

NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting
Virtual & In-Person



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

DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **March 6, 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.



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
**FRCA Policy Board Members*

BAKER COUNTY

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

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Manager, City of Macclenny
Gubernatorial Appointee

CLAY COUNTY

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

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

DUVAL COUNTY

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

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

FLAGLER COUNTY

Hon. Andy Dance
Hon. Charles Gambaro

County Commissioner
Councilmember, City of Palm Coast

NASSAU COUNTY

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

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
Commissioner, City of Fernandina Beach

PUTNAM COUNTY

Hon. Larry Harvey
Hon. Leota Wilkinson

County Commissioner
County Commissioner

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Hon. Krista Joseph
Hon. Clay Murphy

County Commissioner
County Commissioner

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





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, FEBRUARY 6, 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
- * 5. Consent Agenda
 - A. January 9, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes 1
 - B. December 2024 Financial Report 2
 - C. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report 3
 - St. Johns County Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR
6. Other Reports/Action Items
 - A. Regional Council Budgetary Process – Ms. Starling
 - * B. FY 23/24 Audit – Zach Chalifour, James Moore & Company 4
 - * C. NEFRC Fiscal Year 23-24 Closeout – Ms. Starling 5
 - D. Presentation: Military Installation Resilience – Mark McManus, NAS JAX and Naval Station Mayport CPLO 6
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- F. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Ilami 8
- G. Strategic Regional Policy Plan Review, Part 2 – Ms. Payne 9
- H. EDA Funding: Post Disaster Recovery for Hurricanes Helene & Milton – Ms. Payne 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 – Mr. Register
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver
 - St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey
10. Chief Executive Officer’s Report – Ms. Payne
11. Upcoming Events:
- Feb. 10, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, Duval County
 - Feb. 10, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Putnam County
 - Feb. 10, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Clay County
 - Feb. 11, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, St. Johns County
 - Feb. 11, 2025 – NEFRC/EDA 2024 Hurricane Listening Session, St. Johns County
 - Feb. 12, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, Nassau County
 - Feb. 12, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Flagler County
 - **Feb. 17, 2025 – PRESIDENT’S DAY, COUNCIL CLOSED**
 - Feb. 18, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, St. Johns County
 - Feb. 19, 2025 – Resilient First Coast Collaborative Meeting, Duval County
 - Feb. 19, 2025 – Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition Meeting
 - Feb. 20, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Baker County
 - Feb. 24, 2025 – St. Augustine Vision: Final Presentation to City Commission
 - Feb. 26, 2025 – Northeast Central Healthcare Coalition Meeting
 - Feb. 26, 2025 – Regional Leadership Academy, Putnam County
 - Feb. 27, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Duval County
12. Next Board Meeting: **March 6, 2025**
13. Adjournment

(*Denotes Action Required)

Agenda Item

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NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2025

MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors held a meeting at 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, January 9, 2025; **President Renninger** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

BAKER: Commissioner Bennett
Mr. Register

DUVAL: Councilmember Amaro
Mayor Brown
Mayor Lynch

CLAY: Commissioner Condon
Commissioner Renninger
Mr. Kennedy

FLAGLER: Commissioner Dance
Councilmember Gambaro

NASSAU: Commissioner Huppmann
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Minshew

PUTNAM: Commissioner Harvey (via Zoom)
Commissioner Wilkinson (via Zoom)

ST. JOHNS: Commissioner Joseph
Commissioner Murphy

EX-OFFICIO: Mr. Conkey, St Johns River Water Management District
Ms. Craver, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Mr. Dixon, Florida Department of Transportation
Mr. Hart, Florida Department of Commerce

Excused: Commissioner Anderson, Mr. Bourre, and Mr. Griffis

Absent: Councilmember Gay

Presenter: Eric Houston, Jacksonville Transportation Authority

Guests: John Nooney, Ken Storey, Sanaa Hodge, Julian Carter, Liz Peak, and other members of the public

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

President Renninger welcomed new Board Members: Nassau County Commissioner Huppmann, City of Fernandina Beach Commissioner Minshew, Putnam County Commissioner Wilkinson, St. Johns County Commissioners Joseph and Murphy, and City of Palm Coast Council Member Gambaro.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

President Renninger 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

Mr. Register motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Ms. Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

Presentation: Coordinated Mobility Plan

Mr. Eric Houston, Jacksonville Transit Authority's Program Manager for Strategic and Regional Planning, provided a presentation on the 2024 Northeast Florida Coordinated Mobility Plan. A brief discussion followed.

*October 2024 Financial Report

Ms. Starling stated that for the month of October, the Council posted a net income of \$7,921. As this is the first month of the Council's fiscal year, the year-to-date is the same. A brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the October 2024 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried unanimously.

*November 2024 Financial Report

Ms. Starling stated that for the month of November, the Council posted a net loss of \$17,941 with a year-to-date loss of \$10,020. The main reason for the loss is the Council's quarterly dues. Additionally, following our move in August, there were expenses paid in November for cubicle installations, signage, and the open house. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Condon motioned to approve the November 2024 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

*Resolutions 2025-01, 02, 03, 04, and 05

Ms. Payne presented five Resolutions recognizing former Board Members Commissioner Paul Adamczyk of Putnam County, Commissioner Roy Alaimo of St. Johns County, Vice Mayor David

Sturges of Fernandina Beach, Hon. John Drew of Nassau County, and Commissioner Christian Whitehurst of St. Johns County, for consideration by the Board.

Councilmember Amaro motioned to approve Resolutions 2025-01, 02, 03, 04, and 05; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions 2025-01 Commission Adamczyk, 2025-02 Commissioner Alaimo, and 2025-03 Vice Mayor Sturges will be mailed following the meeting. Ms. Payne read and presented Resolutions 2025-04 to Mr. Drew and 2025-05 to Commissioner Whitehurst. A brief discussion followed.

*2025 Legislative Priorities

Ms. Payne provided an overview of the process utilized to obtain the Regional Legislative Policies. The priorities received were reviewed by the Legislative Policy Committee. The Committee identified the following issues for consideration by the Board: Resiliency, Housing, Infrastructure, Public Camping & Sleeping.

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the 2025 Legislative Priorities as presented; seconded by Mr. Register. Discussion followed.

Additionally, the Legislative Policy Committee also wanted to include a statement of ongoing support for the Black History Museum in St. Augustine. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Martin amended his motion to include a statement supporting the Black History Museum in St. Augustine; Mr. Register also amended his second. Amended motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Payne stated that once the flyer and palm cards are printed, they will be provided to each county at their BOCC meeting prior to the start of the 2025 Legislative Session. Members are encouraged to utilize these when communicating with their legislative delegates and when in Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

*NEFRC 2025 Workplan

Ms. Payne informed the Members that each calendar year she facilitates a discussion with the Board regarding a regional issue that the Council can work on. In the past, the Council has addressed issues such as affordable housing, opioid epidemic, ecotourism and trails. This year the issue being put forward for consideration is solid waste, trash and potentially recycling. Discussion followed.

Ms. Craver, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), stated that, in reference to recycling, the DEP offers assistance to local municipalities, whether it be in the form of grant funding or just assistance in developing programs for recycling. She encourages anyone interested in this assistance to feel free to contact her for that information.

Commissioner Condon motioned to approve the NEFRC 2025 Workplan; seconded by Mayor Lynch. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Resiliency Update

Mr. Prokopiak, Sr. Regional Resiliency Planner, provided an overview of resiliency projects currently being addressed by the Regional Council. He highlighted phase two of the Regional Resiliency Action Plan, local governments vulnerability assessments, and the multi-regional project. He also provided an update on recent resiliency activities, healthcare resiliency project, the Military Installation Resilience Review, and the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative. Staff is also working on a compilation of vulnerability assessments to draft a regional vulnerability assessment. Discussion followed.

Program Spotlight: Strategic Regional Policy Plan Review-Part 1

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the process involved in revising the Regional Council's Strategic Regional Policy Plan, which is done every five years. He reviewed the proposed changes, shown as strikethrough and underlined, of the first four elements. **Element 1:** Demographics and Equity. **Determination:** Delete this element – it is not a required element, and this type of data is available anywhere. **Element 2:** Community and Affordable Housing. **Determination:** This was based on the former Elevate Northeast Florida project, now sunset. We have added information about the First Coast Well-Being Index, which is the digital platform where we house data in real time. **Element 3:** Economic Development. **Determination:** This was also based on the former Elevate Northeast Florida project along with the Florida Chamber's 6 pillars. We just deleted that reference and made some very small changes to the goals and policies to clean up language. **Element 4:** Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency of the Built Environment. **Determination:** Take out Resiliency and make it its own standalone element. This will come back to the Board in April. We have taken everything related to resiliency and maintained all the emergency preparedness, related information.

Mr. Anderson indicated that this process will be repeated over the next several months with a final draft presented to the Board for adoption in June 2025. The Members were asked to provide any feedback to staff for consideration. A brief discussion followed.

Regional Leadership Academy

Mr. Nolen directed the Members' attention to the list of attendees in this year's Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) class. These participants represent different agencies, organizations, and subject matters. Ultimately, the RLA graduates become members of the Regional Community Institute; the policy think tank for the Regional Council. He stated the class will meet one day in each of the seven counties, which includes a military installation day. The class meets on the last Wednesday of each month and begins January 29th in Baker County.

2024 Regional Awards of Excellence Winners

Mr. Nolen informed the Members of the process involved in the solicitation of nominations and selection of winners. However, due to meeting conflicts in December, the Executive Committee did not meet to complete this task, and an alternate process was utilized through the President. A press release was issued announcing this year's winners. Among those is a special achievement award in conservation to former St. Johns County Commissioner Henry Dean for his work in conservation. Our regional leadership award goes to former City of St. Augustine Commissioner Roxanne Horvath. Staff look forward to acknowledging all the achievements in the ceremony to immediately follow this meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. John J. Nooney, 8356 Bascom Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32216, Re: Potential Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) public park on Pottsborg Creek. He stated it is almost two years since he addressed the NEFRC. He requested that his handout be made part of the permanent record, so the Members can all look at it later. He stated that when he came here April 6, 2023, before the elections, Joyce Morgan and Randy DeFoor were the Duval County representatives. He was here advocating for the Beth Payne Northeast Florida Regional Center for Resiliency. After the election is the resiliency stuff and stated he's in it four times. That is a port inland navigation district. Now there is new leadership on Waterways in Duval County, and he stated this was the October 18th Finance Subcommittee meeting. You have land acquisition, there are two projects. A month later, the November 14th Waterways Commission, now there are three and it is on Pottsborg Creek, 2.5 acres, category one wetlands. He shares that when you are talking about resiliency quality of life, they hit every box: JEA, JTA, and the Council on Elder Affairs. This was the October meeting, and he was on the agenda. He urges people to know their Tree Commission. He will be at that meeting on January 15th. But the thing is, you all have control of this place, hit every box you want, and then just tell the world to visit Jacksonville, not only Jacksonville, the North Florida Region. Thank you very much for listening. A copy of handout is attached.

Local and Regional Issues Discussion – Nothing to report.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORT

FloridaCommerce – Mr. Register shared an article from LinkedIn on the fastest growing jobs for 2025. Their research shows that 64% of workers feel overwhelmed by the pace of the workplace shifts that we are seeing today. He shared a few highlights from the article on the fastest growing jobs: Number one – AI Engineer; number 2 - AI consultant; number 4 - workforce development managers; number 9 – sustainability specialist; number 11 - community planners; and number 12 - AI researchers.

Florida Department of Transportation – **Mr. Dixon** stated that FDOT's 5-year tenants of work program is now online and provided directions on accessing the information via Google Search.

Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver announced that DEP will be launching their 2025 Environmental Resource Permitting Workshop series with their target audience being local municipalities, environmental consultants, and real estate agents. The first workshop is scheduled for February 19th and will then take place quarterly throughout 2025. Topics will range from the general permitting process, dock permitting requirements, shoreline stabilization permitting requirements. The goal is to focus on commonly missed items to ease the permitting process for those that are coming into our offices. If anybody is interested, details are on the DEP website. Ms. Craver stated she is a resource here for the Members, and is happy to collaborate, coordinate, and continue our working relationship.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey shared that beginning in December 2023, local governments have 18 months to comply with the statutory requirement to update their water supply facilities workplan. He noted that some 30+ communities or governments have not yet done so. The District will be reaching out to them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Payne stated she is excited to have all these new faces around the table and looks forward to meeting one-on-one with you soon.

Ms. Payne reminded the Members of the recent hiring of an attorney for the Regional Council; the Douglas Law Firm with Mr. Jeremiah Blocker as our main point of contact. She will discuss this at the next Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee meeting in February.

We look forward to some fellowship with you all downstairs. Thank you so much for being here.

Next Meeting Date: February 6, 2025

Meeting Adjourned: 11:52 a.m.

Jim Renninger
President

Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer

Agenda Item

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

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

RE: DECEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$20,254 for the month of December and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$10,233.



