

NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting
Virtual & In-Person



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 1, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **June 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** This will be a hybrid meeting, virtual and in-person, at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, Jessie Ball DuPont Center, 40 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202.



2024-2025 NEFRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Jim Renninger, President – Clay
James Bennett, 1st Vice President – Baker
Ken Amaro, 2nd Vice President – Duval
*Darryl Register, Secretary/Treasurer – Baker
Andy Dance – Flagler
John Martin – Nassau
Larry Harvey – Putnam
Krista Joseph – St. Johns
**FRCA Policy Board Members*

BAKER COUNTY

Hon. Jimmy Anderson
Hon. James Bennett
Michael Griffis
Darryl Register

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Manager, Macclenny
Gubernatorial Appointee

CLAY COUNTY

Hon. Betsy Condon
Hon. Jim Renninger
Steve Kennedy
Michael Bourre

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Manager, Green Cove Springs
Gubernatorial Appointee

DUVAL COUNTY

Hon. Ken Amaro
Hon. Mike Gay
Hon. Sean Lynch
Elaine Brown

City Councilmember, Jacksonville
City Councilmember, Jacksonville
Mayor, Town of Baldwin
Gubernatorial Appointee

FLAGLER COUNTY

Hon. Andy Dance
Hon. Leann Pennington
Hon. Charles Gambaro

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Councilmember, Palm Coast

NASSAU COUNTY

Hon. A.M. Huppmann
Hon. John Martin
Hon. Genece Minshe

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Commissioner, Fernandina Beach

PUTNAM COUNTY

Hon. Larry Harvey
Hon. Leota Wilkinson

County Commissioner
County Commissioner

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Hon. Krista Joseph
Hon. Clay Murphy
Hon. Virginia Morgan

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Commissioner, St. Augustine Beach

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Curtis Hart
Derek Dixon
Douglas Conkey
Gregory Strong /
Kathryn Craver (Alt.)

Gubernatorial Appointee, FL Commerce
FL Department of Transportation
St. Johns River Water Management District
FL Department of Environmental Protection





📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org



Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

Northeast Florida Regional Council

BOARD of DIRECTORS

A G E N D A

Zoom Link: <https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>

Zoom Dial In #: 1-786-635-1003 (or) 1-470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 874 9977 0491

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

10:00 a.m.

(ADDED OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN BOLD)

(*Denotes Action Required)

TAB

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – President Renninger
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – President Renninger
4. Invitation to Speak – President Renninger

Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to speak on any item brought before the Council and will also be recognized during public comments.

* 5. Consent Agenda

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. March 6, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes | 1 |
| B. March 2025 Financial Report | 2 |
| C. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report | 3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clay County Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR• Clay County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR• City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR• City of Crescent City Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR• St. Johns County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR• City of St. Augustine Beach Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR• Town of Beverly Beach Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR (<i>Info Only</i>) | |



6. Other Reports/Action Items

- A. Formation of Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee – Ms. Payne 4
- B. Resiliency Presentation Introductions – Ms. Ilami
- C. Presentation: South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative – Dr. Michelle Covi, Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, Coastal Resilience DOD Liaison; and Heather Nagy, Strategic Initiatives Manager, North Florida Land Trust 5
- D. Presentation: Resilient First Coast Collaborative – Jessica Beach, Chief Resilience Officer, City of St. Augustine; and Anne Coglianese, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Jacksonville.. 6
- E. Council 101: Regional Community Institute – Ms. Payne 7
- F. Regional Leadership Academy Update – Mr. Nolen 8
- G. Military Installation Readiness Review – Ms. Payne 9
- * H. Request to Amend Funding Amount to Purchase Disaster Stretchers for Hospitals – Ms. Wilsey..... 10**

7. Public Comment – LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER

8. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – President Renninger

9. Ex-Officio Members' Reports:

- Florida Department of Commerce
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Department of Transportation
- St. Johns River Water Management District

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

- Legislative Update

11. Upcoming Events:

- May 2, 2025 – Shrimping Industry Market Study Results Presentation, Duval County
- May 6, 2025 – Shrimping Industry Community Asset Inventory Meeting, Duval County
- May 8, 2025 – Coalition Medical Surge Exercise (MRSE), Clay County
- May 13, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, St. Johns County
- May 14, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Flagler County
- May 14, 2025 – Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting, Duval County



40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904)-279-0880
www.nefrc.org
info@nefrc.org



Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

Upcoming Events (*Continued*):

- May 15, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Baker County
- May 15, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Nassau County
- May 19, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Putnam County
- May 19, 2025 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Clay County
- May 21, 2025 – Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition Board Meeting
- **May 26, 2025 – MEMORIAL DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- May 28, 2025 – North Central Healthcare Coalition Board Meeting
- May 29, 2025 – St. Johns County Hurricane Exercise, St. Johns County

12. Next Board & PBF Committee Meetings: **Thursday, June 5, 2025**

13. Adjournment



Agenda

Item

Tab 1

Tab 1

Tab 1

Tab 1

Tab 1



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2025

MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors held a meeting at 40 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, March 6, 2025; Vice President Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

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

BAKER: Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Bennett
Mr. Griffis
Mr. Register

DUVAL: Councilmember Amaro
Councilmember Gay
Mayor Lynch
Ms. Brown

CLAY: Mr. Kennedy
Mr. Bourre

FLAGLER: Commissioner Dance
Commissioner Pennington (virtual)
Councilmember Gambaro

NASSAU: Commissioner Huppmann
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Minshew

ST. JOHNS: Commissioner Joseph
Commissioner Morgan

EX-OFFICIO: Mr. Conkey, St Johns River Water Management District

Excused: Ms. Craver (*DEP*), Mr. Dixon (*DOT*), Mr. Hart, Commissioner Condon,
Commissioner Renninger, Commissioner Harvey, Commissioner Murphy,
and Commissioner Wilkinson

Presenter: Ms. Elizabeth Backe, Nassau County Planning Director
Mr. Howard Holley, Foundation for the Museum of Black History

Guests: Will Hinton (FFWC), Holly Coyle (Nassau County), Brandy Carvalho (Nassau County), Kathy Posey (Rep. Ky Michaels Ofc.), Beth Carson (Clay County), Kellie Henry (Clay County), Amanda Thorpe (virtual-Gov. DeSantis' Ofc.), Darren (virtual attendee) and other members of the public

Staff: Monica Dominguez, Andrew Prokopiak, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Donna Starling, Apurva Jhamb, and others

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

1st Vice President Bennett welcomed new Board Member: Leann Pennington, Flagler County Commissioner.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

1st Vice 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.

*CONSENT AGENDA

1st Vice President Bennett called for a motion on the consent agenda. Mr. Register motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilmember Amaro. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

*Transportation Disadvantaged Overview / Membership Rosters

Ms. Jones provided a presentation detailing the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) program; Key Definitions & Governing Statutes of Program, who TD serves, organizational structure, the overseers of TD services in the State, the Council's designation as the Designated Official Planning Agency (DOPA) and role with the Local Coordinating Boards (LCB), the Community Transportation Coordinators (service providers) across our region and the Chairs of each LCB. She informed the Members that, as the DOPA, the Council approves the LCB membership annually and presented the Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, and St. Johns County rosters for approval. The Baker County and Putnam LCB rosters will be provided at the Executive Committee for approval. A brief discussion followed.

1st Vice President Bennett called for a motion. Ms. Brown moved approval of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Membership for Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties and authorize staff to submit the membership rosters to Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

Council 101: Structure

Ms. Payne provided an overview of the Council's structure. This included the forming of the Council in 1977 by Interlocal Agreement and Florida Statute references. She shared how the Members are appointed to the Board, rotation of leadership, and committee assignments.

Presentation: Nassau Vision Update

Ms. Backe, Planning Director, Nassau County, provided an overview of the Nassau County 2050 Vision program; a five-phase process that began in the fall of 2023. Phase one involved setting the foundation by analyzing existing conditions; Phase two involved building the vision by engaging the public to identify community values; phase three involved creating your framework by establishing the growth and opportunities framework; phase four dealt with drafting the plan by preparing and reviewing draft plan; and phase five was the initiation of implementation through adoption of the final plan. Discussion followed.

