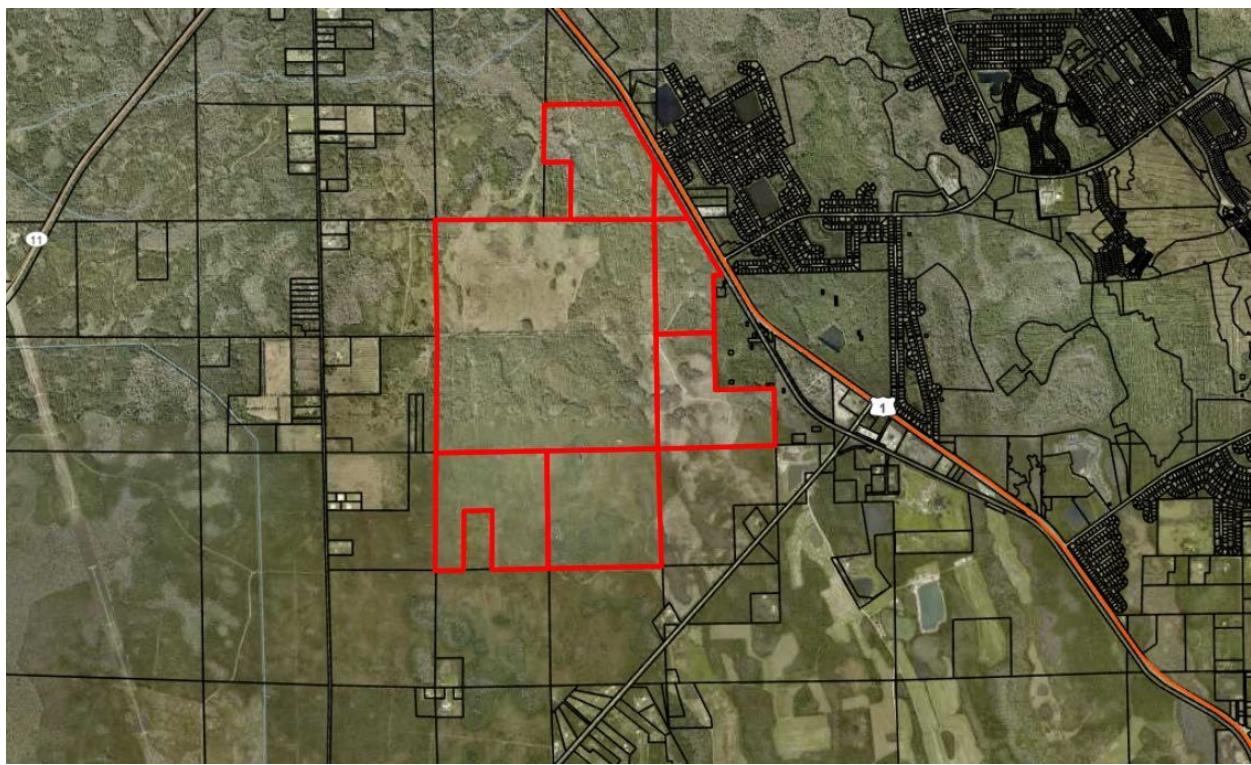






## Appendix

### Exhibit 1: City of Bunnell 25-1ESR (Location Map)



## Exhibit 2: City