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Regional Council - Agencywide				Represents 25% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
	Adopted Budget 24/25	December 2024	YTD		
Revenues					
County Dues	\$ 694,757	57,896	173,689	25%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 416,296	19,976	59,871	14%	-11%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 182,895	21,325	66,881	37%	12%
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 14,077	1,054	1,291	9%	-16%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 80,000	8,425	27,699	35%	10%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 79,000	16,650	16,650	21%	-4%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Health	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	26,025	122,169	16%	-9%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 120,000	8,324	25,580	21%	-4%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 159,852	9,899	27,888	17%	-8%
Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)	\$ 700,000	2,759	8,367	1%	-24%
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$ 55,566	1,488	4,472	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ 150,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Commerce	\$ -	3,487	13,771	0%	-25%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$ 70,000	3,709	12,341	18%	-7%
Disaster Recovery Coordinator	\$ 82,513	6,183	22,253	27%	2%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 4,900	-	-	0%	-25%
Other Revenue	\$ 15,950	1,495	4,218	26%	1%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 188,698	\$ 587,139	16%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$ -	\$ (20,254)	\$ (10,233)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 168,445	\$ 576,906	16%	
Expenses					
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,848,213	120,643	402,492	22%	-3%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 1,264,351	20,816	63,896	5%	-20%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 234,425	19,218	60,994	26%	1%
General Fund Expense*	\$ 237,529	7,769	49,525	21%	-4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 168,445	\$ 576,906	16%	
Net Income (loss)	\$ -	20,254	\$ 10,233		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
Balance Sheet
December 2024

	FY 22/23 December 2023	FY 23/24 December 2024
ASSETS		
Cash	2,254,171	2,012,370
Accounts Receivable	496,450	675,923
Pension Deferred Outflows	439,576	425,550
WJCT Security Deposit	7,400	-
Total Current Assets	3,197,596	3,113,843
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	306,583	261,430
Less Accumulated Depreciation	195,374	161,953
Total Property and Equipment, net	111,209	99,477
Total Assets	3,308,805	3,213,320
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	2,713	3,868
Accrued Salaries and Leave	108,609	116,164
Deferred Revenue	154,475	18,391
Pension Liability	1,087,234	1,355,550
Pension Deferred Inflows	56,671	49,234
Total Liabilities	1,409,702	1,543,207
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	1,899,103	1,670,113
Total Equity and Other Credits	1,899,103	1,670,113
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	3,308,805	3,213,320

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		\$ 2,330,658	
February	\$ 70,318		\$ 2,188,836	
March	\$ 86,943		\$ 2,021,882	
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	



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

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

RE: DECEMBER 2024 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest

	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
December Interest	\$ 1,491	\$ 1,455
Year to Date Interest	\$ 4,014	\$ 4,177

Florida Local Government Investment Trust

	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
Current Balance	\$18,592	\$19,486



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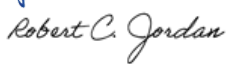
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 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 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.

Recommendation

Staff respectfully recommends that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the staff review report for the St. Johns County Transmitted Amendment 25-1ESR.



REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

February 2025 Board 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
St. Johns County 25-1ESR	1	X		St. Johns	2-7-2025	COMPAMD 24-003

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment seeks to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of approximately 120 acres from Rural/Silviculture (R/S) to Rural Commercial (RC). The property is located at 8000 U.S. 1 South. A companion rezoning application will be heard concurrently at Adoption hearings for the Amendment.
- **Background:** The requested amendment proposes expanding the current equestrian activities and primitive campground to include an RV campground. According to the applicant, RV Campsites are currently limited in availability within the County. The applicant explains in the application that the site will be ideally situated near a variety of trails, parks, beaches, and areas of natural resources. Please see Maps 1-3 in the Appendix for additional information.
- **Impacts:** The proposed site fronts U.S. 1, a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. The applicant intends to expand the existing equestrian activities and primate campground to include an RV campground, providing 316 total campsites. The proposed development of a campground/recreational vehicle park with 315 RV sites is estimated to generate 85 trips occurring during the weekday P.M. peak hour (4 P.M. to 6 P.M.) This calculation is based on all 316 RV sites being occupied. The St. Johns County Planning Department provided comments that the proposed development is required to pay road impact fees at the time of permitting for non-residential development. The proposed site is adjacent to Matanzas State Forest and Wildlife Management Area, a Natural Resource of Regional Significance. The Matanzas State Forest, which is managed by the Florida Forest Service, uses prescribed fires within the boundaries for the management of the forest. The Florida Forest Service has implemented a Firewise community approach for wildfire prevention statewide. The County Environmental Division recommends consideration of development planning to include Firewise USA program principles.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering that this development is close to the County boundary, NEFRC recommends coordination with the Flagler County Growth Management Department and the Town of Marineland. The Flagler County Growth Management Department was included in the transmittal of the proposed amendment.

Appendix

Exhibit 1: St. Johns County 25-1ESR (Location Map)

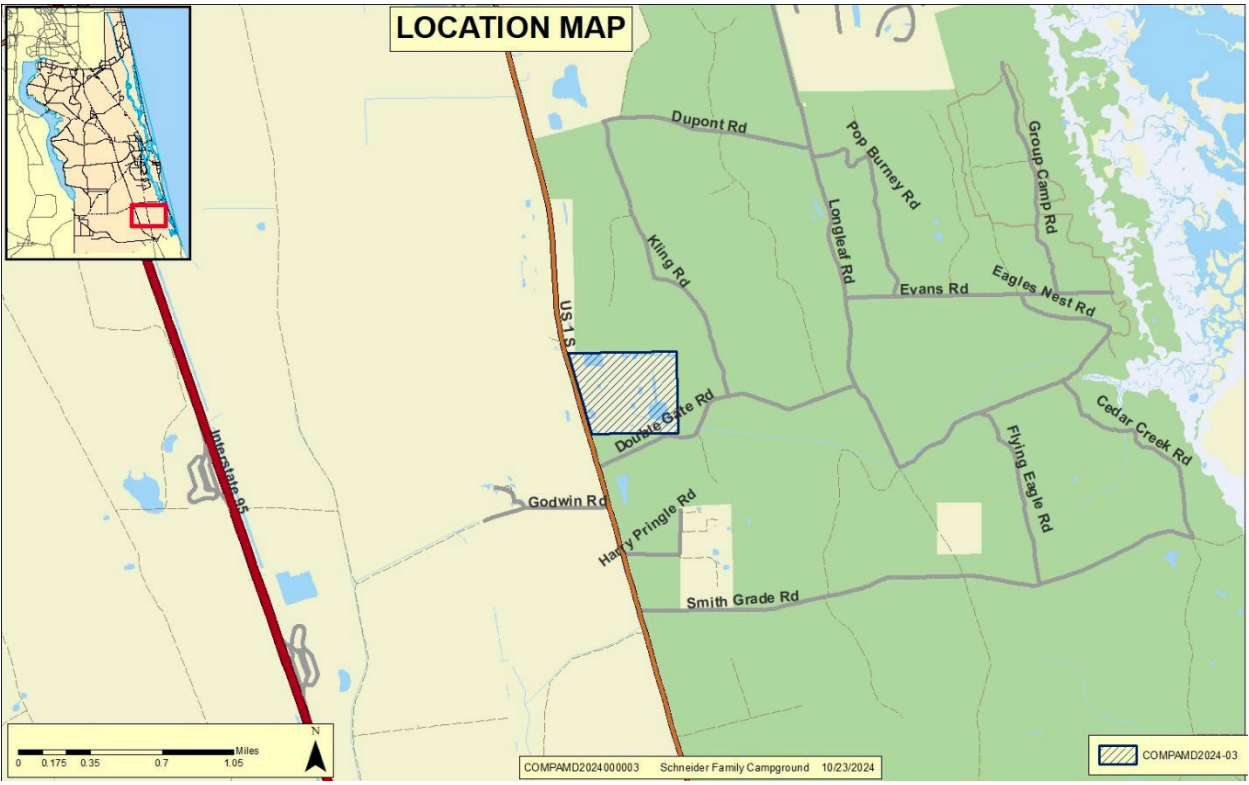


Exhibit 2: St. Johns County 25-1ESR (Existing Future Land Use Map)

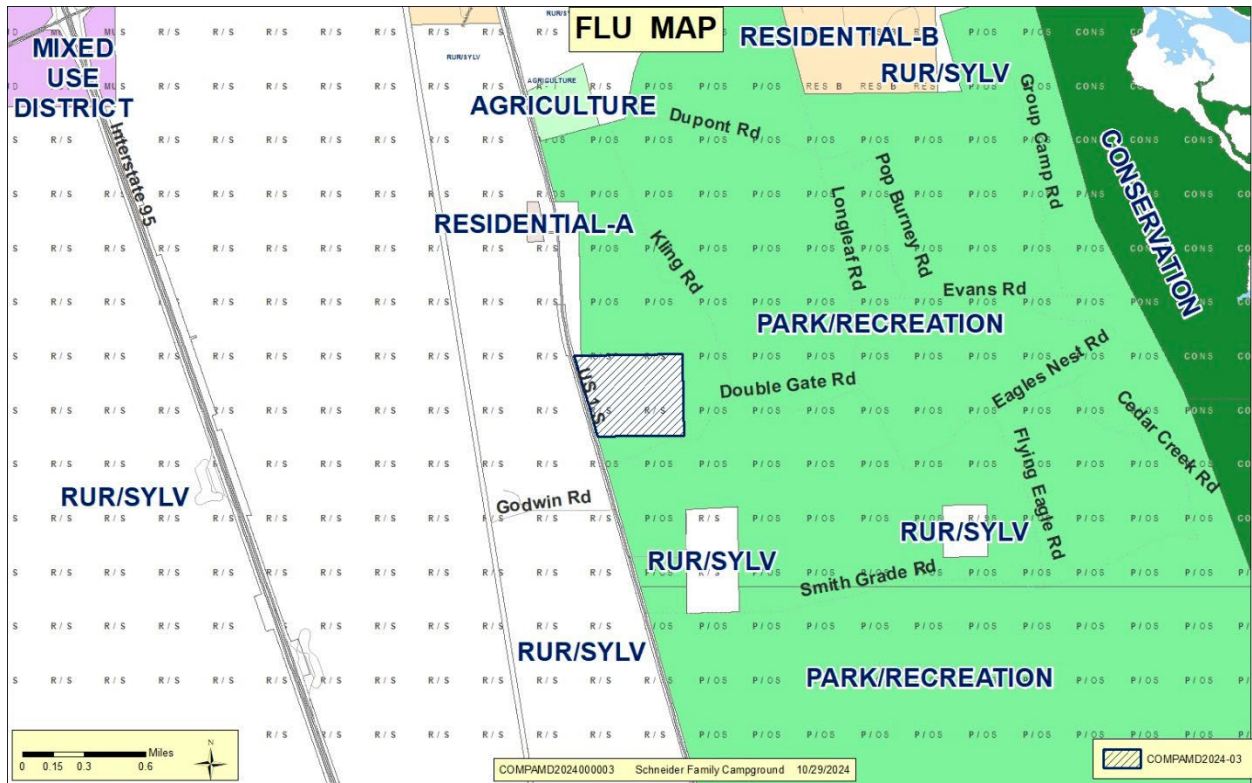
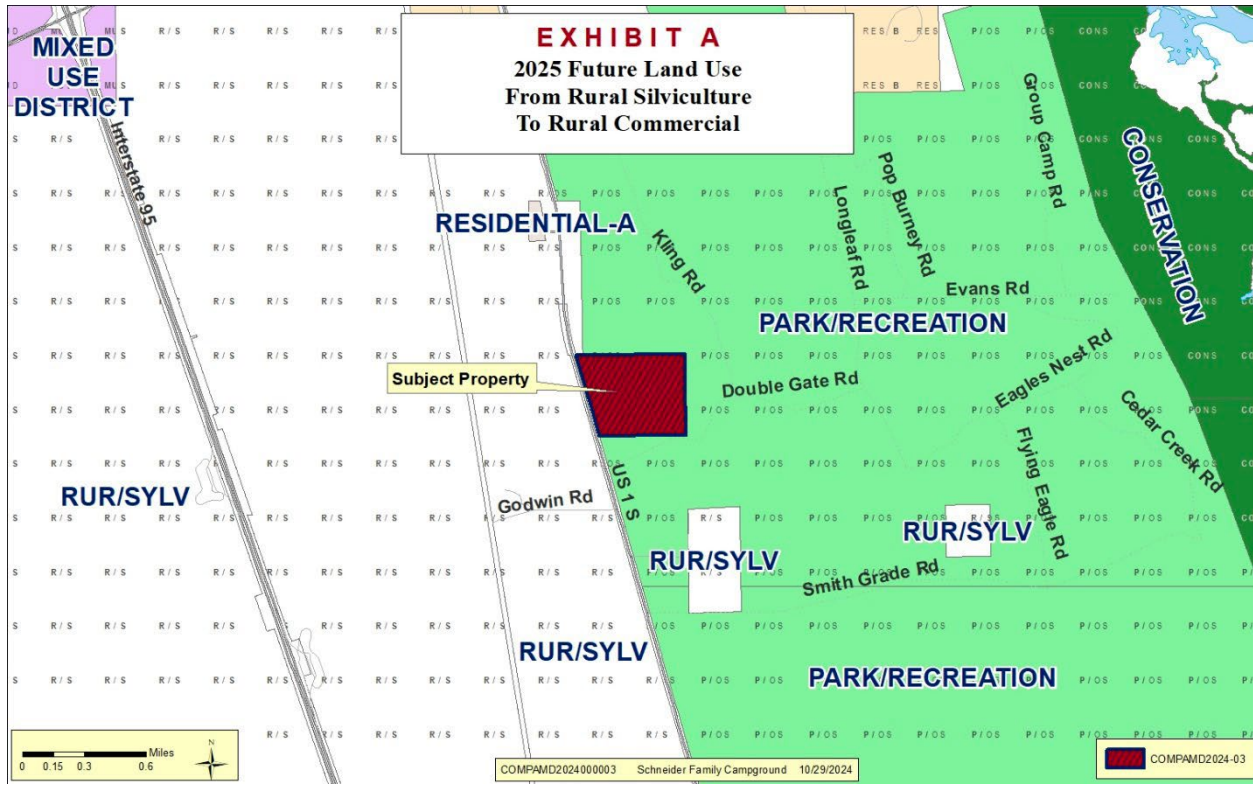


Exhibit 3: St. Johns County 25-1ESR (Proposed Future Land Use Map)



Agenda Item

Tab 4

Tab 4

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Tab 4



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BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER


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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: NEFRC PERSONNEL, BUDGET & FINANCE POLICY COMMITTEE

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

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

RE: FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 AUDIT

The Fiscal Year 2023/2024 audit will be presented at the February 6, 2025 Personnel, Budget & Finance Policy Committee and Board of Directors meetings by our auditors, James Moore and Company.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.