Program Spotlight: St. Augustine Vision

Ms. Dominguez presented an update on the St. Augustine Vision Plan; and update to their 2014 Beyond Vision Plan. This was a six-month process. She highlighted the methodology, which included several neighborhood meetings throughout the City and surveys. Also discussed were the plan's four themes: Livability, Vitality, Resiliency and Authentic Character. The revised plan will go to the City commission for adoption on March 24th.

Black History Museum in St. Johns County

Mr. Holly, Foundation for the Museum of Black History, provided background information on how the Florida Black History Museum was established, site selection criteria and final selection of St. Augustine by the Governor and Legislature, and recent activities that included the NEFRC's request for support in its 2025 Legislative Priorities. He shared next steps that included development of concept design, engaging corporate and private donors, and building subscriber base for outreach and grassroots participation. Discussion followed.

Community Resiliency Update

Mr. Prokopiak provided an update on current resiliency activities such as, phase two of the Regional Resiliency Action Plan; working on the kickoff meeting for the Military Installation Readiness Review; the Regional Resilience Entity project in which vulnerability assessments reports are being collected and shared on the Resiliency First Coast website; collaborating with state and federal agencies, and Baker County on roadway segments that are most at risk; and the Flagler County Compound Flooding and Adaptation Plan.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Update

Mr. Nolen provided a brief overview of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for hazardous materials; why it was created, how it is funded, and membership. The LEPC have provided our Region's first responders access to multiple training opportunities, i.e., the Florida HazMat Symposium, a Pilot Maritime HazMat course under development, and CSX's Incident Responder Train hands-on exercise with several more scheduled for the remainder of the fiscal year. Additionally, following insights gained from an after-action report of a recent training exercise with CSX, the LEPC has received provisional approval to purchase leak control kits for the Region, further enhancing response capabilities.

Public Comment – None.

Local and Regional Issues Discussion - None.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORT

Florida Commerce – Mr. Register shared information from an article in Site Selection Magazine that it ranked States by number of economic development projects announced in 2024 in the South Atlantic region; Florida was number three behind Georgia and North Carolina.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey reminded the Members that with the changing of the clock on Sunday, ahead one hour, lawn watering will be twice per week. He also encouraged local governments to get their Water Supply Plan done if they have not already done so, to avoid any potential penalties.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission: Mr. Will Hinton, Land Use Planning Program Biologist IV, Office of Conservation Planning Services, stated he is in the subsection for land use planning and oversees any type of development that takes place within the 17 counties that he oversees, whether it be from a Water Management District permit, the Army Corps of Engineers, or Department of Environmental Protection, anything that could potentially impact our wildlife, habitat resources or potential occurrence; reach out to him if assistance needed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Payne introduced new staff member, Ms. Apurva Jhamb, Senior Regional Resiliency Planner.

Members were asked to provide their three top issues on the index card provided. This helps staff provide information and speakers, when possible, that address some of the issues faced in member communities.

The Regional Leadership Academy has visited Baker and Putnam Counties and will be in Flagler County this month. Members of the Board are welcome to join when they visit your county.

HB 1125 and SB 1264 have been introduced and call for removing Regional Councils from State Statute. The Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) is working with their Legislative Consultant to have the 'removal of Regional Councils' stripped from the Bill. Members are encouraged to contact their local legislative representatives and request that the verbiage be removed as well. Ms. Payne provided members with the Committees that the bills have been assigned to, their chairs and local members. Ms. Payne assured the Members that even if the Bills are passed, it does not eliminate Regional Councils, as we are formed by an Interlocal agreement with each of our seven counties. Staff will be monitoring the legislation and will provide updates as needed. Discussion followed.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:51 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: May 1, 2025

Jim Renninger
President

Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer

Agenda Item

Tab 2

Tab 2

Tab 2

Tab 2

Tab 2



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org


BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{DS}
DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: MARCH 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$16,671 for the month of March and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$38,434.



Regional Council - Agencywide		Adopted Budget 24/25	March 2025	YTD	Represents 50% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
Revenues						
County Dues	\$	694,757	57,896	347,378	50%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$	416,296	12,559	109,978	26%	-24%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$	182,895	20,853	127,840	70%	20%
Hazardous Analysis	\$	14,077	4,495	5,904	42%	-8%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$	80,000	5,269	47,895	60%	10%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$	79,000	2,198	43,918	56%	6%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$	5,000	-	-	0%	-50%
Florida Department of Health	\$	5,000	2,226	5,667	113%	63%
Healthcare Coalition	\$	748,712	46,010	242,903	32%	-18%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$	120,000	12,206	55,874	47%	-3%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$	159,852	8,779	50,780	32%	-18%
Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)	\$	700,000	9,715	29,374	4%	-46%
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$	55,566	4,069	11,176	20%	-30%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$	150,000	34,057	43,747	29%	-21%
Florida Commerce	\$	-	7,485	30,901	0%	-50%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$	70,000	6,363	27,951	40%	-10%
Disaster Recovery Coordinator	\$	82,513	8,884	44,647	54%	4%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$	4,900	670	1,933	39%	-11%
Other Revenue	\$	15,950	1,965	9,468	59%	9%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	3,584,518	\$ 245,698	\$ 1,237,334	35%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$	-	\$ (16,671)	\$ (38,434)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$	3,584,518	\$ 229,027	\$ 1,198,900	33%	
Expenses						
Salaries and Fringe	\$	1,848,213	186,680	862,445	47%	-3%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$	1,264,351	17,687	138,337	11%	-39%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$	234,425	13,483	99,692	43%	-7%
General Fund Expense*	\$	237,529	11,177	98,426	41%	-9%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	3,584,518	\$ 229,027	\$ 1,198,900	33%	
Net Income (loss)	\$	-	16,671	\$ 38,434		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
Balance Sheet
March 2025

	FY 23/24 March 2024	FY 24/25 March 2025
ASSETS		
Cash	2,021,882	2,198,028
Accounts Receivable	679,062	626,915
Pension Deferred Outflows	425,550	498,205
WJCT Security Deposit	7,400	-
Total Current Assets	3,133,894	3,323,148
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	306,421	261,430
Less Accumulated Depreciation	204,260	169,153
Total Property and Equipment, net	102,161	92,278
Total Assets	3,236,056	3,415,426
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	5,582	34,294
Accrued Salaries and Leave	64,520	120,172
Deferred Revenue	96,963	85,208
Pension Liability	1,355,550	1,417,225
Pension Deferred Inflows	49,234	124,127
Total Liabilities	1,571,849	1,781,026
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	1,664,207	1,634,400
Total Equity and Other Credits	1,664,207	1,634,400
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	3,236,056	3,415,426

YTD Comparison

	23/24	24/25	23/24	24/25
	Net Income (Loss)	Net Income (Loss)	Cash Balance	Cash Balance

AGENCYWIDE

October	\$ 9,014	\$ 7,921	\$ 2,430,628	\$ 2,105,273
November	\$ 28,148	\$ (10,020)	\$ 2,442,307	\$ 2,091,118
December	\$ 46,934	\$ 10,233	\$ 2,254,171	\$ 2,012,370
January	\$ 54,754	\$ 19,381	\$ 2,330,658	\$ 2,407,132
February	\$ 70,318	\$ 21,762	\$ 2,188,836	\$ 2,277,517
March	\$ 86,943	\$ 38,434	\$ 2,021,882	\$ 2,198,028
April	\$ 79,901		\$ 2,077,251	
May	\$ 91,660		\$ 2,136,499	
June	\$ 105,330		\$ 1,780,669	
July	\$ 117,153		\$ 1,940,218	
August	\$ 120,255		\$ 1,876,280	
September	\$ 82,616		\$ 2,013,847	



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org


BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{D.S.} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: MARCH 2025 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest

	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
March Interest	\$ 1,294	\$ 1,433
Year to Date Interest	\$ 8,044	\$ 8,305

Florida Local Government Investment Trust

	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
Current Balance	\$18,748	\$19,790



Agenda Item

Tab 3

Tab 3

Tab 3

Tab 3

Tab 3



40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904)-279-0880
www.nefrc.org
info@nefrc.org


BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

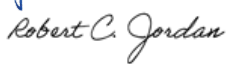
Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 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 the 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.