of Bunnell 25-1ESR (Existing Future Land Use Map)

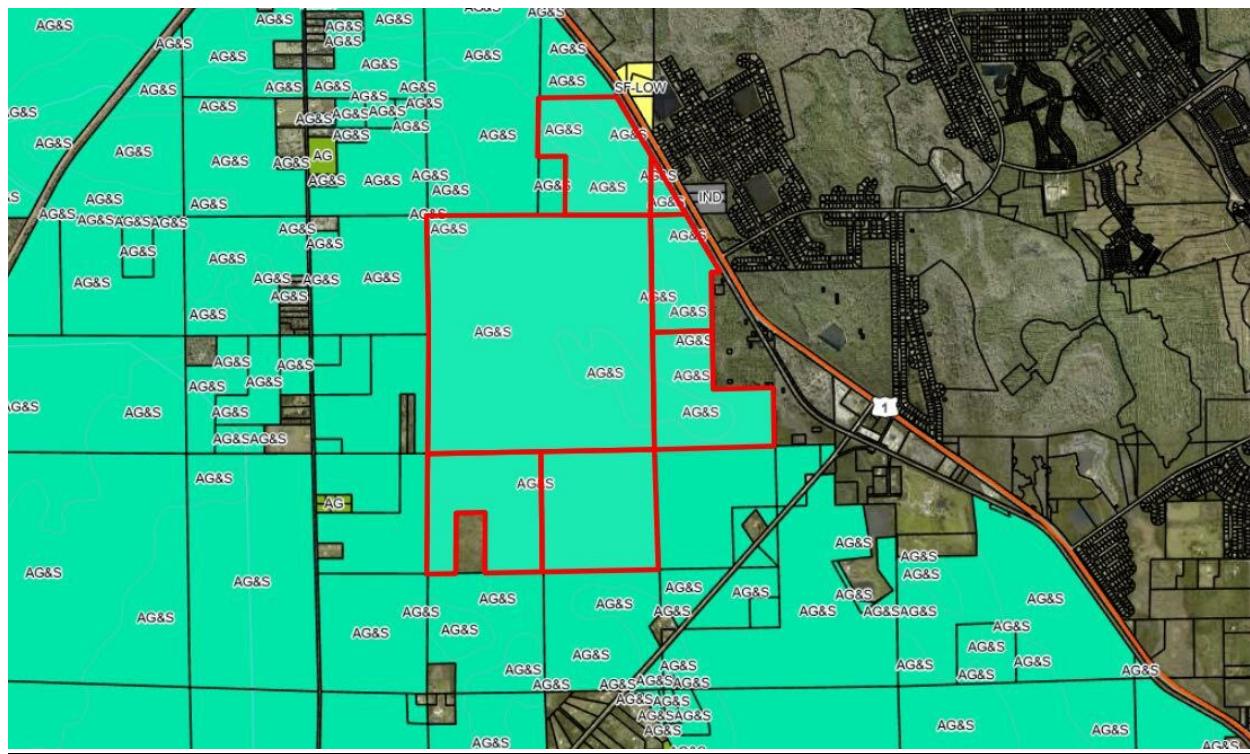
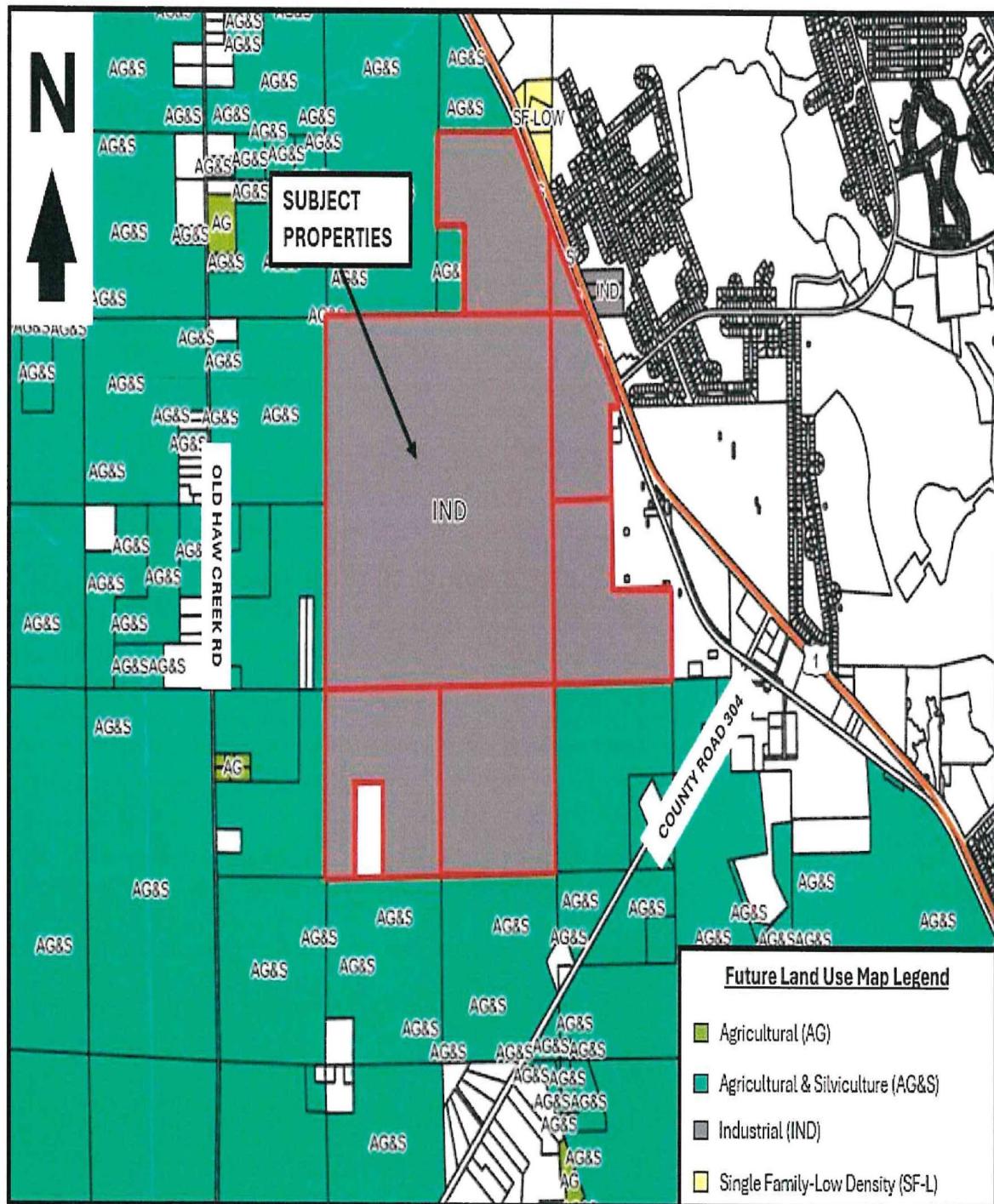