Northeast Florida Regional Council Audit for the Year Ended September 30, 2024

Overview

- ❖ Thank You
- ❖ Audit Process

Required Communications

- ❖ Our Responsibility in Relation to Financial Statement Audit
- ❖ Significant Risks Considered
 - Management Override, Improper Revenue Recognition, Use of Restricted Resources
- ❖ Significant Estimates and/or Disclosures
 - Right-to-use office lease (\$426,004) – (Note 5)
 - Net Pension Liability (\$1,417,225) – (Note 9)
- ❖ Corrected and/or Uncorrected Audit Adjustments
 - None
- ❖ Significant Difficulties Performing Audit, Disagreements with Management
 - None

Audit Reports

- ❖ Report on Financial Statements (page 1): Unmodified Opinion
- ❖ Report on Compliance for Major Federal Programs (page 42): Unmodified Opinion
- ❖ Report on Internal Control and Compliance (page 45): No Material Weaknesses

Financial Highlights

- ❖ Grant Revenues - \$2,356,529
- ❖ Total Fund Balance - \$2,602,192
- ❖ Total Net Position - \$1,595,966

Questions



Zach Chalifour, CPA
Partner
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386.257.4100
Zach.Chalifour@jmco.com



Financial Snapshot

Balance Sheet (page 12)

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,013,848
Receivables, net	730,058
Total assets	\$ 2,743,906
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 102,121
Accrued salaries	31,916
Unearned revenues	7,677
Total liabilities	141,714
FUND BALANCES	
Unassigned	2,602,192
Total fund balances	2,602,192
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 2,743,906

Income Statement (page 14)

Revenues	
County assessments	\$ 694,757
Federal grants	1,340,457
State grants	607,479
Local government	408,593
Regional Leadership Academy	4,900
Interest income (loss)	17,703
Miscellaneous	124,082
Total revenues	3,197,971
Expenditures	
Personnel services	1,460,313
Direct charges	1,213,543
Indirect charges	435,219
Capital outlay:	
Office lease	441,390
Total expenditures	3,550,465
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(352,494)
Other financing sources (uses)	
Issuance of leases	441,390
Total other financing sources (uses)	441,390
Net change in fund balances	88,896
Fund balances, beginning of year	2,513,296
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 2,602,192

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
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SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors,
Northeast Florida Regional Council:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (the Council), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and general fund of the Council as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Council and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Councils' internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) is presented for purposes of an additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

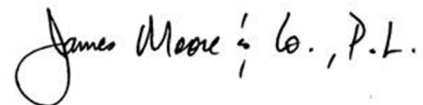
Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the financial statements. The other information comprises the cost allocation and detail for schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 6, 2025, on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Daytona Beach, Florida
February 6, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Moore & Co., P.L." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

As management of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (Council), we offer readers of the Council's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Council for the fiscal year 2023-2024. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information furnished in the Council's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

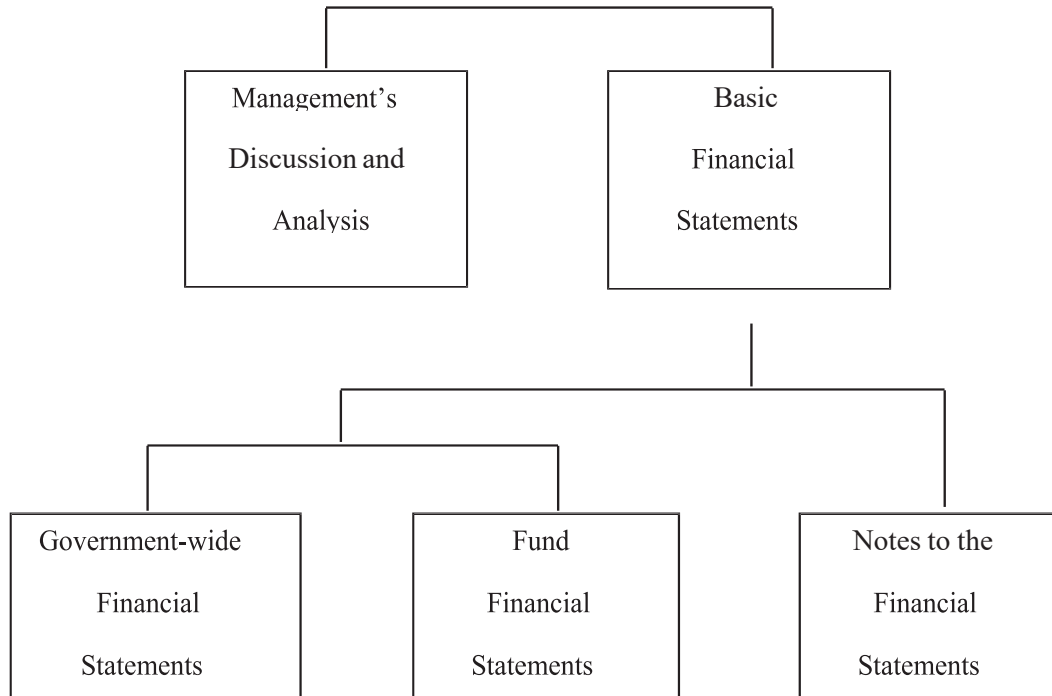
- The assets and deferred outflow of resources of the Council exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflow of resources at the close of the fiscal year by \$1,595,966.
- The Council's net position increased by \$18,703 .
- The Council's total assets increased by \$72,655.
- The Council's total liabilities increased by \$207,533.
- The Council relocated its offices in August 2024 to the Jessie Ball duPont Center.
- The Council completed a \$337,000 contract from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for work related to the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, a Regional Resiliency Entity that will provide technical assistance for our local governments in completing various resiliency planning activities.
- The Healthcare Coalition (HCC) contract with the Florida Department of Health was renewed in the fiscal year 2024 at level funding. The HCC also provided \$322,233 in project funding to healthcare and emergency preparedness facilities through contracts with the Florida Department of Health and the Florida Hospital Association.
- The Council received \$200,000 from Flagler County to assist the County with a Compound Flooding Analysis.
- The Council received a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation on behalf of the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative (SASMI) through Legacy Works Group totaling \$196,733 to undertake community capacity building and planning within vulnerable coastal communities.
- The Council was awarded \$150,500 in funding from our local governments to assist with visioning and comprehensive planning services throughout the year.
- The Council completed \$63,500 in emergency preparedness-related services for the State of Florida, and our local governments during the year.
- A contract for \$44,000 was awarded to the Council by the Florida Commerce to develop a market study to investigate current challenges and future opportunities in the shrimping industry.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Council's basic financial statements. The Council's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. The basic financial statements present two different views of the Council using government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information to enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the Council.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Required Components of Annual Financial Report



Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Council's finances. Similar in format to financial statements of a private-sector business, the government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Council's financial status as a whole.

The statement of net position (Page 12) presents information on all of the Council's assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows and outflows of resources with the difference between these reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of the Council's financial position.

The statement of activities (Page 13) presents information showing how the Council's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Therefore, all current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or expenses are paid.

Fund financial statements. The fund financial statements (Pages 14-17) provide a more detailed look at the Council's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts used to maintain control over resources established for the purpose of carrying on activities or attaining objectives in accordance with specific regulations, restrictions or limitations. For financial statement presentation, funds with similar characteristics are grouped into generic fund types as required by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Council's sole fund is the General Fund, classified as a governmental fund.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Governmental Funds. The Council's basic activities are accounted for in a governmental fund. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Council's governmental fund reported an unassigned fund balance of approximately \$2.6 million. Governmental funds financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view to help them determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Council's programs.

Notes to financial statements. The notes provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements are on pages 18-30 of the report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

For fiscal year 2023-2024, the Council was compliant with the Government Accounting Standard Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 reporting model:

	Governmental Activities		
	2024	2023	Difference
Assets			
Current assets	\$ 2,743,906	\$2,750,763	\$ (6,857)
Capital assets	532,680	297,349	235,331
Total assets	<u>3,276,586</u>	<u>3,048,112</u>	<u>228,474</u>
Deferred outflows of resources	<u>498,205</u>	<u>425,550</u>	<u>72,655</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	219,116	326,334	(107,218)
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>1,835,582</u>	<u>1,520,831</u>	<u>314,751</u>
Total liabilities	<u>2,054,698</u>	<u>1,847,165</u>	<u>207,533</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>124,127</u>	<u>49,234</u>	<u>74,893</u>
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	106,676	101,251	5,425
Unrestricted	<u>1,489,290</u>	<u>1,476,012</u>	<u>13,278</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 1,595,966</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,577,263</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,703</u></u>

As shown above, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets and deferred outflow of resources of the Council exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$1,595,966 in fiscal year 2023-2024. Also in fiscal year 2023-2024, the Council's net position increased by \$18,703. The change in net position is primarily due to the following:

- An increase in total assets is the result of the recognition of a new office lease, an increase in accounts receivable and capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization.
- The increase in total liabilities is due to an increase in accounts payable and the recognition of lease liability for the new office lease. However, unearned revenues decreased during the fiscal year due to contractual payment for healthcare projects.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Governmental activities increased the Council's net position by \$18,703, as shown below. Factors that attributed to the change are as follows:

- Charges for services increased resulting from an increase in local government contracts for resiliency, planning and economic development services.
- Operating grants/contributions funding increased due to an increase in state revenues for emergency preparedness, economic development, and resiliency programs.
- Expenditures increased as a result of an increase in personnel, contractual and pension expenditures for the fiscal year.

Analysis of the Organization's Operations

The following table provides a summary of the Organization's operations for the years ended September 30.

	Governmental Activities		
	2024	2023	Difference
Revenues:			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 474,379	\$ 323,605	\$ 150,774
Operating grants/contributions	1,947,936	1,792,935	155,001
General Revenues:			
Membership Dues	694,757	694,757	-
Interest income (loss)	17,703	12,023	5,680
Miscellaneous	6,332	10,162	(3,830)
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	56,864	-	56,864
Total revenues	<u>3,197,971</u>	<u>2,833,482</u>	<u>364,489</u>
Expenses:			
Financial and administration	629,097	722,653	(93,556)
Planning and growth management	1,173,096	801,730	371,366
Emergency preparedness	1,346,733	1,463,625	(116,892)
Regional Leadership Academy	11,623	7,354	4,269
Regional Community Institute	18,719	30,926	(12,207)
Total expenses	<u>3,179,268</u>	<u>3,026,288</u>	<u>152,980</u>
Increase (decrease) in net position	18,703	(192,806)	211,509
Beginning fund balance	<u>1,577,263</u>	<u>1,770,069</u>	<u>(192,806)</u>
Ending fund balance	<u>\$ 1,595,966</u>	<u>\$1,577,263</u>	<u>\$ 18,703</u>

Financial Analysis of Council Funds. The Council uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Council has one governmental fund, the General Fund.

Governmental Funds. The Council's basic activities are accounted for in a governmental fund. These fund types focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out, and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds' financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view to help him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Council's programs.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The variances in revenue between the budget and final revenues received are the result of unrealized revenues or additional funding acquired during the fiscal year, but not available for inclusion at the time the budget was prepared.

The variance between the budget and actual revenues and expenses is primarily attributable to unrealized revenues and a decrease in estimated expenditures.