The Town of Beverly Beach Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR is provided for information only since the NEFRC provided technical assistance. The Board's approval is required only for the first six amendments.

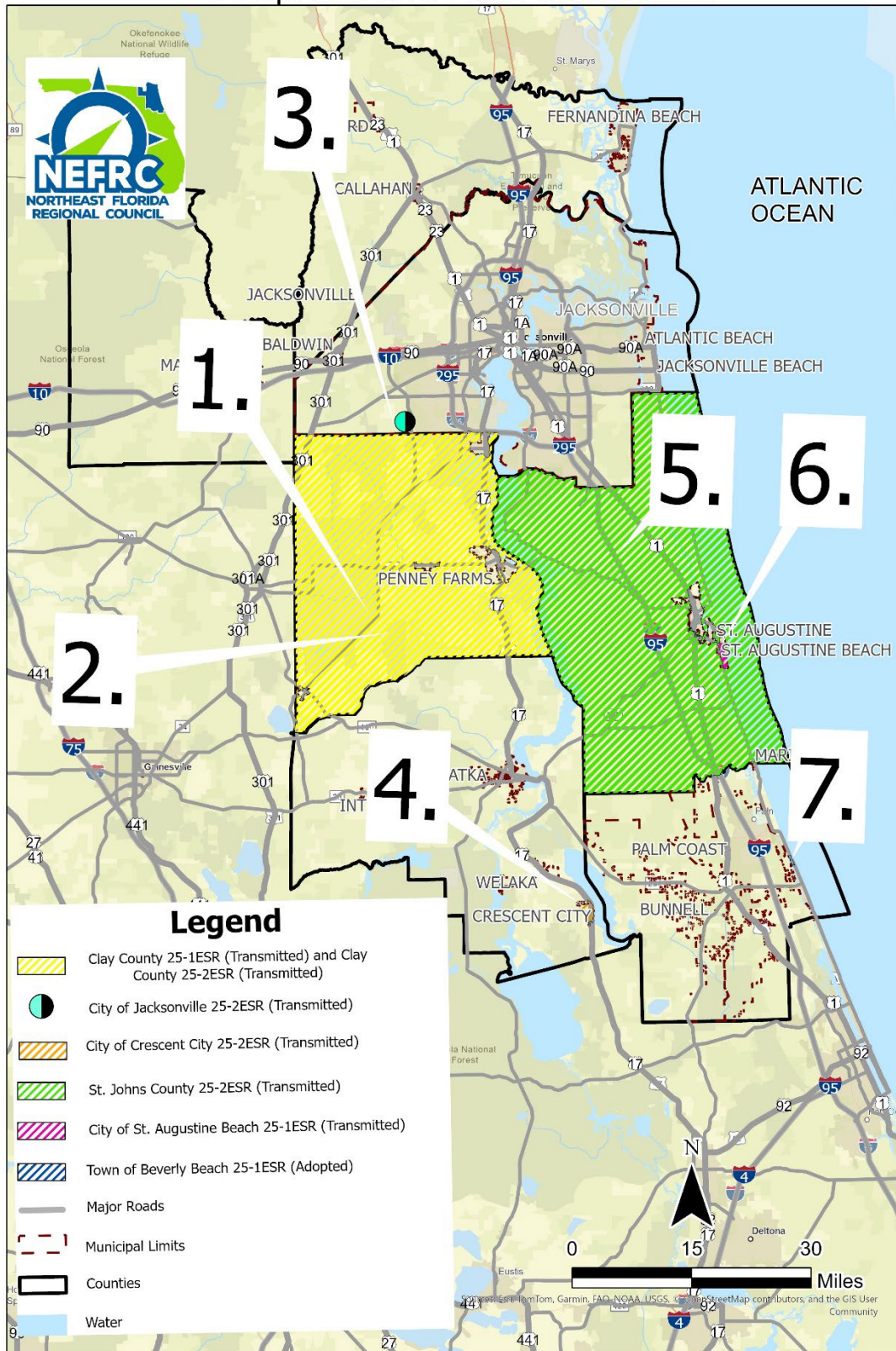
Recommendation

Staff respectfully recommends the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the staff review report for the Clay County Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR, the Clay County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR, the City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR, the City of Crescent City Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR, the St. Johns County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR, and the City of St. Augustine Beach Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR.



REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

May 2025 Board of Directors Review- Comprehensive Plan Amendments



Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Clay 25-1ESR	1	X		Clay	5-2-2025	COMP 25-0008

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** The proposed amendment to the Capital Improvements Element (CFE) Policy 1.1.1. will update the Clay County level of service standards for solid waste, potable water, and drainage facilities. The proposed amendment to CFE Policy 1.1.13. will reference the updated 2025-2035 Clay County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.
- **Background:** The application is a Staff initiated amendment to the Comprehensive Plan prompted by the acceptance of the updated North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan by the St. Johns River Water Management District Board of Directors on December 12, 2023. Chapter 163, Part II Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires local governments to prepare and adopt Work Plans into their Comprehensive Plans within 18 months after the St. Johns River Water Management District approves a regional water supply plan or its update. The North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan is a joint effort between the Department of Environmental Protection, the St. Johns River Water Management District, and the Suwannee River Water Management District. The water supply plan provides potential sources of freshwater and population projections while tracking water quality and usage. The proposed amendment will revise CFE Policy 1.1.1., level of service standards and CFE Policy 1.1.13., references to the updated 2025-2035 Clay County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.
- **Impacts:** There were no impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government identified by Staff.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Clay County 25-2ESR	2	X		Clay	5-2-2025	COMP 25-0007

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This application is a staff-initiated amendment to the Comprehensive Plan prompted by citizen requests to allow for the transfer of land to family members within the Master Plan areas.
- **Background:** The ‘heirs exemption’ as generally described in Future Land Use (FLU) Policy 1.9.6. and more specifically in Sec. 3-10(g) of the Land Development Code, allows for the transfer of property, as designated as Agriculture, Agricultural/Residential, Rural Residential, Rural Fringe, Urban Fringe, and Urban Core land use, to a qualifying heir. When the Branan Field and Lake Asbury Master Plans were developed, the heirs exemption policies in the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code were not amended to include the new land use classifications. In response to citizen requests to allow the opportunity for heirs exemptions within the master plan areas, this application proposes to amend (FLU) Policy 1.9.6. to leave the general intent portion of the policy and remove land use classification specific language that is currently, and more appropriately, located in the land development code. An amendment to the Land Development Code policy will follow the Comprehensive Plan amendment process to add specific requirements for the Branan Field and Lake Asbury land use classifications. The proposed amendment will remove land use classification specific language from FLU Policy 1.9.6 while preserving the intent to allow for the transfer of land to family members via the heirs exemption process.
- **Impacts:** There were no impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government identified by Staff.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Jacksonville 25-2ESR	3	X		Duval	5-2-2025	Ordinance 2025-005

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment changes the Future Land Use designation for 79.33 acres from Rural Residential (RR) to Low-Density Residential (LDR).
- **Background:** The approximately 79.33-acre subject site is located in the Suburban Development Area, the Southwest Planning District (District 4), and Council District 12. The site is located north of Branan Field Road, a local roadway, between Dawsons Creek Drive and Rippa Valley Way, which are both local roads. The site is approximately 0.75 miles northwest of Oakleaf Plantation Parkway, a minor arterial road, and is west of Cecil Commerce Center Parkway, an FDOT Expressway.