Exhibit 2: City of Bunnell 25-1ESR (Proposed Future Land Use Map)



# Agenda

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

**FROM:** DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *DS*

**RE:** NOVEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

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The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$14,237 for the month of November and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$19,028.



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Regional Council - Agencywide	Adopted Budget 24/25	November 2025	YTD	Represents	Budget Variance
				17% of Fiscal Year	
<b>Revenues</b>					
County Dues	\$ 694,757	57,896	115,793	17%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 302,632	23,440	44,929	15%	-2%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 212,000	17,364	34,565	16%	-1%
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 8,500	1,242	1,402	16%	-1%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 90,000	9,862	17,151	19%	2%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 80,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Florida Department of Health	\$ 17,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	34,116	75,200	10%	-7%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 18,265	6,191	18,533	101%	84%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 43,075	2,185	5,222	12%	-5%
Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)	\$ 719,099	6,183	17,425	2%	-15%
Pinecastle MIRR-East Central Florida RPC	\$ -	1,115	1,547	0%	-17%
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$ 150,774	1,869	3,694	2%	-15%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ 100,000	15,002	29,669	30%	13%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)-CEDS	\$ 80,000	13,808	23,736	30%	13%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)-Visioning	\$ 160,000	4,255	11,693	7%	-10%
Community Foundation	\$ 25,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Black History Museum	\$ -	1,149	2,764	0%	-17%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 5,950	-	-	0%	-17%
Other Revenue	\$ 15,650	3,251	6,655	43%	26%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 3,476,414</b>	<b>\$ 198,928</b>	<b>\$ 409,979</b>		<b>12%</b>
<b>TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 74,701</b>	<b>\$ (14,237)</b>	<b>\$ (19,028)</b>		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 3,551,115</b>	<b>\$ 184,691</b>	<b>\$ 390,951</b>		<b>11%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,783,783	146,300	307,487	17%	0%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 1,341,025	7,179	13,433	1%	-16%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 211,280	20,596	40,323	19%	2%
General Fund Expense*	\$ 215,027	10,615	29,707	14%	-3%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 3,551,115</b>	<b>\$ 184,691</b>	<b>\$ 390,951</b>		<b>11%</b>
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>		<b>\$ 14,237</b>	<b>\$ 19,028</b>		