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
REVENUES				
County assessments	\$ 694,757	\$ 694,757	\$ 694,757	\$ -
Federal grants	1,364,469	1,379,689	1,340,457	(39,232)
State grants	282,178	624,545	607,479	(17,066)
Local government	223,300	428,684	408,593	(20,091)
Regional Leadership Academy	4,200	4,900	4,900	-
Interest income (loss)	-	-	17,703	17,703
Other	132,350	156,932	124,082	(32,850)
Total revenues	<u>2,701,254</u>	<u>3,289,507</u>	<u>3,197,971</u>	<u>(91,536)</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Personnel service	1,400,183	1,475,440	1,460,313	15,127
Direct charges	903,787	1,172,744	1,213,543	(40,799)
Indirect charges	458,551	471,556	435,219	36,337
Capital outlay - office lease	-	-	441,390	(441,390)
Total expenditures	<u>2,762,521</u>	<u>3,119,740</u>	<u>3,550,465</u>	<u>(430,725)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(61,267)</u>	<u>169,767</u>	<u>(352,494)</u>	<u>(522,261)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)				
Issuance of lease	-	-	441,390	(441,390)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	441,390	(441,390)
Net change in fund balances	<u>\$ (61,267)</u>	<u>\$ 169,767</u>	<u>\$ 88,896</u>	<u>\$ 80,871</u>

NEFRC Financial Analysis

Total assets increased due to lease reporting requirements, an increase in accounts receivable, and a decrease in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization. Total liabilities increased resulting from an increase in accounts payable and the recognition of lease liability for the new office lease.

The Council had an overall increase in revenues for the year. Expenditures also increased in correlation to the increase in revenues as well as an increase in personnel and pension expenditures.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

NEFRC Capital Assets

The Council's investment in capital assets for fiscal year 2023-2024 is \$532,680, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$170,140.

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Furniture, equipment, and improvements	\$ 261,430	\$ 306,846
Right-to-use office lease	441,390	267,824
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(170,140)	(277,321)
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 532,680</u>	<u>\$ 297,349</u>

Additional information on the Council's capital assets can be found in Note 4 of the Notes to the Financial Statements.

NEFRC Long-Term Obligations

As of September 30, 2024, the Council's long-term obligations consisted of compensated absences, right-to-use office lease, and net pension liability. Additional information regarding the Council's long-term obligations can be found in Note (5) of the Notes to the Financial Statements.

NEFRC Budget Forecast for Fiscal Year 2025

Funding for resiliency planning will continue in the fiscal year 2025. The Council will continue to assist local governments with the completion of vulnerability assessments that are required to be completed in 2025. The implementation of deliverables associated with the two multi-year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs to perform mitigation and resiliency planning in our region and across the State of Florida will continue into the fiscal year 2025. The Council will receive additional funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to continue the work of Resilient First Coast and the creation of a Regional Resilience Entity. The Council was also awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to conduct a Military Installation Resilience Review in the Northeast Florida Region for four military installations.

The Council foresees a slight increase in state emergency preparedness funding with an increase in Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC) funding. The Council will continue to provide technical assistance to our local governments for substance abuse disorder and local mitigation strategy services. Also, the number of emergency preparedness exercises is expected to remain constant as local governments and partner agencies maintain training and exercise requirements.

Healthcare Coalition funding will continue in the fiscal year 2025 through a one-year renewable contract that can be renewed for up to four (4) additional years at level funding. The Healthcare Coalition has also applied for additional Florida Hospital Association (FHA) funding to purchase hospital surge equipment.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Federal funding from the Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Economic Development District and Post-Disaster Economic Recovery Coordinator grants will continue in the fiscal year 2025. The Council also anticipates being awarded a five-year EDA grant to assist the North Florida region with impacts from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Council's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer, Northeast Florida Regional Council, 40 East Adams Street, Suite 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These basic financial statements contain Government-wide Financial Statements, Fund Financial Statements and Notes to the Financial Statements.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,013,848
Accounts receivable	730,058
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	532,680
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,276,586</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred outflows related to pensions	<u>\$ 498,205</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 102,121
Accrued salaries	31,916
Unearned revenues	7,677
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Due within one year:	
Compensated absences	69,755
Lease liability	77,402
Due in more than one year:	
Lease liability	348,602
Net pension liability	1,417,225
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 2,054,698</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>\$ 124,127</u>
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 106,676
Unrestricted	1,489,290
Total net position	<u>\$ 1,595,966</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental activities:				
Financial and administration	\$ 629,097	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (629,097)
Planning and growth management	1,173,096	416,212	634,537	(122,347)
Emergency preparedness	1,346,733	53,267	1,313,399	19,933
Regional Leadership Academy	11,623	4,900	-	(6,723)
Regional Community Institute	18,719	-	-	(18,719)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 3,179,268</u>	<u>\$ 474,379</u>	<u>\$ 1,947,936</u>	<u>(756,953)</u>
General revenues:				
Membership dues				694,757
Interest income (loss)				17,703
Miscellaneous				6,332
Gain on disposal of asset				56,864
Total general revenues				<u>775,656</u>
Change in net position				18,703
Net position - beginning of year				1,577,263
Net position - ending of year				<u>\$ 1,595,966</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

	General Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,013,848
Receivables, net	730,058
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,743,906</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 102,121
Accrued salaries	31,916
Unearned revenues	7,677
Total liabilities	<u>141,714</u>
FUND BALANCES	
Unassigned	<u>2,602,192</u>
Total fund balances	<u>2,602,192</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u><u>\$ 2,743,906</u></u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Fund balances - total governmental fund \$ 2,602,192

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Total governmental capital assets	702,820	
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(170,140)</u>	532,680

On the governmental fund statements, a net pension liability is not recorded until an amount is due and payable and the pension plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits (no such liability exists at the end of the current fiscal year). On the Statement of Net Position, the Council's net pension liability of the defined benefit pension plans is reported as a noncurrent liability. Additionally, deferred outflows and deferred inflows related to pensions are also reported.

Net pension liability	(1,417,225)	
Deferred outflows related to pensions	498,205	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>(124,127)</u>	(1,043,147)

Long-term liabilities, including leases and notes payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These liabilities, deferred outflows, and other debt-related deferred charges consist of the following:

Lease obligations		(426,004)
Compensated absences		<u>(69,755)</u>

Net position of governmental activities		<u><u>\$ 1,595,966</u></u>
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The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

	General Fund
Revenues	
County assessments	\$ 694,757
Federal grants	1,340,457
State grants	607,479
Local government	408,593
Regional Leadership Academy	4,900
Interest income (loss)	17,703
Miscellaneous	124,082
Total revenues	<u>3,197,971</u>
Expenditures	
Personnel services	1,460,313
Direct charges	1,213,543
Indirect charges	435,219
Capital outlay:	
Office lease	<u>441,390</u>
Total expenditures	<u>3,550,465</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(352,494)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)	
Issuance of leases	<u>441,390</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>441,390</u>
Net change in fund balances	<u>88,896</u>
Fund balances, beginning of year	2,513,296
Fund balances, end of year	<u><u>\$ 2,602,192</u></u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Net change in fund balances - total governmental fund	\$ 88,896
Differences in amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives.	
Capital outlay expenditures	530,108
Depreciation and amortization expense	(172,540)
Governmental funds report contributions to defined benefit pension plans as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the amount contributed to defined benefit pension plans reduces future net pension liability. Also included in pension expense in the Statement of Activities are amounts required to be amortized.	
Change in net pension liability and deferred inflows/outflows related to pensions	(63,913)
Lease and other debt proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Repayment of lease and other debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas, these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities.	
Issuance of lease	(441,390)
Change in lease liability	89,247
Under the modified accrual basis of accounting used in the governmental funds, expenditures are not recognized for transactions that are not normally paid with expendable available financial resources. In the Statement of Activities, however, which is presented on the accrual basis, expenses and liabilities are reported regardless of when financial resources are available. In addition, interest on long-term debt is not recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting until due, rather than as it accrues. These adjustments are as follows:	
Change in compensated absences liability	(11,705)
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 18,703</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The financial statements of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (the Council), have been prepared in conformance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted body for promulgating governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The following is a summary of the Council's significant accounting policies:

(a) **Reporting entity**—The Council was organized pursuant to Chapter 186 of the Florida Statutes, as amended, and specifically created by an interlocal agreement pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, in order to provide local governments with a means of conducting a regional planning process to ensure orderly and balanced growth and development within the Northeast Florida Region (including the counties of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns).

In evaluating how to define the Council for financial purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The basic, but not the only, criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the purpose and activities of the potential component unit benefit the government and/or its citizens, or whether they are conducted within the geographic boundaries of the Council and is generally available to its citizens. A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the government is able to exercise oversight responsibilities. In evaluating the Council as a reporting entity, management has addressed all potential component units that may or may not fall within the Council's oversight and control, and thus, be included in the Council's financial statements. There are no component units included.

(b) **Government-wide and fund financial statements**—The government-wide financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of activities. These statements report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government as a whole. As part of the consolidation process, all interfund activities are eliminated from these statements.

Net position, the difference between assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows, as presented in the statement of net position, are subdivided into three categories: net investment in capital assets, unrestricted net position and restricted net position. Net position is reported as restricted when constraints are imposed on the use of the amounts either externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments, or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Net investment in capital assets consist of capital assets, including leased assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization, reduced by outstanding balances of any debt and lease liabilities that is attributable to those assets.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

The statement of activities presents a comparison between the direct and indirect expenses of a given function or segment and its program revenues, and displays the extent to which each function or segment contributes to the change in net position for the fiscal year. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable to a specific function or segment. Program revenues consist of charges for services, operating grants and contributions, and capital grants and contributions. Charges for services refer to amounts received from those who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment.

Grants and contributions consist of revenues that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment.

The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Therefore, major funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Reconciliations are provided that convert the results of governmental fund accounting to the government-wide presentation.

(c) **Measurement focus, basis of accounting, and financial statement presentation**—The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Council considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

The Council reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund—The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Council and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

(d) **Budget**—An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund by the Council by the July meeting preceding the fiscal year, using the accrual bases of accounting. All annual appropriations lapse at the fiscal year end. Mid-year and year-end amendments are made to the budget as necessary. The budget is prepared and controlled at the project activity level.

(e) **Cash and cash equivalents**—The Council defines cash and cash equivalents as cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash. Investments with original maturities of three months or less are considered to be cash equivalents.

(f) **Investments**—Investments are stated at fair value.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(g) **Receivables**—After reviewing the individual account balances, the Council’s management has determined that 100% of receivables are fully collectible as all amounts receivable consist of grants and other governmental revenues. Therefore, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been provided.

(h) **Capital assets**—All purchased capital assets are recorded at cost where historical records are available and at estimated cost where no historical records exist and are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date received. Generally, capital assets costing more than \$500 and having a useful life of more than one year are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Depreciation and amortization are provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the various classes of depreciable and intangible assets. The estimated useful lives range from 3 – 7 years.

(i) **Unearned revenue**—The amount recorded as unearned revenue relates to the projects for which funding was received prior to the performance of the service. The amounts will be recognized as revenue when the related service is performed.

(j) **Compensated absences**—Council employees may accumulate earned annual leave benefits (compensated absences) at various rates within limits specified in the personnel manual. This liability reflects amounts attributable to employee services already rendered, cumulative, probable for payment, and reasonable estimated. At their option, employees may receive payment for accrued annual leave for hours in excess of 160. This payout option is allowed a maximum of twice a year.

No liability is recorded for non-vesting, accumulated sick pay benefits. The compensated absences liability is determined based on current pay.

(k) **Leases**—The Council leases office space, and determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. The Council recognizes intangible right-to-use (RTU) assets and corresponding lease liabilities for all leases that are not considered short-term. RTU assets represent the Council’s right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent the Council’s obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. RTU assets and liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term.

Basis of lease classification – Leases that meet the following requirements will not be considered short term: (1) the maximum possible lease term(s) is non-cancelable by both lessee and lessor, and (2) is more than 12 months.

Discount rate – Unless explicitly stated in the lease agreement, known by the Council, or the Council is able to determine the rate implicit within the lease, the discount rate used to calculate lease right-to-use assets and liabilities will be the Council’s tax exempt market borrowing rate for 30 year fixed terms at the end of each year, which will be the rate utilized for the next calendar year. The Council elected to use its incremental borrowing rate (IBR) of 3% as of September 30, 2023 for leases entered into beginning October 1, 2023.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(l) **Fund balance**—In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the Council is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Those classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable – Amounts that are (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. “Not in spendable form” includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash (inventories, prepaid expenditures) and items such as long-term amount of loans, property acquired for resale, as well as unrealized gains.

Restricted – Amounts that have externally enforceable limitations on use of resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the Council Board of Directors, the Council’s highest level of decision making authority. Commitments may only be removed or changed by the Council Board of Directors taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the constraint originally.

Assigned – Amounts that are constrained by the Council’s intent to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed. The authority to assign fund balance lies with the Council Chief Executive Officer.