The site abuts Low Density Residential (LDR) to the east, and if approved, this amendment would extend the LDR land use westward. The site abuts Rural Residential (RR) and Mixed Use (MU) to the west, and MU to the north. The area south of the site across Branan Field Road is in the Recreation and Open Space (ROS) land use category. This ROS-designated area is part of the Hunting Preserve in the Argyle Forest DRI and a portion of a future City Park. The DRI is over 8000 acres and includes a mix of uses extending to Blanding Boulevard. The MU designation that surrounds the site on the west and north is part of the Cecil Field and Commerce Center that was established pursuant to Ordinance 2002-669-E. The amendment site abuts but is not part of the Argyle Forest Development of Regional Impact (DRI) south of the site, across Branan Field Road. The site is close to Cecil Airport. Approximately 40 acres are in a 50-foot height restriction zone, and the rest of the site and approximately 40 acres are in the 150-foot height restriction zone. At its closest, the site is also 250 feet from a runway protection zone. While the site is in close proximity to the airport, only approximately 2.15 acres on the south side of the site is in a Civilian Notice Zone.

The site is within the Rural Residential (RR) land use category and the applicant requests a land use change from RR to Low Density Residential (LDR). The RR category allows 2 units/acre when both centralized potable water and wastewater are available to the site, as provided in the application. The LDR land use category allows 7 units/acre with full urban services. This is the transmittal round of the large-scale land use amendment. The proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) rezoning will be filed for legislation at the adoption round of the land use amendment. Please see Exhibits 1 and 2 in the Appendix for additional information.

- **Impacts:** The subject site is northwest of the intersection between Oakleaf Plantation Parkway, a minor arterial that crosses into Clay County, and Cecil Commerce Center Parkway (State Road 23), an FDOT expressway. Both of these roadways are Transportation Resources of Regional Significance. A daily trip generation comparison between the current and proposed comprehensive plan land uses and the potential transportation impacts on the roadway network was conducted during the transmittal phase. The current RR land use would result in 1,490 trips. If the land use is amended to allow for the proposed LDR development, this will result in 3,734 trips. The difference in daily trips for the proposed land use amendment has 2,244 net new daily trips when compared to the existing land use. The City's Transportation

Planning Division recommends ongoing coordinating efforts with the City of Jacksonville's Traffic Engineer to determine if a traffic operational analysis is needed.

Approximately 40 acres of the north portion of the site are in the 50-foot height restriction zone for Cecil Airport, a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. Also, approximately 40 acres on the south portion of the site are in the 150-foot height restriction zone. Zoning will limit development to a maximum height of 50 feet or 150 feet, depending on the location of development, unless approved by the Jacksonville Aviation Authority or the Federal Aviation Administration. Uses located within the Height and Hazard Zone must not create or increase the potential for such hazards as electronic interference, light glare, bird strike hazards, or other potential hazards to the safe navigation of aircraft.

- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering that this amendment is close to Clay County, the NEFRC recommends coordination with the Clay County Planning and Zoning Division.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Crescent City 25-2ESR	4	X		Putnam	5-2-2025	Ordinance 2025-06

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This is an administrative proposal for an amendment to the City of Crescent City's 2035 Comprehensive Plan to update the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan and Policy D.2.3.2. contained within the Public Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.
- **Background:** Florida Statutes Chapter 163.3177 requires local governments to prepare an update to their Water Supply Facilities Work Plan within 18 months after the applicable water management district approves or updates its Regional Water Supply Plan. The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) Governing Board approved the 2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan (NFRWSP) on December 12, 2023. To promote consistency among local government comprehensive plans and the NFRWSP, each local government within the NFRWSP planning area is required to amend its comprehensive plan to adopt an updated Water Supply Facilities Work Plan no later than June 12, 2025.

The proposed comprehensive plan amendment to the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan contained within the Public Facilities Element meets the requirements of Chapter 163.3177 and extends the plan from 2038 to 2045 for long-range planning purposes. Policy D.2.3.2 of the Comprehensive Plan has been updated to reflect a date change consistent with the updated Water Supply Facilities Work Plan. Coordination for statistical data was made with SJRWMD and the City's Public Works Department.
- **Impacts:** There were no impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government identified by Staff.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
St. Johns County 25-2ESR	5	X		St. Johns County	5-2-2025	COMP 2024-06

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan changes text in the Infrastructure Element (in Policies D.4.1.17 and D.4.6.2) to address requirements of the 2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan.
- **Background:** This is the transmittal for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to amend Goals, Objectives and Policies of the St. Johns County 2025 Comprehensive Plan to comply with Chapter 163, Florida Statutes. Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, requires local governments (St. Johns County) to amend their Comprehensive Plans to adopt a Water Supply Facilities Work Plan to provide consistency with the State's Regional Water Supply Plans that were prepared by each Water Management District. On December 12, 2023, the governing boards of the St. Johns River and Suwanee River Water Management Districts approved the North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan 2020-2045 (NFRWSP), which covers several counties, including St. Johns County. Since the approval of the 2023 NFRWSP, St. Johns County staff have been preparing the revised St. Johns County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan 2025-2035 (Work Plan), included as Attachment 4, and the accompanying Comprehensive Plan amendments. Staff intends to amend two Policies within the Infrastructure Element – Potable Water Sub-Element to meet the requirements of the 2023 NFRWSP. Amended Policy D.4.1.17 updates the Work Plan reference to the 2025-2035 St. Johns County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan. Amended Policy D.4.6.2 revises references from “Integrated Water Resources Plans” to “water supply plans” that shall be updated once every five years at a minimum.
- **Impacts:** There were no impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government identified by Staff.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of St. Augustine Beach 25-1ESR	6	X		St. Johns	5-2-2025	Ordinance 25-06

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment amends the City's Comprehensive Plan Policy to address compliance with the updated North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan (NFRWSP) approved in December 2023.
- **Background:** The City staff proposed the following amendments to reflect changes to the updated NFRWSP.
 1. Policy U.1.5.5. has been updated to include the new planning horizon for the City's Water Supply Facility Work Plan.
 2. Policy U.2.1. clarifying that the City shall ensure that adequate water supply and potable water facilities shall be in place and available to serve new development no later than **the issuance of** a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.
 3. Appendix A of the Infrastructure Element: City Water Supply Facilities Work Plan is updated to reflect changes to the timeframe of the planning period, updates reflecting the City's Consumptive Use Permit updates, and population and water demand projections based on updates from the NFRWSP.
- **Impacts:** There were no impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government identified by Staff.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Town of Beverly Beach 25-1ESR [Info Only]	7		X	Flagler	5-2-2025	Ordinance 2025-01

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This adopted text amendment to the Town of Beverly Beach’s Comprehensive Plan updates the text of the Town Water Supply Facility Work Plan, an associated policy in the Public Facilities Element, and an associated policy in the Intergovernmental Coordination Element.
- **Background:** In December of 2023, the St. Johns River Water Management District in partnership with the Suwannee River Water Management District updated the North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan, and all communities within the Region must adopt updates to their respective Water Supply Facility Work Plan within eighteen-months of the adoption of the updated Regional Water Supply Plan. The Town of Beverly Beach reached out to the NEFRC to assist the Town with an update of their Water Supply Facility Work Plan to reflect the updated Regional Water Supply Plan. The amendment was transmitted at the February 3, 2025, Town Commission meeting and adopted on April 7, 2025.