Northeast Florida Regional Council  
 Balance Sheet  
 November 2025

	<b>FY 24/25</b> <b>November 2024</b>	<b>FY 25/26</b> <b>November 2025</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	2,091,118	2,189,020
Accounts Receivable	631,347	753,232
Pension Deferred Outflows	425,550	498,205
Prepaid Insurance	-	21,754
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>3,148,015</b>	<b>3,462,211</b>
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>		
Office Furniture and Equipment	261,430	267,564
Less Accumulated Depreciation	159,553	188,745
<b>Total Property and Equipment, net</b>	<b>101,877</b>	<b>78,819</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,249,892</b>	<b>3,541,030</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	6,084	6,461
Accrued Salaries and Leave	124,311	132,420
Deferred Revenue	64,854	78,277
Pension Liability	1,355,550	1,417,225
Pension Deferred Inflows	49,234	124,127
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,600,033</b>	<b>1,758,510</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>Equity and Other Credits:</b>		
Retained Earnings	1,649,859	1,782,520
<b>Total Equity and Other Credits</b>	<b>1,649,859</b>	<b>1,782,520</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits</b>	<b>3,249,892</b>	<b>3,541,030</b>

## YTD Comparison

	24/25		25/26		24/25		25/26
	Net Income (Loss)		Net Income (Loss)		Cash Balance		Cash Balance
<b>AGENCYWIDE</b>							
October	\$ 7,921		\$ 4,791		\$ 2,105,273		\$ 2,109,485
November	\$ (10,020)		\$ 19,028		\$ 2,091,118		\$ 2,189,020
December	\$ 10,233				\$ 2,012,370		
January	\$ 19,381				\$ 2,407,132		
February	\$ 21,762				\$ 2,277,517		
March	\$ 38,434				\$ 2,198,028		
April	\$ 69,564				\$ 2,278,340		
May	\$ 87,552				\$ 2,146,440		
June	\$ 110,620				\$ 1,850,194		
July	\$ 134,457				\$ 2,059,197		
August	\$ 139,321				\$ 2,315,611		
September	\$ 167,526				\$ 2,169,810		



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## **M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** **NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

**FROM:** DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *DS*

**RE:** **NOVEMBER 2025 INVESTMENT REPORT**

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### Bank Account Interest

	<u>FY 24/25</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u>
November Interest	\$ 1,317	\$ 3,149
Year to Date Interest	\$ 2,722	\$ 6,493

### Florida Local Government Investment Trust

	<u>FY 24/25</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u>
Current Balance	\$ 19,445	\$20,495



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# Agenda

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

**FROM:** SUMMER JONES, TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATOR 

**RE:** CLAY COUNTY TD COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR  
RECOMMENDATION

The NEFRC is designated as the Designated Official Planning Agency (DOPA) for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for Clay County. Sec. 427.015, Florida Statutes states that each DOPA shall recommend to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (Commission) a single community transportation coordinator. P. 41-2.010, Florida Administrative Code states Community Transportation Coordinators (CTC) or Transportation Operators may be negotiated without competitive acquisition, upon the recommendation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency that it is in the best interest of the transportation disadvantaged. This includes circumstances such as emergencies, or insufficient competition availability.

On October 22, 2025, the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) notified the NEFRC and Clay County of its intent to continue serving as the CTC, a role it has held since 2019.

### **Recommendation**

**Staff respectfully request that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve JTA's continuation as the CTC for Clay County and authorize staff to forward this recommendation to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.**



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# Agenda

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## Item

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# Resolution

*Northeast Florida Regional Council*

**2026-01**

**Honoring**

## **The Honorable Krista Joseph**

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Krista Joseph, St. Johns County Commissioner, was appointed in January, 2025 by the St. Johns County Board of County Commission to serve as a representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Joseph served on the Executive Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Joseph participated and engaged with fellow Council Members and Council staff on issues impacting the Region; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Joseph, has served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, her efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida will be missed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Commissioner Joseph for her efforts and contributions during her tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for her service.

*Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on the eighth day of January 2026.*

---

**Andy Dance**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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**Elizabeth Payne**  
CEO

# Agenda

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# Resolution

*Northeast Florida Regional Council*

**2026-02**

**Honoring**

## **The Honorable Clay Murphy**

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Clay Murphy, St. Johns County Commissioner, was appointed in January, 2025 by the St. Johns County Board of County Commission to serve as a representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Murphy served on the Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Murphy participated and engaged with fellow Council Members and Council staff on issues impacting the Region; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Murphy, has served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, his efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida will be missed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Commissioner Murphy for his efforts and contributions during his tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for his service.

*Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on the eighth day of January 2026.*

---

**Andy Dance**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

---

**Elizabeth Payne**  
CEO

# Agenda

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**VIA:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

**FROM:** FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

**RE:** COMMUNITY RESILIENCE UPDATE

Staff will provide an update on community resilience efforts being facilitated across Northeast Florida, including the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, its Steering Committee, and its Subcommittees. This update will include the following:

- Announcement of newly awarded grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to assess infrastructure vulnerability and aquatic connectivity for resilience of the First Coast
- Progress on the Northeast Florida Military Installation Readiness Review, including completion of the vulnerability assessment
- Progress on the FY 2025-2026 Regional Resilience Entity Grant from the Florida Department of Protection's Resilient Florida Program, including Phase III of the Regional Resilience Action Plan
- Announcement of collecting potential adaptation solutions for priority areas of the "Multi-Regional Planning and Mitigation Assessment" project
- Announcement of project completion for Flagler County's "Compound Flooding Analysis and Adaptation Plan"
- Announcement of upcoming "Salt Marsh Community Conversations" workshops to be conducted by NEFRC as part of the ongoing project in partnership with the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- New images from Climate Central's recent FloodVision work for Baker County and Town of Baldwin vulnerability assessments



[WWW.NEFCR.ORG/SUBSCRIBE-TO-OUR-MAILING-LIST](http://WWW.NEFCR.ORG/SUBSCRIBE-TO-OUR-MAILING-LIST)



NORTHEAST FLORIDA  
REGIONAL COUNCIL



# Community Resiliency Update

NORTHEAST FLORIDA 2025-2026 DEVELOPMENTS

1

## Newly Awarded Grant



### Grant Information

- Grantor: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Grant Amount: \$400,000



### Key Local Project Partners

- Jacksonville University, University of North Florida

### Project Title

- Assessing infrastructure vulnerability and aquatic connectivity benefitting resilience of Florida's First Coast



2

## Military Installation Readiness Review



### Stakeholder Engagement

- Steering and Technical Advisory Committees began meeting and will meet again this month.

### Vulnerability Assessment

- Completed at end of December.

### Mutual Support Agreements

- Completed research on existing agreements between military installations and community entities; now identifying needs for new agreements.

3

## Regional Resilience Entity Project

### Funded by Resilient Florida Grant Program:

- Award Amount: \$194,000

### FY 2025-2026 Project Progress

- Regional Resilience Action Plan
  - Phase III: Metrics underway; Steering Committee meeting Jan. 14
  - Implementation Partner kick-off meeting Jan. 21
- Regionwide Vulnerability Assessment Analysis underway
- Adaptation Planning Guide underway