Unassigned – The residual classification for the General Fund resources. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

The Council would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources, and then assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first to defer the use of these other classified funds.

(m) **Reserve policy**—The Council’s goal is to maintain a minimum of three months of operating expenditures in reserves, based on the Council’s unrestricted fund balance relative to annual operating expenditures. The Council will strive to transfer 15% to 20% annually of the previous fiscal year’s audited net income to reserves. The amount to be transferred will be reviewed and approved by the Personnel, Budget, and Finance Committee.

(n) **Net position flow assumption**—Sometimes the Council will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources. In order to determine amounts reported as restricted and unrestricted net position, it is the Council’s policy to consider restricted net position to have been used before unrestricted net position is applied.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(o) **Deferred outflows/inflows of resources**—In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenditure) until then. The Council has one item, deferred outflows related to pensions, which qualifies for reporting in this category. Deferred outflows related to pensions are discussed further in Note (9).

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for *deferred inflows of resources*. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Council has one item, deferred inflows related to pensions in the government-wide statement of net position, which qualifies for reporting in this category. Deferred inflows related to pensions are discussed further in Note (9).

(p) **Use of estimates**—Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenue and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates assumed in preparing the financial statements.

(2) **Reconciliation of Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statement:**

(a) **Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net position**—Following the governmental fund balance sheet is a reconciliation between fund balance – total governmental funds and net position – governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of net position. A detailed explanation of these differences is provided in this reconciliation.

(b) **Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances and the government-wide statement of activities**—Following the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, there is a reconciliation between net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of activities. A detailed explanation of these differences is provided in this reconciliation.

(3) **Cash and Investments:**

At September 30, 2024, the Council's cash on deposit in its bank accounts was placed on deposit with financial institutions in the form of demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts, and certificates of deposit, and is defined as public deposits. The Council's public deposits are held in qualified public depositories pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapter 280, "Florida Security of Public Deposits Act", and are covered by federal depository insurance and, for the amount in excess of such federal depository insurance, by the Act. Under the Act, all qualified public depositories are required to pledge eligible collateral having a market value equal to or greater than the average daily or monthly balance of all public deposits, times the depository's collateral pledging level.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(3) Cash and Investments: (Continued)

The pledging level may range from 50% to 125% depending upon the depository's financial condition and establishment period. The Public Deposit Security Trust Fund has a procedure to allocate and recover losses in the event of a default or insolvency. When public deposits are made in accordance with Chapter 280, no public depositor shall be liable for any loss thereof. Any losses to the public depositors are covered by applicable deposit insurance, sale of securities pledge as collateral and, if necessary, assessments against other qualified public depositories of the same type as the deposit in default.

The Council is authorized to invest in certificates of deposit, money market certificates, and obligations of the U.S. Treasury, its agencies and instrumentalities, repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. securities, the Florida Counties Investment Trust, and the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund. No derivative or similar investment transactions were used, held, or written by the Council during the fiscal year. As of September 30, 2024, the Council had investments with the Florida Local Government Investment Trust, an external investment pool, sponsored by the State of Florida, of \$19,445. The carrying value equals the fair value at September 30, 2024. The Trust is rated AA+ by Standard and Poor and has an average maturity of 1.86 years.

(4) Capital Assets:

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 is as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets, being depreciated –				
Office furniture	\$ 2,521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,521
Office equipment	273,317	88,719	(103,127)	258,909
Leasehold improvements	31,008	-	(31,008)	-
Right-to-use office lease	267,824	441,930	(267,824)	441,390
Total capital assets, being depreciated or amortized	574,670	530,109	(401,959)	702,820
Accumulated depreciation/ amortization	(277,321)	(172,540)	279,721	(170,140)
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 297,349</u>	<u>\$ 357,569</u>	<u>\$ (122,238)</u>	<u>\$ 532,680</u>

During the year ended September 30, 2024, depreciation expense of \$83,293 and amortization expense of \$89,247 were charged to the Financial and administration function of the Council.

(5) Leases:

(a) **Council as Lessee**—The Council is the lessee in one lease agreement for seventeen office spaces. A lease liability and a right-to-use asset was recorded for this lease in that fund.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(5) **Leases:** (Continued)

In 2019, the Council entered into a 36-month lease agreement with WJCT, Inc. valued at \$267,824. This lease was terminated in May 2024. In May 2024, the Council entered into a 60-month lease agreement with JB duPont Center, LLC valued at \$441,390. A right-to-use asset and initial lease liability was recorded by the Council during fiscal year 2024. As of September 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability was \$426,004. The Council is required to make annual principal and interest payments of approximately \$86,000 with an annual 3% increase. The Council's incremental borrowing rate (IBR) was calculated at 3.0% at September 30, 2023, and was the discount rate utilized in the current year for this lease. The office space has a three-year useful life. The value of the right-to-use assets as of September 30, 2024, was \$441,390 and had accumulated amortization of \$15,386.

Lease expense for the right-to-use asset for the year ended September 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Governmental Activities
Amortization expense	\$ 89,247
Interest on lease liabilities	6,555
Total	\$ 95,802

The principal and interest requirements to maturity for the lease liability as of September 30, 2024, is as follows:

Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 77,402	\$ 12,594	\$ 89,996
2026	82,838	9,857	92,695
2027	88,438	7,038	95,476
2028	94,206	4,135	98,341
2029	83,120	1,165	84,285
Total future minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 426,004</u>	<u>\$ 34,789</u>	<u>\$ 460,793</u>

(6) **Long-Term Liabilities:**

Long-term liability activity for the year ended September 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Right-to-use lease	\$ 196,098	\$ 441,390	\$ (89,247)	\$ 426,004	\$ 77,402
Compensated absences	58,050	77,868	(66,183)	69,755	69,755
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 254,148</u>	<u>\$ 334,785</u>	<u>\$ (138,110)</u>	<u>\$ 495,759</u>	<u>\$ 147,157</u>

(7) **Risk Management:**

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the Council purchases commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage during fiscal year 2024. There have been no settlements in excess of insurance coverage in the last three years.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(8) Commitments and Contingencies:

During the ordinary course of its operations, the Council is party to various claims, legal actions and complaints. Some of these matters are covered by the Council insurance program. While the ultimate effect of any litigation cannot be ascertained at this time, management believes, based on the advice of legal counsel, that there will be no material effect on the Council's financial position and/or that the Council has sufficient insurance coverage to cover any claims.

The Council participates in various federal and state assisted grant programs that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Entitlement to these resources is generally conditional upon compliance with the terms and conditions of grant agreements and applicable federal and state regulations, including the expenditure of resources for allowable purposes. Any disallowance resulting from federal or state audit may become a liability of the Council.

The Council is required to comply with various federal and state regulations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget if the Council is a recipient of federal and state grants, contract, or their sponsored agreements. Failure to comply may result in questions concerning the allocability of related direct and indirect charges pursuant to such agreements. It is believed that the ultimate disallowance pertaining to these regulations, if any, will be immaterial to the overall financial condition of the Council.

(9) Florida Retirement System:

Plan Description and Administration

The Council participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Council's eligible employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the Council are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by \$7.50. The minimum payment is \$45 and the maximum payment is \$225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

(9) Florida Retirement System: (Continued)

Benefits Provided and Employees Covered

Employees enrolled in the Plan prior to July 1, 2011, vest at six years of creditable service and employees enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, vest at eight years of creditable service. All vested members, enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 62 or at any age after 30 years of service. All members enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, once vested, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 65 or any time after 33 years of creditable service. Members of both Plans may include up to four years of credit for military service toward creditable service. The Plan also includes an early retirement provision; however, there is a benefit reduction for each year a member retires before his or her normal retirement date. The Plan provides retirement, disability, death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments. Benefits under the Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation. For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the five highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the eight highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement plan and/or class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned.

DROP, subject to provisions of Section 121.091, Florida Statutes, permits employees eligible for normal retirement under the Plan to defer receipt of monthly benefit payments while continuing employment with an FRS employer. An employee may participate in DROP for a period not to exceed 96 months after electing to participate, except that certain instructional personnel may participate for up to 120 months. During the period of DROP participation, deferred monthly benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest.

Employees may elect to participate in the Investment Plan in lieu of the FRS defined-benefit plan. Employer and employee contributions are defined by law, but the ultimate benefit depends in part on the performance of investment funds. The Investment Plan is funded by employer and employee contributions that are based on salary and membership class (Regular, DROP, etc.). Contributions are directed to individual member accounts, and the individual members allocate contributions and account balances among various approved investment choices. Employees in the Investment Plan vest at one year of service.

Financial Statements

Financial statements and other supplementary information of the FRS are included in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is available from the Florida Department of Financial Services, Bureau of Financial Reporting Statewide Financial Reporting Section by mail at 200 E. Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0364; by telephone at (850) 413-5511; or at the Department's Web site (www.myfloridacfo.com). An annual report on the FRS, which includes its financial statements, required supplementary information, actuarial report, and other relevant information, is available from:

Florida Department of Management Services
Division of Retirement
P.O. Box 9000
Tallahassee, FL 32315-9000
850-488-5706 or toll free at 877-377-1737

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(9) **Florida Retirement System:** (Continued)

Contributions

The Council participates in certain classes of FRS membership. Each class had descriptions and contribution rates in effect during the year ended September 30, 2024, as follows (contribution rates are in agreement with the actuarially determined rates):

FRS Membership Plan & Class	Through June 30, 2024	After June 30, 2024
Regular Class	13.57%	13.63%
Senior Management (SMSC)	34.52%	34.52%
DROP from FRS	21.13%	21.13%

Current-year employer HIS contributions were made at a rate of 2.00% of covered payroll, which are included in the above rates.

For the plan year ended June 30, 2024, actual contributions made for Council employees participating in FRS and HIS were as follows:

Council Contributions - FRS	\$ 145,309
Council Contributions - HIS	23,960
Employee Contributions - FRS	35,940

Net Pension Liability, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a liability related to FRS and HIS as follows:

Plan	Net Pension Liability
FRS	\$ 992,690
HIS	424,535
Total	<u>\$ 1,417,225</u>

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Council's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Council's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating governmental entities, as actuarially determined. At June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023, the Council's proportionate share of the FRS and HIS net pension liabilities were as follows:

Plan	2024	2023
FRS	0.002566105%	0.002297357%
HIS	0.002830050%	0.002771343%

For the plan year ended June 30, 2024, pension expense was recognized related to the FRS and HIS plans as follows:

FRS	\$ 209,108
HIS	32,836
Total	<u>\$ 241,944</u>

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(9) Florida Retirement System: (Continued)

Deferred outflows/inflows related to pensions:

At September 30, 2024, the Council reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	FRS		HIS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 100,288	\$ -	\$ 4,099	\$ (815)
Changes of assumptions	136,057	-	7,513	(50,260)
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings	-	(65,979)	-	(154)
Change in proportionate share	142,772	-	57,136	(6,919)
Contributions subsequent to measurement date	43,607	-	6,733	-
Total	<u>\$ 422,724</u>	<u>\$ (65,979)</u>	<u>\$ 75,481</u>	<u>\$ (58,148)</u>

The above amounts for deferred outflows of resources for contributions related to pensions resulting from Council contributions subsequent to the measurement date and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended September 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions being amortized for a period of greater than one year will be recognized in pension expense in succeeding years as follows:

	FRS	HIS	Total
2025	\$ 37,548	\$ 8,283	\$ 45,831
2026	205,234	4,456	209,690
2027	38,346	186	38,532
2028	18,166	(106)	18,060
2029	13,844	(1,453)	12,391
Thereafter	-	(766)	(766)
	<u>\$ 313,138</u>	<u>\$ 10,600</u>	<u>\$ 323,738</u>

Actuarial assumptions:

The Actuarial assumptions for both defined benefit plans are reviewed annually by the Florida Retirement System Actuarial Assumptions Conference. The FRS has a valuation performed annually. The HIS Program has a valuation performed biennially that is updated for GASB reporting in the year a valuation is not performed. The most recent experience study for the FRS was completed in 2024 for the period July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2023. Because HIS is funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, no experience study has been completed.

The total pension liability for each of the defined benefit plans was determined by an actuarial valuation, using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Inflation increases for both plans is assumed at 2.40%. Payroll growth, including inflation, for both plans is assumed at 3.25%. Both the discount rate and the long-term expected rate of return used for FRS investments is 6.70%. This rate is consistent with the prior year rate of 6.70%. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the long-term expected rate of return.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(9) Florida Retirement System: (Continued)

Because HIS Program uses a pay-as-you-go funding structure, a municipal bond rate of 3.93% was used to determine the total pension for the program. This rate increased from the prior year rate, which was 3.65%. Mortality assumptions for both plans were based on the PUB-2010 base table varies by member category and sex, projected generationally with Scale MP-2021 details.