Appendix

Exhibit 1: City of Jacksonville 25-2ESR (Location Map)

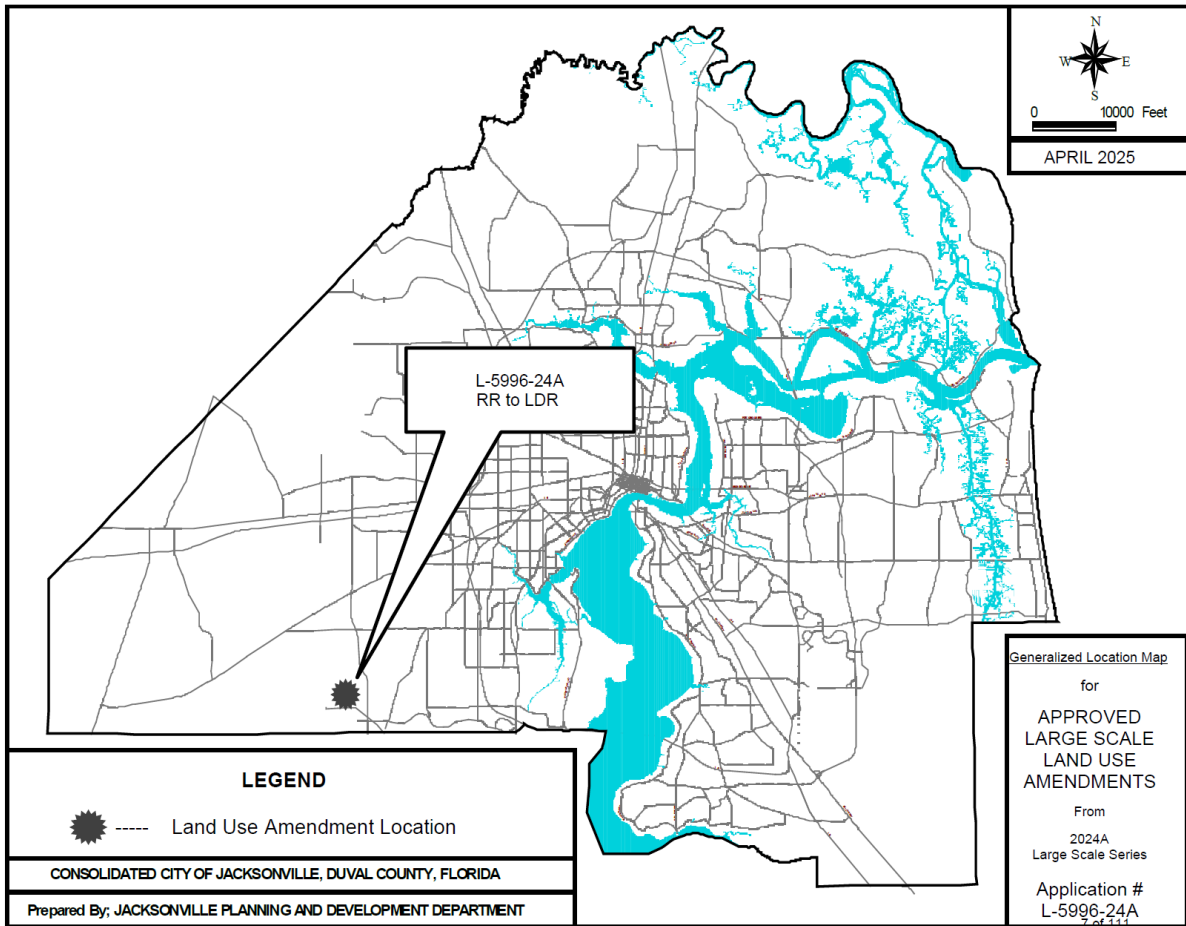
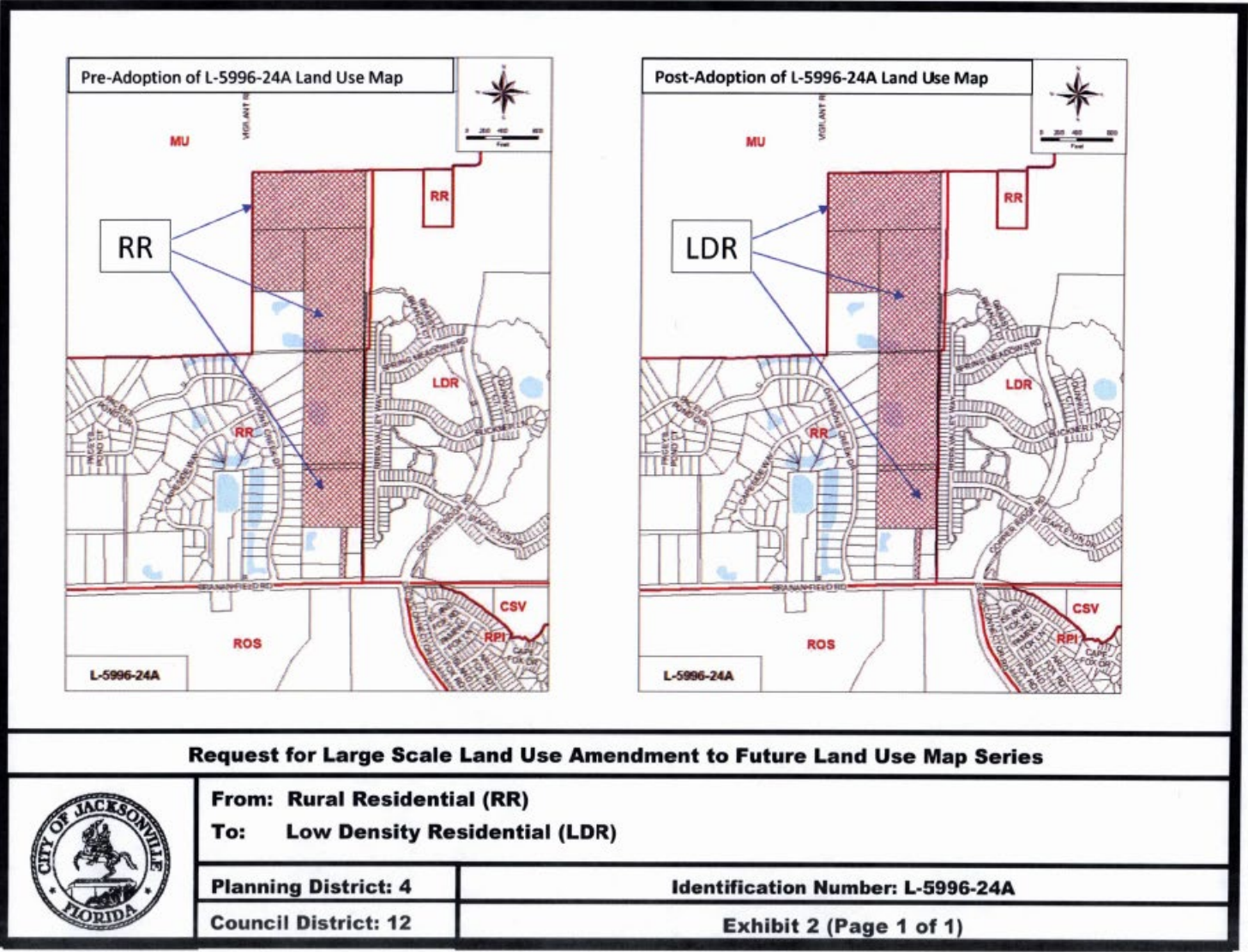


Exhibit 2: City of Jacksonville 25-2ESR (Existing and Proposed Future Land Use Map)



Agenda Item

Tab 4

Tab 4

Tab 4

Tab 4

Tab 4



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: FORMATION OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AD HOC COMMITTEE

Based on federal, state, and local government challenges being faced, it is important for the NEFRC to periodically review its position and role in the Region. An ad hoc committee could review ongoing programs and consider how the Council could best serve the Region going forward. At the upcoming meeting, staff will lead a discussion on the formation of the committee, its membership, topics to address, and timeline.



Agenda Item

Tab 5

Tab 5

Tab 5

Tab 5

Tab 5



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org





Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: SOUTH ATLANTIC SALT MARSH INITIATIVE PRESENTATION

Dr. Michelle Covi, incoming Chair of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative (SASMI) and Ms. Heather Nagy, the Strategic Initiatives Manager of the North Florida Land Trust, will present information about the purpose and work of SASMI. The presentation will include an overview of SASMI and the importance of salt marsh, examples of how SASMI has provided support for the Department of Defense, and a description of how partners within SASMI, including the NEFRC, are collaborating on a multi-state grant funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to build capacity for conserving salt marsh and protecting vulnerable communities.