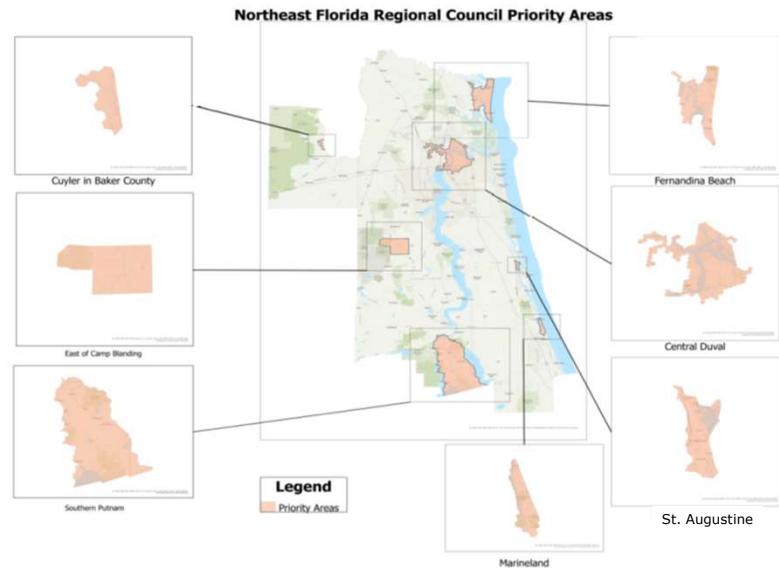


4

## Multi-Regional Project

### Multi-Regional Planning and Mitigation Assessment:

- NEFRC is collecting potential adaptation solutions for priority areas.



5

## Flagler County Resilience Work

### Adaptation Plan:

- NEFRC staff completed final Adaptation Plan and submitted all project deliverables.

### Future Work:

- NEFRC staff will continue to assist Flagler County with future work (additional studies, implementation grant applications, etc.)

#### FLAGLER COUNTY ADAPTATION PLAN



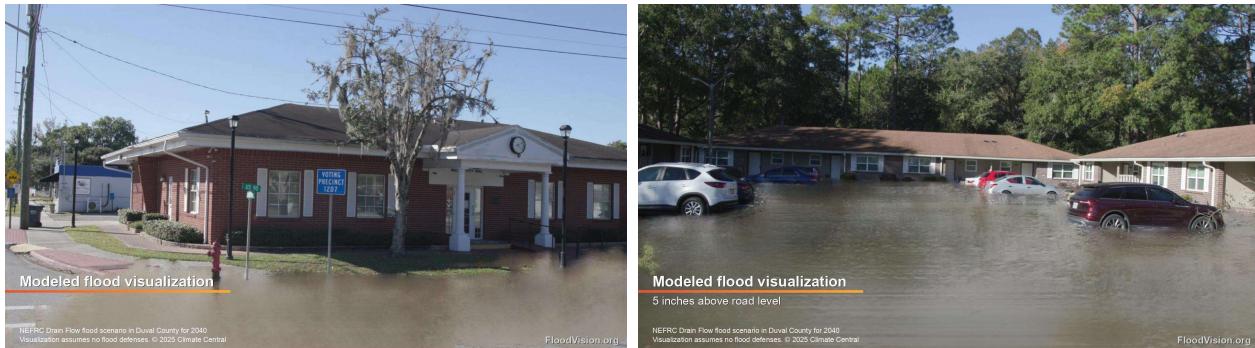
Prepared by  
Northeast Florida Regional Council

6

## Local Vulnerability Assessment Work

### FloodVision Imagery

- Climate Central used LiDAR and other technology to create realistic imagery of flooding in the Town of Baldwin and Baker County as part of their ongoing Vulnerability Assessments.



7

## South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative Project



NFWF

### Stakeholder Engagement

- “Salt Marsh Community Conversations” workshops to be conducted by NEFRC in target areas in February.
  - Educate communities about salt marsh
  - Empower participants to co-create localized project ideas

### Technical Analysis

- North Florida Land Trust to conduct technical analysis starting this month.

8



NORTHEAST FLORIDA  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Thank You!

Fara Ilami  
Regional Resiliency Manager  
[filami@nefrc.org](mailto:filami@nefrc.org)

# Agenda

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

**FROM:** TYLER E. NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR *TN*

**RE:** 2026 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The 2026 Regional Leadership Academy cohort has been selected. The cohort will participate in a Meet & Greet on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at the St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center. The Academy will officially begin on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Following the kickoff session, classes will be held on the final Wednesday of each month through August.

The tentative 2026 Academy schedule is provided below, and the 2026 class roster is included in the packet.