Long-term expected rate of return:

To develop an analytical basis for the selection of the long-term expected rate of return assumption, in October 2024, the FRS Actuarial Assumptions conference reviewed long-term assumptions developed by both Milliman's capital market assumptions team and by a capital market assumptions team from Aon Hewitt Investment Consulting, which consults to the Florida State Board of Administration. The table below shows Milliman's assumptions for each of the asset classes in which the plan was invested at that time based on the long-term target asset allocation. The allocation policy's description of each asset class was used to map the target allocation to the asset classes shown below. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions, and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption. These assumptions are not based on historical returns, but instead are based on a forward-looking capital market economic model.

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Arithmetic Expected Rate of Return</u>
Cash	1.0%	3.3%
Fixed income	29.0%	5.7%
Global equities	45.0%	8.6%
Real estate	12.0%	8.1%
Private equity	11.0%	12.4%
Strategic investments	2.0%	6.6%
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	

Sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate:

The following presents the proportionate shares of the FRS and HIS net pension liability of the Council calculated using the current discount rates, as well as what the Council's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower or 1% higher than the current rate:

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>NPL with 1% Decrease</u>	<u>NPL at Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>NPL with 1% Increase</u>
FRS	6.70%	\$ 1,746,107	\$ 992,690	\$ 361,543
HIS	3.93%	424,535	424,535	375,769

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

(10) Recent Accounting Pronouncements:

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) has issued pronouncements that have effective dates that may impact future financial statements. The Organization has considered the new pronouncements that altered accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and other than as disclosed in the notes to the financial statements, does not believe that any other new or modified principles will have a material impact on the Organization’s reported financial position or operations in the near term.

(a) GASB issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, in June 2022. GASB Statement No. 101 amends the existing requirement to disclose the gross increases and decreases in a liability for compensated absences to allow governments to disclose only the net change in the liability. In addition, governments are no longer required to disclose which governmental funds typically have been used to liquidate the liability for compensated absences. The provisions for GASB 101 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023.

(b) GASB issued Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, in December 2023. GASB Statement No. 102 amends GASB Statement No. 62 regarding the disclosure of a government’s vulnerability to risks related to certain concentrations and constraints that limit its ability to acquire resources or control spending. The provisions for GASB 102 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2024.

(c) GASB issued Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*, in April 2024. The objective of GASB 103 improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government’s accountability. The effective date for implementation is fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter.

(d) GASB issued Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*, in September 2024. GASB Statement No. 104 requires governments to disclose separate information about specific types of capital assets and establishes criteria for identifying and reporting capital assets held for sale. The objective of GASB 104 is to enhance transparency and improve the usefulness of financial statements for stakeholders by providing more detailed information on these assets. The provisions are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
County assessments	\$ 694,757	\$ 694,757	\$ 694,757	\$ -
Federal grants	1,364,469	1,379,689	1,340,457	(39,232)
State grants	282,178	624,545	607,479	(17,066)
Local government	223,300	428,684	408,593	(20,091)
Regional Leadership Academy	4,200	4,900	4,900	-
Interest income (loss)	-	-	17,703	17,703
Other	132,350	156,932	124,082	(32,850)
Total revenues	<u>2,701,254</u>	<u>3,289,507</u>	<u>3,197,971</u>	<u>(91,536)</u>
Expenditures				
Current:				
Personnel service	1,400,183	1,475,440	1,460,313	15,127
Direct charges	903,787	1,172,744	1,213,543	(40,799)
Indirect charges	458,551	471,556	435,219	36,337
Capital outlay - office lease	-	-	441,390	(441,390)
Total expenditures	<u>2,762,521</u>	<u>3,119,740</u>	<u>3,550,465</u>	<u>(430,725)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(61,267)</u>	<u>169,767</u>	<u>(352,494)</u>	<u>(522,261)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)				
Issuance of lease	-	-	441,390	(441,390)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>441,390</u>	<u>(441,390)</u>
Net change in fund balances	<u>(61,267)</u>	<u>169,767</u>	<u>88,896</u>	<u>80,871</u>
Fund balances, beginning of year	<u>2,513,296</u>	<u>2,513,296</u>	<u>2,513,296</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances, end of year	<u><u>\$ 2,452,029</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,683,063</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,602,192</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 80,871</u></u>

Reconciliation on Budgetary Basis to Demonstrate Budgetary Compliance

Total expenditures - GAAP Basis	\$ 2,762,521	\$ 3,119,740	\$ 3,550,465	\$ (430,725)
Less: non-cash, non-budgetary expense for new lease under GASB 87	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(441,390)</u>	<u>441,390</u>
Budgetary basis expenditures	\$ 2,762,521	\$ 3,119,740	\$ 3,109,075	\$ 10,665

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
LAST 10 FISCAL YEARS
(UNAUDITED)

	As of the Plan Year Ended June 30,									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Florida Retirement System (FRS)										
Proportion of the net pension liability	0.002566105%	0.002297357%	0.002206892%	0.001990438%	0.001743019%	0.001649535%	0.001360205%	0.001349838%	0.001336984%	0.001959446%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 992,690	\$ 915,424	\$ 821,141	\$ 150,355	\$ 755,450	\$ 568,077	\$ 409,701	\$ 399,273	\$ 337,590	\$ 253,088
Covered payroll	1,198,002	1,098,216	915,755	802,026	698,481	744,002	666,484	627,342	604,442	725,188
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	82.86%	83.36%	89.67%	18.75%	108.16%	76.35%	61.47%	63.65%	55.85%	34.90%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	83.70%	82.38%	82.89%	96.40%	78.85%	82.61%	84.26%	83.89%	84.88%	92.00%
Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)										
Proportion of the net pension liability	0.002830050%	0.002771343%	0.002512300%	0.002264990%	0.002012098%	0.002224140%	0.002040122%	0.001968129%	0.001957952%	0.002390364%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 424,535	\$ 440,126	\$ 266,093	\$ 277,835	\$ 245,674	\$ 248,859	\$ 215,929	\$ 210,441	\$ 228,191	\$ 243,780
Covered payroll	1,198,002	1,098,216	915,755	802,026	698,481	744,002	666,484	627,342	604,442	725,188
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	35.44%	40.08%	29.06%	34.64%	35.17%	33.45%	32.40%	33.54%	37.75%	33.62%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	4.80%	4.12%	4.81%	3.56%	3.00%	2.63%	2.15%	1.64%	0.97%	0.50%

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
LAST 10 FISCAL YEARS
(UNAUDITED)**

	For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30,									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Florida Retirement System (FRS)										
Contractually required contribution	\$ 153,500	\$ 116,368	\$ 102,960	\$ 79,203	\$ 57,913	\$ 51,147	\$ 38,765	\$ 35,140	\$ 32,605	\$ 47,773
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	153,500	116,368	102,960	79,203	57,913	51,147	38,765	35,140	32,605	47,773
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 1,226,689	\$ 1,099,292	\$ 1,018,498	\$ 821,334	\$ 698,481	\$ 744,002	\$ 666,484	\$ 627,342	\$ 604,442	\$ 725,188
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	12.51%	10.59%	10.11%	9.64%	8.29%	6.87%	5.82%	5.60%	5.39%	6.59%
Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)										
Contractually required contribution	\$ 24,534	\$ 19,295	\$ 16,907	\$ 13,634	\$ 11,595	\$ 12,350	\$ 11,064	\$ 10,416	\$ 10,036	\$ 9,137
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	24,534	19,295	16,907	13,634	11,595	12,350	11,064	10,416	10,036	9,137
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 1,226,689	\$ 1,099,292	\$ 1,018,498	\$ 821,334	\$ 698,481	\$ 744,002	\$ 666,484	\$ 627,342	\$ 604,442	\$ 725,188
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	2.00%	1.76%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.26%

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
COST ALLOCATION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

COST ALLOCATION

The following is a summary of significant cost allocation policies and results used in the preparation of the financial statements.

Cost allocation operates in accordance with an Indirect Costs Allocation Proposal (the Proposal) developed annually. Although the Council receives direct federal funding, it does not rise to the dollar amount defining a "Major local government"; therefore, under the guidelines established by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), approval of the Indirect Costs Allocation Proposal and Rate is not mandated. The Proposal identifies shared costs and the financial bases for cost sharing. It also identifies various non-financial bases for allocating certain joint or common costs as direct costs. The concepts in the Proposal are utilized in the accounting system and produced the following actual results shown below for the fiscal year.

Leave benefits consist of accrued annual leave and other types of leave granted (i.e., sick, holiday, and administrative leave). Leave costs are accumulated in an organizational leave pool and distributed to activities based on year-to-date regular time salary costs. This resulted in all activities bearing an equitable share of leave costs and diminishes the circumstantial effects of timing associated with leave usage.

Actual leave costs and the leave rate percentage for the year ended September 30, 2024, are shown below:

Annual leave taken	\$ 62,205
Sick leave taken	50,069
Holiday leave granted	58,660
Personal leave taken	3,752
Administrative leave granted	2,236
Net change in accrued leave liability	10,873
Total leave costs	<u>\$ 187,795</u>
Leave benefit costs	<u>\$ 187,795</u>
In-service salaries	<u>\$ 1,093,120</u>

Actual leave rates by employee classification (which reflect leave eligibility) are developed and applied to the year-to-date base of regular time salaries in each project to determine its share of leave costs. In the aggregate, \$187,795, accounting for 17.18% of in-service salaries, was charged among all programs operated during the fiscal year. Separate classifications are necessary because leave benefit eligibility differs among employees.

Employee fringe benefit costs are accumulated in an organization pool as they are incurred. Fringe benefit costs are prorated by employee's proportionate share of salaries to total year-to-date organizational salaries. The classification of costs conforms to the organization's Proposal for the year in which the final rate of 35.20% was computed.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
COST ALLOCATION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

The fringe benefits actual cost and final rates for the year ended September 30, 2024, are as shown in the following table:

FICA	\$ 91,189
FRS	207,153
Health insurance	140,030
Life insurance	1,695
Disability insurance	6,670
Workers compensation	3,993
Unemployment compensation	1,282
Total fringe benefit costs	<u>\$ 452,012</u>
 Total base salaries	 <u>\$ 1,284,177</u>
 Total rate	 <u>35.20%</u>

The final rate was applied to the year-to-date salaries base in each project to determine its share of fringe benefit costs. In the aggregate, \$452,012 was charged among all programs operated during the fiscal year. The use of the pool and year-to-date financial activity results in an equitable distribution among all activities regardless of individual contract periods or monthly expenditure levels.

Indirect costs consist of occupancy and central management cost that support all programs. Indirect costs are allocated among programs on the basis of salary and fringe costs. The classification of costs conforms to the organization's Proposal for the year in which a 34.03% Provisional Indirect Cost Rate was used for budgeting purposes.

Indirect costs were accumulated in an organizational pool and distributed to activities/programs based on salaries and fringe benefits in conformity with the organization's Indirect Costs Allocation Proposal. Actual indirect costs and the final rate for the year ended September 30, 2024 are as follows:

Indirect cost rate (final)	<u>30.78%</u>
 Actual year-to date indirect costs	 <u>\$ 452,804</u>
 Base (salaries and fringe costs)	 <u>\$ 1,471,169</u>

The final rate was applied to the year-to-date base in each project to determine its share of indirect costs. In the aggregate, actual costs of \$452,804 were charged among all programs operated during the fiscal year. The use of year-to-date financial information applies costs equitably regardless of individual contract periods or monthly expenditure levels.