South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

Michelle Covi , Coastal Resilience DOD Liaison, Georgia Sea Grant
SASMI Incoming Chair of Regional Partnership Council

Heather Nagy, Strategic Initiatives Manager, North Florida Land Trust
Florida State Implementation Team Leader

May 1, 2025



0

SALT MARSH VALUES

- 75% of commercial and recreational fish species depend on salt marshes
- Salt marshes can reduce property damage up to 20% in adjacent communities by decreasing wave energy during storms
- One acre of salt marsh can absorb 1.5 million gallons of floodwater
- Salt marshes provide important habitat for birds, including imperiled species
- Salt marshes purify the water, filtering pollutants and protecting marine life





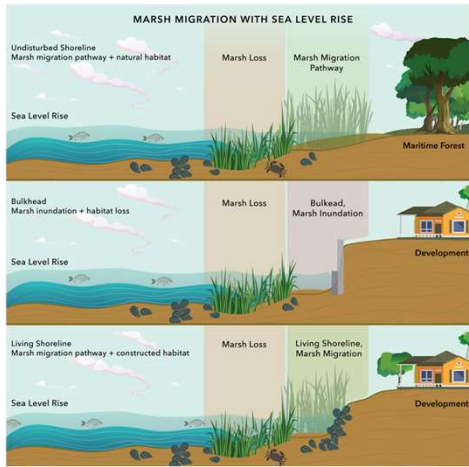
Photo: Georgia Sea Grant



MARSH Forward! | 1

1

Salt Marsh Threats



- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) estimates that the U.S. loses approximately 80,000 acres of coastal wetland and salt marshes annually.
- Tropicalization – mangrove migration
- Polluted runoff
- Development and hardened shorelines
- Rising sea levels: marsh migration



2

What is SASMI?



- Collaborative effort between the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and The Pew Charitable Trusts, started in 2021
- Regional – North Carolina through east-central Florida
- Partners from local, state, and federal agencies; NGOs; academics; military; community leaders; cultural groups
- Voluntary, non-regulatory partnership



MARSH Forward! | 3

3

SASMI and the Military



- Salt Marshes in NE Florida support four installations including NS Mayport the third largest Fleet concentration area in the US.
- Protect infrastructure
- Provide a buffer that promotes compatible land uses, such as recreation
- Nature-based solutions that include marsh restoration, such as living shorelines, have multiple benefits, and are cost effective, and resilient

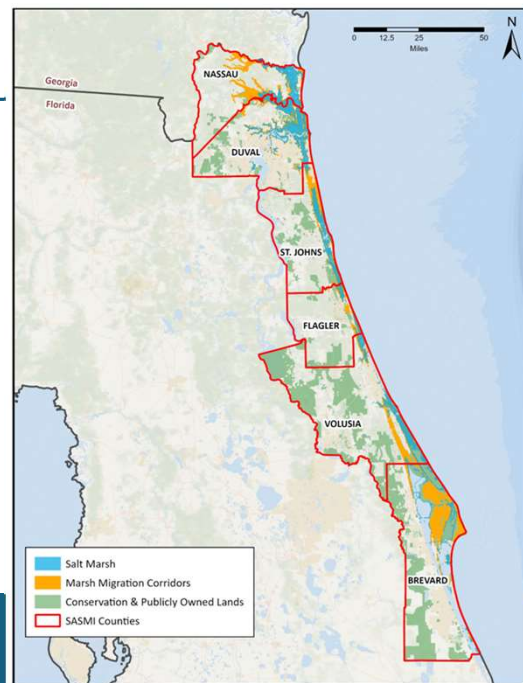


MARSH Forward! | 4

4

SASMI in Florida

- Florida State Implementation Team
- Florida Project “Roadmap”
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) Grant: **Community Capacity Building and Planning in Vulnerable Communities of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative**



5

Community Capacity Building and Planning in Vulnerable Communities of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

NFWF NCRF Project Pipeline

Community Capacity
Building and Planning

Site Assessment and
Preliminary Design

Final Design and
Permitting

Restoration-
Implementation

Purpose: to create a set of 20-25 salt marsh resilience projects (5-6 in Florida) across 4 states that highlight the connections between sites, set clear resilience goals for each location, and work with the county and state to ensure culturally appropriate adaptation solutions are reflected in plans and policies



6

Community Capacity Building and Planning in Vulnerable Communities of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative



Living shoreline at Fort Mose Historic State Park, St. Augustine

Potential Nature-Based Solutions

- Salt marsh migration corridor conservation
- Salt marsh restoration (e.g., planting, improved hydrology – culvert removal)
- Living shorelines
- Beneficial reuse of sediment
- Active management of transition zones
- Restoration of broader estuarine mosaics (e.g., oyster reefs, seagrasses)

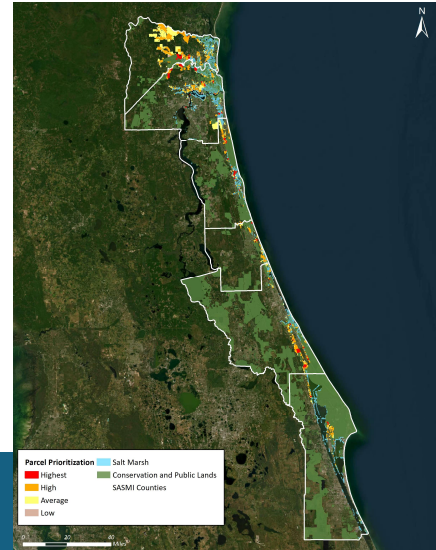


7

Community Capacity Building and Planning in Vulnerable Communities of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

NFWF NCRF Project Activities

- *Convene the salt marsh regional community of practice*
- *Design outreach strategies with local communities*
- *Conduct outreach activities*
- *Expand upon prior prioritization work*
- *Work with the FSIT and subject matter experts to research and evaluate potential nature-based solution opportunities*



8



Marsh Forward!

marshforward.org

9

Agenda Item

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org





Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: RESILIENT FIRST COAST COLLABORATIVE PRESENTATION

The Chief Resilience Officers of the City of St. Augustine (Jessica Beach) and the City of Jacksonville (Anne Coglianese) will present information about their work as Co-Chairs of the Resilient First Coast Collaborative. This will include an overview of the progress on the Regional Resilience Action Plan and other projects to which the Collaborative has contributed.





RESILIENT First Coast

Regional Resilience Collaborative Co-Chairs

Jessica Beach – City of Saint Augustine, Chief Resilience Officer

Anne Coglianese – City of Jacksonville, Chief Resilience Officer

May 1st, 2025

1

What is Resilient First Coast?

Resilient First Coast (RFC) is the regional resilience collaborative for Northeast Florida, which includes Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns counties. It is comprised of local governments, businesses, non-profit organizations, academia, and federal/ state agencies. A network of resilience collaboratives exists in Florida and throughout the nation.

Why is a Regional Resilience Collaborative Needed?

The collaborative provides a method to increase capacity and share resource among participants to:



Improve Outcomes



Share Best Practices



Maximize the Value
of Ongoing Work



Provide a Cohesive &
Unified Voice



Assemble Regional
Grant Applications

2

Regional Resilience

A regional approach is needed to maximize the resilience of our regionally significant assets, our regionally common assets, and our networks that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Regional Resilience

- Leverages best practices, and lessons-learned from regional partners
- Leans on sound-science and regional data
- Requires adaptable actions at the local scale

Benefits of Regional Resilience

- Reduces cost and lift for individual municipalities
- Minimizes impacts of disruptive events
- Increases the impact of interventions



3

Recap of Regional Resilience Action Plan Efforts leading to 2025...



4

Recap of Efforts leading to 2025...