### **2026 Tentative RLA Meeting Schedule**

- January 28: Baker County
- February 25: Putnam County
- March 25: Nassau County
- April 29: Flagler County
- May 27: St. Johns County
- June 24: United States Navy
- July 29: Clay County
- August 26: Duval County



2026 RLA ROSTER				
Name	Title	Organization	County	Email
Tywan Arrington	Economic Development Manager	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	tarrington@visitflagler.com
Rene Atayan	Co-Chair Co-Founder	Neptune Beach Preservation, Inc.	Duval	rene@atayan.net
John Brower	Financial Services Director	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	jbrower@flaglercounty.gov
Karen Callahan	Communications Manager	Flagler bocc	Flagler	kcallahan@flaglercounty.gov
Brittany Costello	Graduate Student	JU MSRI	Duval	bcostel1@jacksonville.edu
Jacqueline Cox	Community Family Resource Center Director	Children's Home Society of Florida	Putnam	Jacqueline.Cox@chsfl.org
Amy Crane	Vice President	The Community Foundation	Regional	acrane@jaxcf.org
Candi Donaldson	Business Planning Program Administrator	Florida DEP	Regional	Candi.Donaldson@FloridaDEP.gov
Savannah Evans	Deputy Chief of Staff	SJC BOCC	St. Johns	sevans@sjcfl.us
Dr. Yvette Jones	H/r Hca Putnam.	Hca Florida hospitals	Putnam	yvetteajones@hotmail.com
Lawrence Luksha	Government Relations	CATALIS	Regional	lawrenceluksha@gmail.com
Josh Macbeth	Senior Planner	Nassau Bocc	Nassau	jmacbeth@nassaucountyfl.com
Mike McGothlin	City Manager	Palm Coast	Flagler	mmcgothlin@palmcoastgov.com
Gary Monahan	Regional Manager External Affairs & Economic Development	Teco Peoples Gas	Regional	gmonahan@tecoenergy.com
Alicia Pressel	Education and Outreach Coordinator	St. Johns River Water Management District	Regional	<a href="mailto:apressel@sjrwm.com">apressel@sjrwm.com</a>
Gene Price	Director of Facilities	Clay BoCC	Clay	Gene.price@claycountygov.com
Annie Sieger	Senior Regional Planner	NEFRC	Regional	<a href="mailto:asieger@nefrc.org">asieger@nefrc.org</a>
Roy Sieger	Airport Director	Flagler bocc	Flagler	rsieger@flaglercounty.gov
Karen Smith	Director of Purchasing	Clay County BOCC	Clay	Karen.Smith@claycountygov.com
Denis Sousa	CEO	The ARC of Putnam County	Putnam	dsousa@arcpputnam.org
Terry Suggs	County Administrator	Putnam BOCC	Putnam	Terry.suggs@putnam-fl.gov
Gloria Teague	Senior Professional Engineer	Geosyntec Consultants	Regional	gteague@geosyntec.com
Hon. John Wagner	City Councilmember	Jacksonville Beach	Duval	jwagner@jaxbchfl.net
Zoe Waldron	HR Manager	The Beck Group	Putnam	zoewaldron@checkbeck.com
Richard Zion	Assistant County Engineer	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	rzion@flaglercounty.gov
Ben McKissick-Hawley	Organization and Well-Being Coordinator	Blue Zones Project	Duval	benmckissick@bluezones.com



# 2026

# Regional Leadership

# Academy



**Tyler Nolen**  
**Special Projects Coordinator**



# 2026 RLA Cohort

Name	Title	Organization	County
Tywan Arrington	Economic Development Manager	Flagler Bocc	Flagler
Rene Atayan	Co-Chair Co-Founder	Neptune Beach Preservation, Inc.	Duval
John Brower	Financial Services Director	Flagler Bocc	Flagler
Karen Callahan	Communications Manager	Flagler Bocc	Flagler
Brittany Costello	Graduate Student	JU MSRI	Duval
Jacqueline Cox	Community Family Resource Center Director	Children's Home Society of Florida	Putnam
Amy Crane	Vice President	The Community Foundation	Regional
Candi Donaldson	Business Planning Program Administrator	Florida DEP	Regional
Savannah Evans	Deputy Chief of Staff	SJC BOCC	St. Johns
Dr. Yvette Jones	H/r Hca Putnam.	Hca Florida hospitals	Putnam
Lawrence Luksha	Government Relations	CATALIS	Regional
Josh Macbeth	Senior Planner	Nassau Bocc	Nassau
Mike McGothlin	City Manager	Palm Coast	Flagler
Gary Monahan	Regional Manager External Affairs & Economic Development	Teco Peoples Gas	Regional
Alicia Pressel	Education and Outreach Coordinator	St. Johns River Water Management District	Regional
Gene Price	Director of Facilities	Clay BoCC	Clay
Annie Sieger	Senior Regional Planner	NEFRC	Regional
Roy Sieger	Airport Director	Flagler bocc	Flagler
Karen Smith	Director of Purchasing	Clay County BOCC	Clay
Denis Sousa	CEO	The ARC of Putnam County	Putnam
Terry Suggs	County Administrator	Putnam BOCC	Putnam
Gloria Teague	Senior Professional Engineer	Geosyntec Consultants	Regional
Hon. John Wagner	City Councilmember	Jacksonville Beach	Duval
Zoe Waldron	HR Manager	The Beck Group	Putnam
Richard Zion	Assistant County Engineer	Flagler Bocc	Flagler
Ben McKissick-Hawley	Organization and Well-Being Coordinator	Blue Zones Project	Duval