Financial Report projects completed during the fiscal year may have reported interim costs to grantor agencies pending the determination of final costs at September 30, 2024. Interim reports may show higher or lower allocated costs which reflect changing rates after project termination. Final costs for completed projects can only be determined at the end of the organization's fiscal year.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
DETAIL FOR STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Category	Account Code Title	Final FY 23/24
Revenues		
County Assessments:	County Contributions-Baker	11,337
	County Contributions-Clay	86,934
	County Contributions-Duval	390,673
	County Contributions-Flagler	44,080
	County Contributions-Nassau	33,927
	County Contributions-Putnam	29,922
	County Contributions-St. Johns	97,884
	Subtotals	694,757
Federal Grants:	HMEP Revenue	90,492
	Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition Revenue	732,486
	FHA-HCC Funding	132,848
	CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan Revenue	234,508
	NFWF SASMI	3,342
	CEDS Revenue	66,436
	Disaster Recovery Coordinator Revenue	80,345
	Subtotals	1,340,457
State Grants:	Health Department Exercise	17,000
	Hazards Analysis Revenue	13,987
	State SQG Revenue	4,800
	LEPC Revenue	87,278
	TD Revenue	181,996
	DOC Funding	3,631
	FDEP Funding	298,787
	Subtotals	607,479
Local Government:	Local Government Revenue	379,314
	Emergency Mngt Local Government Revenue	23,000
	Local SQG Revenue	6,279
	Subtotals	408,593
Regional Leadership	Regional Leadership Revenue	4,900
Interest Income	Interest Income	17,703
Miscellaneous:	Elected Officials Reception Revenue	330
	Gain on Asset Disposal	56,864
	Grant Funded/Donated Fixed Assets	5,898
	Flexible Spending Revenue	104
	JEA Revenue	18,500
	JTA Revenue	5,488
	Mitigation Assessment and Planning Revenue	36,898
	Subtotals	124,082
Total Revenue		3,197,971

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
DETAIL FOR STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Category	Account Code Title	Final FY 23/24
Personnel Services:	Program Salaries	1,088,797
	Salary Expense-AL Liability-Govt	(10,873)
	Program Fringe Benefits	382,372
	Flexible Spending Account	17
	Subtotals	1,460,313
Direct Charges:	Telephone	610
	Postage	496
	Office Supplies	2,458
	Vehicle Maintenance	1,204
	Periodicals/Subscriptions	24
	Membership Dues	29,717
	Printing/Copying	6,953
	Advertising-Employment	(1,530)
	Advertising-Other	4,004
	Employee Training	8,722
	Furniture and Equipment	17,313
	Bank Service Charges	66
	Technology Services	6,422
	Computer Hardware	3,038
	Computer Software	13,423
	Consultant/Professional Services	162,643
	Miscellaneous	9,118
	Casualty and Other Insurances	4,410
	Out of Region Travel	73,806
	Vehicle Rental	166
	Storage Units	2,391
	Auto Insurance	14,693
	Parking	5,292
	Board Member Travel	1,053
	Internet Connection	11,879
	Publications	5,849
	Regional Partnership Agreements	10,000
	Registration Fees	26,000
	Staff Events	804
	HCC Projects	322,233
	HCC Medical Supplies	11,815
	Contractual Services	304,210
	Direct Exercise Expenditures	1,556
	Fixed Asset Additions	88,719
	Subtotals	1,213,543

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
DETAIL FOR STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Category	Account Code Title	Final FY 23/24
Indirect Charges:	Indirect Salaries	195,380
	Indirect Fringe Benefits	69,641
	Telephone	5,370
	Postage	446
	Office Supplies	2,354
	Periodicals/Subscriptions	603
	Membership Dues	175
	Printing/Copying	513
	Advertising-Other	40
	Employee Training	793
	Maintenance Agreement	6,380
	Technology Services	48,497
	Computer Software	216
	In Region Travel	170
	Audit Services	11,500
	Casualty and Other Insurances	8,280
	Office Lease	70,668
	Out of Region Travel	593
	Storage Units	6,202
	Internet Connection	3,742
	Office Maintenance	2,964
	Cell Phones	692
	Subtotals	435,219
Lease Capital Outlay	Office Lease	441,390
	Total Expenses	3,550,465
	Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(352,494)
Other financing sources	Issuance of Leases	441,390
	Net change in fund balances	88,896

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Federal Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor Program or Cluster Title, Contract No.	Assistance Listing Number	Grant or Contract Number	Expenditures
FEDERAL AGENCY			
Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration			
Direct:			
Economic Development Support for Planning Organization-CEDS	11.302	ED23ATL3020004	\$ 66,436
Economic Adjustment Assistance-Disaster Recovery Coordinator	11.307	04-79-07850	80,345
Total Economic Development Cluster			<u>80,345</u>
Total Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration			<u>146,781</u>
Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed through Florida Department of Health:			
National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program-Health Care Coalition FY 23-24	93.889	COPBH	641,677
National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program-Health Care Coalition FY 24-25	93.889	COPBZ	90,809
Passed through Florida Hospital Association			
National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program-FHA-HCC	93.889	6 U3REP200642-01-05	132,848
Total National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program			<u>865,334</u>
Total Department of Health and Human Services			<u>865,334</u>
Department of Housing and Urban Development			
Passed through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:			
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program and			
Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii-HCC CDBG	14.228	MT024	234,508
Total Department of Housing and Urban Development			<u>234,508</u>
Department of Transportation			
Passed through the Florida Division of Emergency Preparedness:			
Interagency Hazardous Materials Public Sector Training and Planning Grant-HMEP 23/25	20.703	T0238	90,492
Total Department of Transportation			<u>90,492</u>
Department of Defense			
Passed through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Legacy Philanthropy Works			
Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program-NFWF SASMI	12.017	LPW-NEFLRC01NCRF	3,342
Total Department of Defense			<u>3,342</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS			<u><u>\$ 1,340,457</u></u>

The accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards are an integral part of this schedule.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES
OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

(1) Basis of Presentation:

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (the Council), and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Council, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the Council.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available.

(3) Subrecipients:

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, no amounts were passed through to subrecipients.

(4) De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate Election:

The Council did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate as covered in §200.414, *Indirect (F&A) costs*, of the Uniform Guidance.

**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

A. Summary of Auditors' Results:

Financial Statements:

Type of audit report issued on the basic financial statements: *Unmodified.*

Internal Control over Financial Reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? _____ yes X no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ yes X none reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? _____ yes X no

Federal Awards:

Internal Control over Major Programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? _____ yes X no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ yes X none reported

Type of report issued on compliance for each major federal program: *Unmodified.*

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? _____ yes X none reported

Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee? X yes _____ no

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: \$750,000

Major program identification:

Assistance Listing Number	Program Name
93.889	National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program

B. Financial Statement Findings: None.

C. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs: None.

D. Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings: Not applicable; no prior year findings reported.

E. Corrective Action Plan: Not applicable as no findings have been reported.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Governing Board,
Northeast Florida Regional Council:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Northeast Florida Regional Council's (the Council) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Council's major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2024. The Council's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the Council complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Council and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Council's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Council's federal programs.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Council's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Council's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the Council's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Council's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

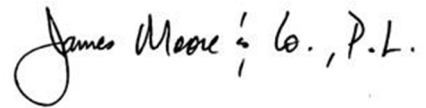
Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Moore & Co., P.L." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daytona Beach, Florida
February 6, 2025

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Governing Board,
Northeast Florida Regional Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (the Council), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 6, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

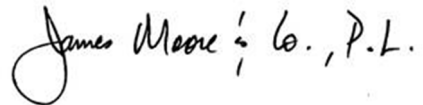
Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Council's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Moore & Co., P.L.". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daytona Beach, Florida
February 6, 2025

Agenda Item

Tab 5

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Tab 5



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
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✉ info@nefrc.org


BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

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

RE: NEFRC FISCAL YEAR 23/24 CLOSEOUT

Staff will provide the fiscal year 2023/2024 final reconciliation of budgeted and actual revenues and expenditures at the February 2025 board meeting.



WWW.NEFCR.ORG/SUBSCRIBE-TO-OUR-MAILING-LIST

FY 23/24 Budget Reconciliation	Adopted Amended Budget 23/24	Final Revenues/ Expenses FY 23/24	Budget Variance
--------------------------------	------------------------------------	--	--------------------

Revenues			
County Dues	\$ 694,757	694,757	-
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 452,672	432,581	(20,091)
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 182,895	181,996	(899)
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$ 70,000	66,436	(3,564)
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 14,077	13,987	(90)
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 77,000	87,278	10,278
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 95,355	90,492	(4,863)
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	4,800	(200)
Florida Department of Health	\$ 17,000	17,000	-
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	732,486	(16,226)
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 245,774	234,508	(11,266)
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 60,000	36,898	(23,102)
Florida Hospital Association	\$ 132,848	132,848	-
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ 328,573	298,787	(29,786)
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$ -	3,342	3,342
Florida Department of Commerce	\$ -	3,631	3,631
Disaster Recovery Coordinator	\$ 87,000	80,345	(6,655)
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 4,900	4,900	-
Other Revenue	\$ 72,944	80,899	7,955

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,289,507	\$ 3,197,971	\$ (91,536)
-----------------------	--------------	--------------	-------------

Expenses			
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,753,416	1,737,021	(16,395)
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 983,734	975,478	(8,256)
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 211,580	187,784	(23,796)
General Fund Expense*	\$ 255,140	215,072	(40,068)

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,203,870	\$ 3,115,355	\$ (88,515)
-----------------------	--------------	--------------	-------------

Net Income (loss) Prior to Pension Expenses Audit Adjustment	\$ 85,637	\$ 82,616	\$ (3,021)
---	-----------	-----------	------------

Pension Expense Audit Adjustment		\$ 63,913	\$ 63,913
----------------------------------	--	-----------	-----------

Net Income (loss) After to Pension Expense Audit Adjustment	\$ 85,637	\$ 18,703	\$ (66,934)
--	-----------	-----------	-------------

*Excludes Salaries & Fringe

Agenda Item

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6

Tab 6



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 



FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: **MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE PRESENTATION**

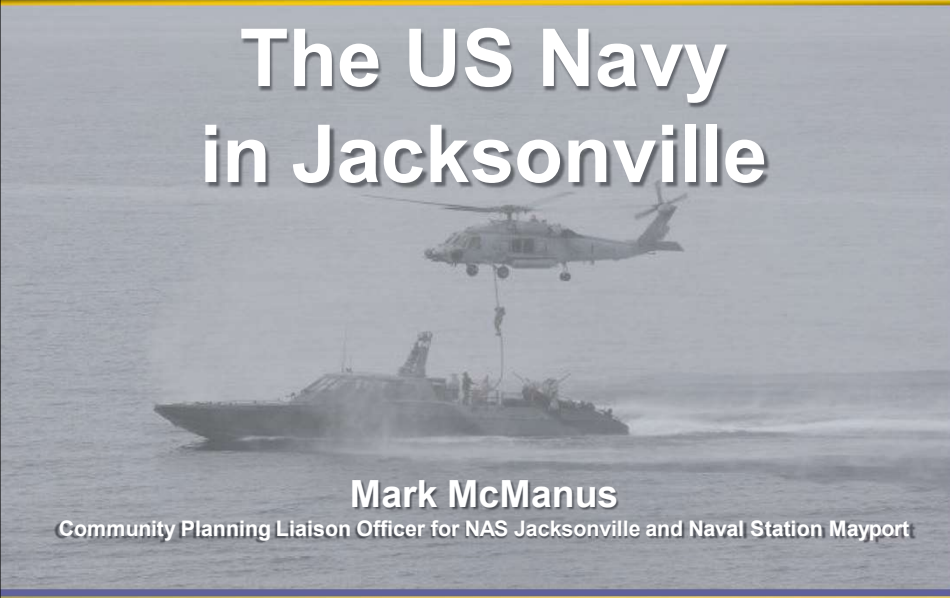
The Community Planning and Liaison Officer for Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport will present information pertaining to resilience of these military installations. This will include background on the importance of the Navy in the Region and the criticality for local governments to support the work of the installations, and to consider the impacts of local decision-making on the military mission.



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The US Navy in Jacksonville



Mark McManus
Community Planning Liaison Officer for NAS Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport

1

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Topics

- **Military Impact to the local area**
- **MIRR for NE Florida**
- **Installation overview of NS Mayport**
- **Installation overview of NAS Jacksonville**
- **Local Training Ranges**
 - Pinecastle Range
 - Navy Outlying Field Whitehouse
 - Jacksonville Shallow Water ASW Training Range


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2024 Florida Defense Impact Analysis (in revision)


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- **The Northeast Florida Region includes Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.**
- **Defense activities are integral to the regional economy, as evidenced by the \$8.3 billion in procurement, compensation, and transfers that flowed into the region in 2022**


Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis
2024 Update

Prepared for:

January 2024

Prepared by:



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2024 Florida Defense Impact Analysis (in revision)

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Duval County



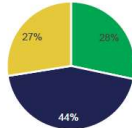
Duval County Summary
Location: Northeast Region

Home to: Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport, Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, Jacksonville Air National Guard Base

Table 57. Direct Defense Expenditures: Duval County

Spending Flow	Millions (Real 2023 USD)
Procurement	\$1,842.8
Compensation	\$2,879.2
Transfers	\$1,790.9
Total Direct Expenditures	\$6,512.9

Figure 72. Distribution of Direct Defense Spending: Duval County



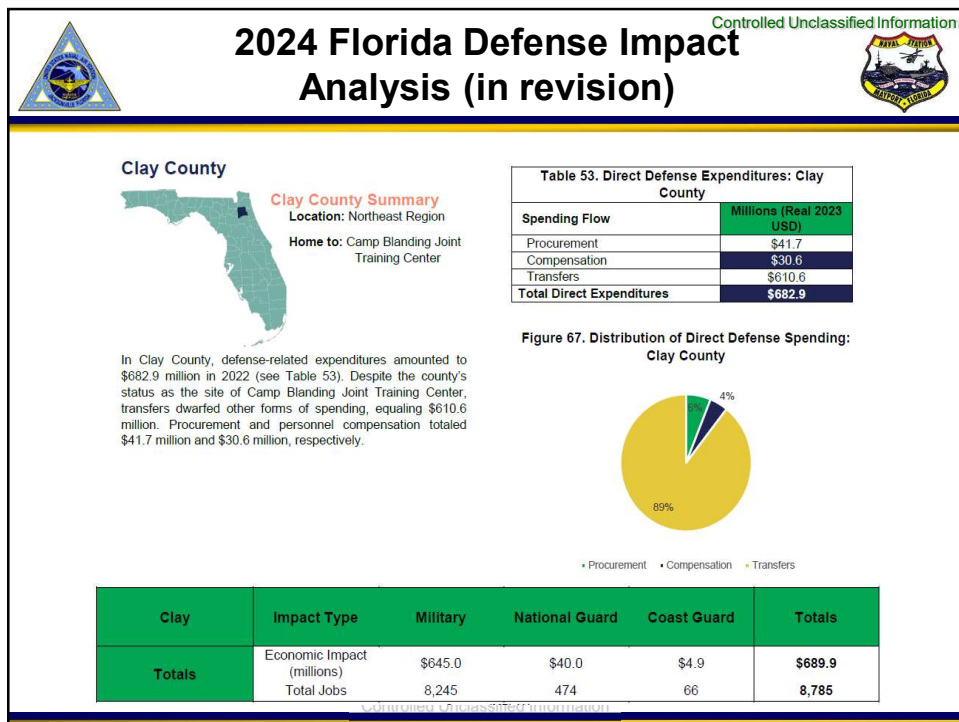
■ Procurement ■ Compensation ■ Transfers

Duval County is a major beneficiary of defense activities. In 2022, defense-related expenditures totaled \$6.5 billion (see Table 57). As the home of four installations, the county relied most heavily on personnel compensation, which equaled \$2.9 billion. Procurement and transfers each totaled approximately \$1.8 billion.