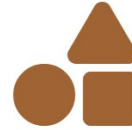
Sub-Committees

Environment

Quality of Life

Economic

Infrastructure



Action Plan Target User Groups

Local Government: Use to inform policy

Regional Entities: Determine actions most beneficial to the region

Businesses, Nonprofits, Others: Use strategies most applicable to their needs



5

Organizational Structure



New Co-Chairs

- Reviewed all documents and sub-committee notes
- Reviewed other Regional Resilience Action Plans



New Steering Committee & Sub-Committees

- Action development
- Action refinement
- Final RRAP refinement



Recommending Building Upon Efforts to Guide New Structure

- Document Voice
- Intended Users
- Action Organization

6

Organizational Structure

Author: Northeast
Florida Regional
Council

Implementer:
Resilient First Coast
Collaborative w/
Partners

Beneficiaries:
“User Groups”
identified previously



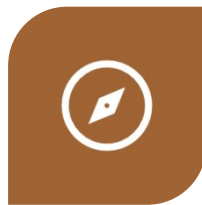
7

Action Organization



FACILITATE

Actions that influence regional resilience in ways that could not be easily accomplished by individual counties



GUIDE

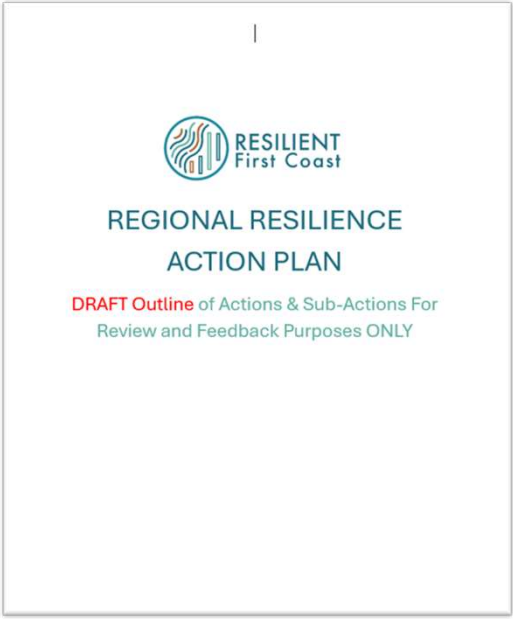
Actions that provide resources to counties and organizations throughout the region to inform resilience at the local level (best practices, case studies, and standardized language)



ANALYZE

Actions that generate, report on, and/or synthesize data to inform decision making at the regional and local levels

8

<p>Action Outline from Subcommittee Review</p> <p>Facilitate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 13 Actions ▪ 37 Sub-actions <p>Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 13 Actions ▪ 39 Sub-actions <p>Analyze</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 9 Actions ▪ 9 Sub-actions 	
---	--

9

 <p>FACILITATE</p>	<p>Actions that influence regional resilience in ways that could not be easily accomplished by individual counties</p>
--	--


10

FACILITATE

Facilitate

3. Encourage fire-wise practices to reduce wildfire risks

Wildfire has the potential to impact all of Northeast Florida. Counties in Northeast Florida have a higher Wildfire Hazard Potential than most other counties in the nation. Duval County has the highest relative risk in the region with a Wildfire Hazard Potential greater than 92.4% of counties in the nation. St. Johns County has the lowest relative risk in the region; however, their risk is still greater than 86.23% of counties in the nation. Wildfire risk is especially great in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) where development occurs near wooded areas, and the impacts of wildfire on air quality can be felt throughout the region. Protecting communities in Northeast Florida from wildfire requires a unified regional response to ensure all counties and forestry partners are working towards a shared goal of reducing wildfire risks. The RFCC/NEFRC has a leadership role to play in facilitating meetings between fire departments, forestry, land managers, and local municipalities working on fire prevention throughout Northeast Florida to establish a baseline and work to improve the reduction of fuel load and protect structures from wildfires.



Partners: Florida Forest Service, Water Management Districts, Local Fire and Rescue Departments

Shocks & Stressors: Wildfire, Drought

Timeline: Immediate (2025)

Metrics

- Number of events (meetings and workshops) held
- Number of people reached
- Number of counties that have invested in Firewise education
- Number of materials distributed

Facilitate

3.1. Ensure that land managers are using effective and scientific wildfire reduction practices


Wildfire risks can be reduced through consistent land management to reduce fuel loads. Information about best practices for fuel reduction, including prescribed fire and mechanical treatment, is widely available to land managers; however, many municipalities in the region lack the capacity to routinely manage public lands to reduce fuel loads. The RFCC/NEFRC can play a vital leadership role by helping to secure funding for wildfire mitigation and by promoting coordination between land managers and municipal governments. Hosting workshops for land managers to share lessons learned and common concerns could also help improve land management. Moreover, facilitating conversations between entities with heavy equipment and trained staff could help leverage existing resources and allow for collaboration between municipalities and other partners to maximize fuel reduction.

3.2. Support smart building practices and fire-wise landscaping to reduce fire risks to structures

Building structures to withstand fire is crucial for protecting infrastructure from wildfire, especially within the Wildland Urban Interface. The use of fire-resistant materials is one way to make structures more resilient. Another way to make infrastructure more resilient to fire is to ensure that landscaping is properly designed and maintained to reduce the amount of flammable materials around the perimeter of buildings and other valuable structures.

Municipalities could benefit from the RFCC/NEFRC hosting training events to disseminate information on constructing fire-resistant infrastructure, improving landscaping to mitigate wildfire risks, and encourage the adoption of other fire-wise practices.

11



GUIDE

Actions that provide resources to counties and organizations throughout the region to inform resilience at the local level (best practices, case studies, and standardized language)

12


6

GUIDE

Guide

15. Encourage smart growth practices

Northeast Florida is poised for substantial growth over the next few decades. The management of this growth will dictate the future resilience and livability of Northeast Florida. By adopting smart growth practices, communities throughout the region can ensure that development is occurring in a way that will accommodate growing populations without increasing the risk of hazards, such as flooding or the urban heat island. Smart growth practices include guiding growth to areas of the region with the lowest risk of experiencing hazards (e.g., flooding and wildfire), ensuring infill development in areas that are well connected to transportation options, and increasing the density of housing to limit sprawl. The RFCC/NEFRC can help guide smart growth throughout Northeast Florida by identifying best practices, opportunities incentives, and developing language to be used in local policy making, such as comprehensive plans, building codes, and ordinances.



Partners: Local government, Commercial developers
Residential developers

Shocks & Stressors: Flooding, Heat, Wind

Timeline: In-perpetuity (Ongoing)

Metrics

- Existing documents compiled (case studies, white papers, current ordinances)
- Guidance documents produced
- Number of municipalities with which documents were shared

Guide

15.1. Evaluate incentives for smart building practices to encourage resilient infrastructure

Incentives are one way to encourage the use of smart building practices and resilient development to reduce hazards. The RFCC/NEFRC will guide smart growth by gathering information from other regions to inform decision making in Northeast Florida. Curating a database of incentives for resilient development will allow municipalities to encourage smart growth in development decisions. The database will include best practices from communities that have successfully implemented incentive programs for smart growth, as well as draft language for use in ordinances and other land use policies. By providing consistent guidance and making policy resources available to counties throughout Northeast Florida, the RFCC/NEFRC will make the implementation of smart growth policies more achievable and streamlined at the local level.

15.2. Develop guidance for counties and private developers on how to increase density


A critical step to increasing smart growth throughout Northeast Florida is to increase development density in areas of the region that are safest from hazards. Current development patterns favor sprawling single-family subdivisions, which can encroach on current and future wetlands and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). To support smart growth throughout the region the RFCC/NEFRC can draft guidance on how to increase density in a way that reduces risks now and into the future.

Guidance will come from lessons learned from other municipalities. Additionally, the NEFRC can compile and summarize case studies that incorporate practices, such as the mix of commercial spaces, tiny homes, accessory dwelling units, and other novel methods of increasing density and promoting vibrant communities.

15.3. Develop sample language for counties to incorporate into legislative documents to encourage smart building practices and smart growth patterns

Documents such as comprehensive plans, building codes, ordinances, and land development procedures can help guide smart growth at the local and regional levels. The NEFRC can assist municipalities in developing and improving these documents by compiling examples from other regions or municipalities where smart growth has been successfully incorporated into public policies. A necessary first step is identifying planning documents that have helped reduce risks while also accommodating growing populations. Next, these planning documents can be summarized to identify commonalities and unique language that should be considered by those in the First Coast region. Lastly, the NEFRC can provide recommended language for municipalities to include in their comprehensive plans, building codes and ordinances to encourage smart growth practices.