# 2026 Tentative Schedule

<b>January 28:</b> Baker County	<b>May 27:</b> St. Johns County
<b>February 25:</b> Putnam County	<b>June 24:</b> United States Navy
<b>March 25:</b> Nassau County	<b>July 29:</b> Clay County
<b>April 29:</b> Flagler County	<b>August 26:</b> Duval County

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** DECEMBER 29, 2025

**To:** NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THRU:** ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

**FROM:** TYLER E. NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR *TN*

**RE:** 2025 REGIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE SELECTIONS

At the 22nd Regional Awards of Excellence and Elected Officials Luncheon, the Council will recognize outstanding projects for awards of excellence in their respective categories. Notably, the **2025 Regional Leadership Award** will be presented to **Reverend Allison DeFoor from the North Florida Land Trust**.

### Regional Awards of Excellence Winners

**Special Recognition:** Jessica Beach & Anne Coglianese, Co-chairs, Resilient First Coast Collaborative

**Cultural & Historic Preservation:** Community Planning Collaborative for the Durkeeville Revitalization Study

**Economic Development:** Putnam County Chamber of Commerce

**Environmental Stewardship:** Flagler County Acquisition and Management of Environmentally Sensitive Lands

**Healthcare Emergency Preparedness:** Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville Flood Mitigation Project

**Planning & Growth Management:** Nassau County Vision 2050

**Public Safety:** St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Tactical Training Facility

**Quality of Life:** Baker County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

**Resiliency:** City of Fernandina Beach Adaptation Plan

**Tourism:** Clay County Tourism Wheel the World





# 2025 Regional Awards of Excellence

**Tyler Nolen**  
**Special Projects Coordinator**



# 2025 Regional Awards of Excellence

Award Categories		
Culture, Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse	Economic Development	Environmental Stewardship
Healthcare Emergency Preparedness	Planning and Growth Management	Public Safety
Durkeeville Revitalization Study	Putnam County Chamber of Commerce &	Flagler County Purchasing Environmentally Sensitive Lands for Green Space
Baptist Jacksonville Flood Mitigation Project	Nassau County Vision 2050	St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Tactical Training Facility
Resiliency	Quality of Life	Tourism
City of Fernandina Beach Adaptation Plan	Baker County Community Organizations Active in Disaster	Clay County Wheel the World

A circular portrait of Dr. Allison Defoor, a man with short grey hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a white clerical shirt with a small red emblem on the lapel. The portrait is set against a warm, golden-brown background and is enclosed in a green circle with a thin black outline. The circle is decorated with three small green icons: a plus sign at the top left, a circle at the bottom right, and an open circle at the top right.

# 2025 Regional Leadership Award

***Dr. Allison Defoor***

*North Florida Land Trust*

# Agenda

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# County Assignments NEFRC Staff

# County Assignments – NEFRC Staff

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## Baker County

Annie Sieger



## Clay County

Leigh Wilsey



## COJ - TEU

Summer Jones



## COJ - Waterways

Fara Ilami & Apurva Jhamb



## County Assignments – NEFRC Staff

### Flagler County

Tyler Nolen &  
Robert Jordan



### Nassau County

Cassidy Taylor &  
Apurva Jhamb



### Putnam County

Tyler Nolen &  
Summer Jones



### St. Johns

Andrew Prokopiak