13



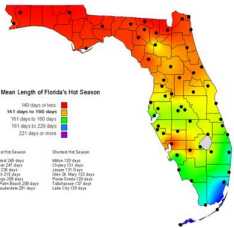
ANALYZE

Actions that generate, report on, and/or synthesize data to inform decision making at the regional and local levels

14

28. Evaluate major changes in heat patterns and monitor contributing factors

Northeast Florida is experiencing rising and more frequent heat events that affect the health and well-being of communities throughout the region. Heat patterns are driven by several factors, including but not limited to the amount of tree canopy and the level of cover by impervious surfaces, as well as changing global weather patterns. Tracking changes to heat at the regional level will help identify trends that transcend county boundaries and provide downscaled heat data that counties might not be able to generate without assistance. The NEFRC analyzing extreme heat and disseminating information to local municipalities will make sure that all counties in Northeast Florida are using consistent data and that results are tracked and reported on in a uniform manner. Inventories created to evaluate major changes in heat patterns, tree canopy, and impervious surfaces will help guide decision-making and reduce vulnerability to extreme heat at the local and regional levels. Maintaining these inventories in perpetuity will provide a well-rounded understanding of heat and the factors driving it.



Partners: Universities, Colleges, Smart Surfaces Coalition, Local Municipalities

Shocks & Stressors: Heat

Timeline: Immediate (2025), In-Perpetuity (Ongoing)

Metrics

- Inventories Created
- Reports Published
- Number of municipalities with which documents were shared

28.1. Create a regional heat inventory

Creating a regional heat inventory is necessary to track trends in extreme heat that affect communities across Northeast Florida. Centralizing the collection and reporting of heat data will require consistent data formatting and robust data management that will streamline analyses at the regional level for years to come. A regional heat inventory will help identify target areas for future interventions to address disparities in heat vulnerability. This heat inventory would build off past efforts and ongoing work to capture data on heat across the region. In 2022, the UNF partnered with the City of Jacksonville to complete a heat study that showed a difference of 11.8 F between the coolest and warmest sections of Jacksonville. To have this information produced by a regional entity would allow the other municipalities in the First Coast region to make informed decisions to address rising temperatures.

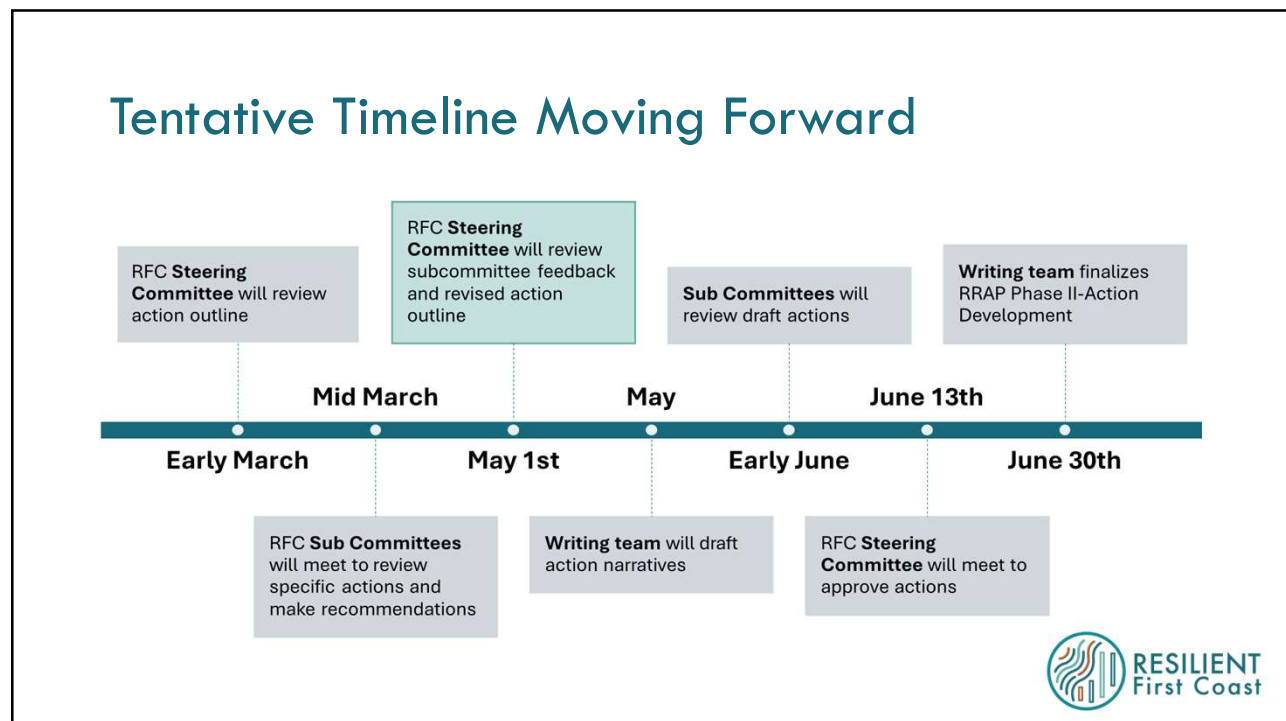
28.2. Track regional tree canopy

Evaluating tree canopy at the regional level will help us understand the potential cause of changes in heat and differences in heat across the region. In some areas tree canopy cover is being reduced by development, which can have impacts on surrounding areas. Trees reduce heat through evaporative cooling and by providing shade. Areas with greater tree canopy tend to have lower temperatures than areas with lower tree canopy. Tracking this at the regional level ensures that decision makers have the data they need to make well informed decisions regarding tree preservation and tree planting.

28.3. Monitor cover of impervious surface

Analyzing the cover by impervious surfaces at the local and regional level provides insight into development that may be driving increasing heat across the region. As the cover of impervious surfaces increases so does the ambient temperature of the air. Not all impervious surfaces (e.g., asphalt and concrete) contribute the same amount to the urban heat island effect. Tracking the amount and type of impervious surfaces will allow municipalities to identify changes and guide decisions to address heat.

15



16

Agenda Item

Tab 7

Tab 7

Tab 7

Tab 7

Tab 7



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: COUNCIL 101: REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE

The Regional Council maintains a 501(c)(3) policy committee known as the Regional Community Institute (RCI). Made up of NEFRC's Regional Leadership Academy graduates, the RCI can assist the Council with supplemental projects, advance regional collaboration, and provide policy recommendations.

Since its inception, some of the major projects the RCI has assisted the Council with includes, but is not limited to, First Coast Vison, Water Beyond Borders, First Coast Well-Being Index, re-write of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, and the Community Economic Development strategy. The RCI is currently assisting with the Council's initiative on Eco-Tourism and Trails.



Agenda Item

Tab 8

Tab 8

Tab 8

Tab 8

Tab 8



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org





Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: TYLER NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR 

RE: 2025 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) has completed four months of its 2025 curriculum. Thus far, the 2025 RLA Cohort has visited Baker, Flagler, Putnam, and Nassau Counties, and they will continue to meet on the final Wednesday of each month.



Agenda Item

Tab 9

Tab 9

Tab 9

Tab 9

Tab 9



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 23, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: **MILITARY INSTALLATION READINESS REVIEW**

The kickoff meeting for the Northeast Florida Military Installation Readiness Review (MIRR) was held on Tuesday, April 22nd at the Casa Marina Hotel in Jacksonville Beach. There were over 50 participants and remarks were given by Congressman John Rutherford, Jacksonville City Council Member Nick Howland and NEFRC Board President J.B. Renninger. The four military installations covered in the MIRR process provided presentations on their installations and their mission.

- Naval Air Station Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Captain Gregory deWindt
- Naval Station Mayport Executive Officer, Commander Tellis Fears
- Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island Commanding Officer, Colonel Luke Watson
- Camp Blanding Joint Training Center Florida National Guard Commander, Colonel Todd Hopkins

Next steps in the MIRR Process will be discussed, including the development of both a Policy Committee and several Technical Advisory Committees and other major project milestones.