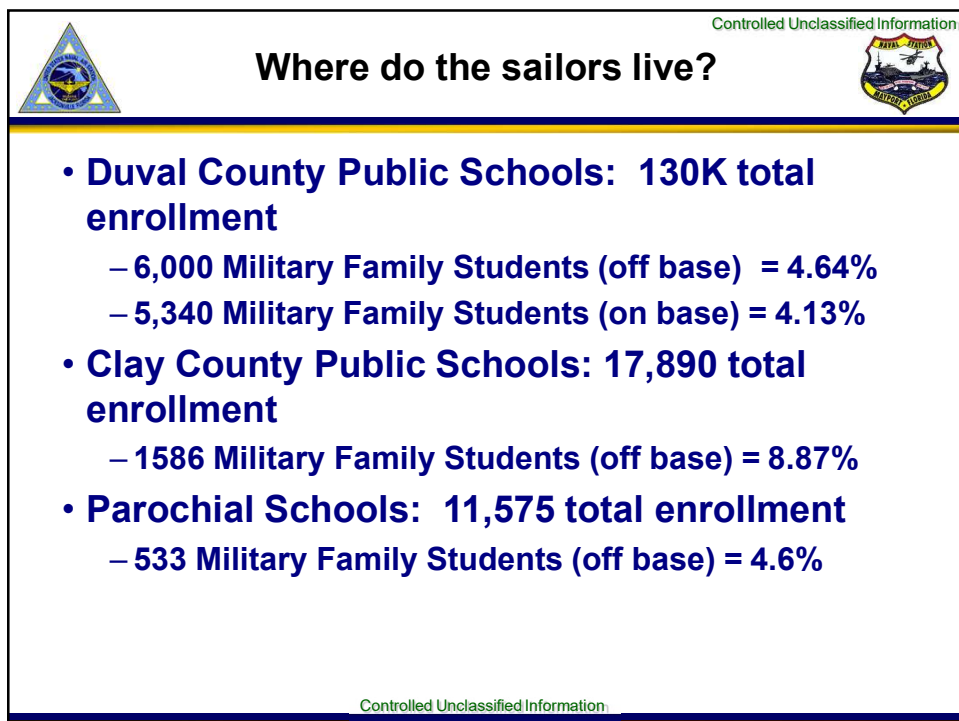
Duval	Impact Type	Military	National Guard	Coast Guard	Totals
Totals	Economic Impact (millions)	\$8,183.5	\$656.4	\$257.9	\$9,097.8
	Total Jobs	62,368	4,224	1,467	68,060

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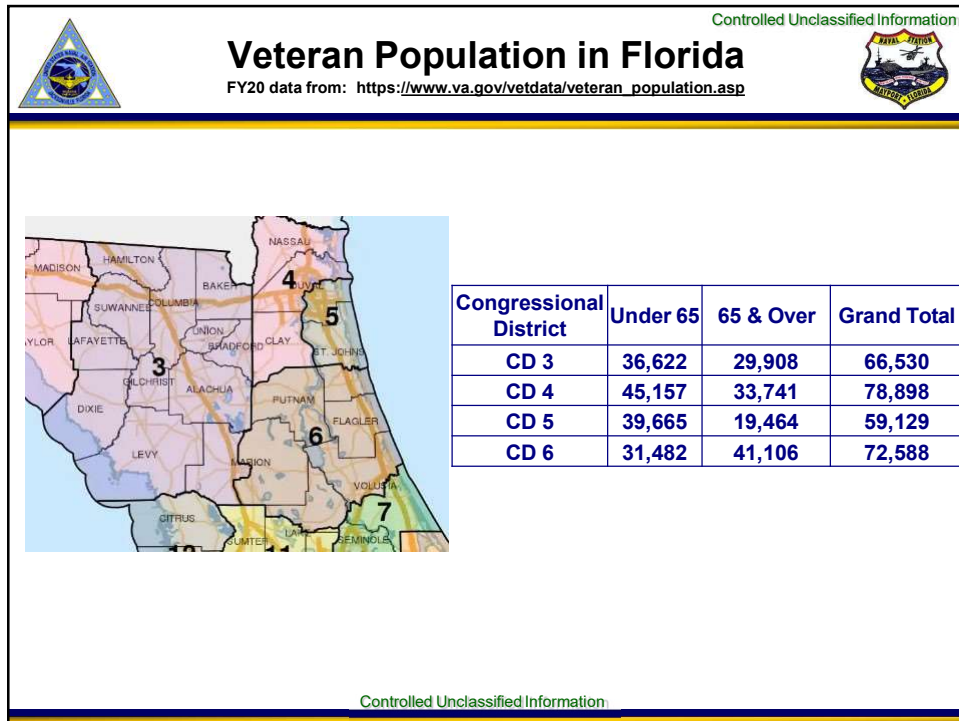
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Installation Resilience

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- **Natural Events**
 - Wildfire potential at NOLF Whitehouse
- **Water Supply**
 - NS Mayport well water only
 - COAB DCIP Grant 2024
 - PFAS issues on both bases
- **Flooding**
 - Mayport faces tidal surge, coastal flooding and riverine flooding
 - Riverine Flooding at NAS JAX potential
- **Land Use/Development**
 - Installation access is vulnerability at both
 - Frequency spectrum management challenges

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Installation Resilience

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- **Severe Weather**
 - Hurricane Potential
 - FEMA Staging base at NAS JAX
- **Military Operational Impacts**
 - AICUZ incorporated in 2007 but challenged monthly
 - Noise complaints at all three airfields
- **Land Degradation**
 - Sea level rise at NS Mayport
 - Shoreline erosion at NAS Jax
- **Infrastructure**
 - Wastewater issues at both installations
 - Electrical vulnerabilities
 - Well water at both bases, NAS Jax has JEA tie-in

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Installation Resilience

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- **Species & Habitat Concerns**
 - Mayport – Sea Turtle nests
 - Whitehouse Gopher tortoises
 - NAS Jax – Gopher tortoise and bald eagles
- **Energy**
 - Microgrid & solar project consideration
 - Single point JEA connection

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Naval Station Mayport




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- **Facilities (Non-Housing): 1234 buildings**
 - Housing Structures: 491 buildings
 - PPV: 972 family units
 - 1524 Single Sailor Bunks in 7 bldgs.
- **Wharves: 18 with C-1/C-2 being CVN capable**
- **Runways: 05/23 8,000 ft**
- **Tenant Commands: 84**
 - 12,000+ personnel daily
- **Major Tenants:**
 - U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command / U.S. Fourth Fleet ★★
 - Destroyer Squadron 40
 - Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Atlantic
 - Southeast Regional Maintenance Center
 - Naval Surface Group Southeast (SURFRON 14)
 - Littoral Combat Ship Squadron TWO
 - Afloat Training Group Atlantic

Annual Economic Impact of \$2.7 Billion


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Mayport Assigned Vessels




Arleigh Burke Class Destroyers

- USS Ramage (DDG-61)
- USS Carney (DDG-64)
- USS The Sullivans (DDG-68)
- USS Donald Cook (DDG-75)
- USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG-81)
- USS Lassen (DDG-82)
- USS Mason (DDG-87)
- USS Farragut (DDG-99)
- USS Jason Dunham (DDG-109)
- USS Thomas Hudner (DDG-116)
- USS Delbert D. Black (DDG-119)


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Mayport Assigned Vessels



Freedom Class Littoral Combat Ships

- USS Wichita (LCS-13)
- USS Billings (LCS-15)
- USS Indianapolis (LCS-17)
- USS St. Louis (LCS-19)
- USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul (LCS-21)
- USS Cooperstown (LCS-23)
- USS Marinette (LCS-25)

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Mayport Assigned Vessels





USCG Medium Endurance Cutter
USCGC Valiant (WMEC-621)

Constellation Class FFG
**First 7 vessels slated for Naval Station
Everett, Washington**




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Mayport Aviation Laydown

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- **MH-60R Seahawk Helicopter**
 - HSM-40 FRS ~ 40
 - HSM-48 Expeditionary - 9
 - HSM-50 Expeditionary -9
- **MQ-4 Triton UAS**
 - VUP-19


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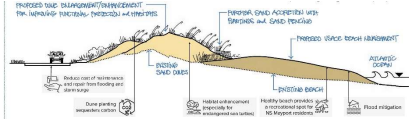
Environmental Resiliency

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- NS Mayport maintains a climate informed Installation Development Plan.
- The Plan identifies several physical resiliency projects that are in work:
 - Repair of the Coastal Dunes – **IN WORK**
 - Study of Stormwater Hydrology-
 - Design of St Johns River Living Shoreline
 - Design of State Route A1A improvements
- NS Mayport works closely with partners from outside of our fence line including:
 - U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - St Johns River Water Management District
 - The Cities of Jacksonville and Atlantic Beach and the Village of Mayport




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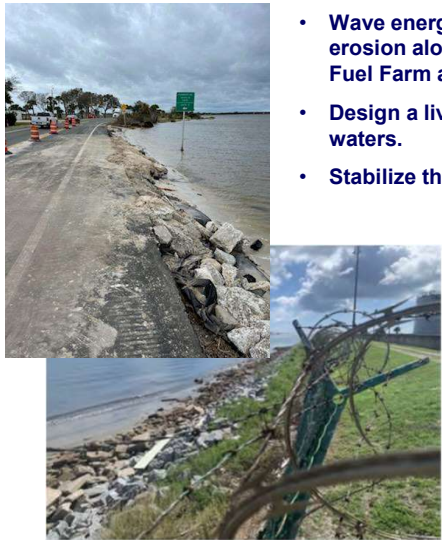
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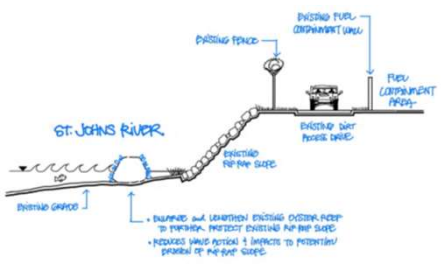
St Johns River Living Shoreline

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- Wave energy and elevated water levels cause shoreline erosion along the St. Johns River near the NS Mayport Fuel Farm and along A1A at Gate 5.
- Design a living shoreline along the shoreline in nearshore waters.
- Stabilize the shoreline and reduce erosion.



• EXAMINED AND LOCATED EXISTING EXISTING BUFFER TO PARKING FENCE. PROTECT EXISTING RIPARIAN BUFFER.
 • REDUCES LAND ACQUISITION & IMPACTS TO POTENTIAL PROTECT OF RIPARIAN BUFFER.


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SR A1A

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- \$1M in Navy REPI funding provided to FDOT to initiate study
- Working group include FDOT, COJ PW, COJ Parks Dept, USCG & USN



Alternative	Cost (in million)					Total
	Design	Wetland Mitigation	Right-of-Way	Construction	CEI	
12-ft NAVD Roadway Elevation	25.4	10.0	5.3	169.6	20.3	230.7
12-ft NAVD Bridge Elevation	33.9	1.2	0.0	225.9	27.1	288.0
8.3-ft NAVD Roadway Elevation	20.8	10.0	2.5	138.7	16.6	188.6


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NS Mayport Stormwater Hydrology

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- NS Mayport experiences flooding during intense rainfall and higher than usual tides.
- This project evaluates the stormwater hydrology of NS Mayport.
- Develops strategies to reduce the severity of flooding.






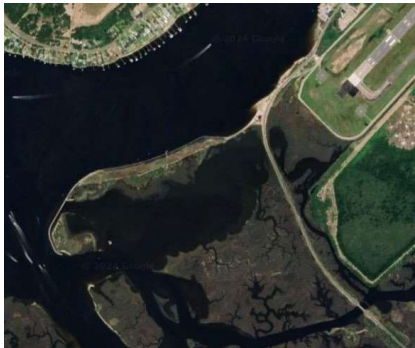
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Helen Cooper Floyd Park

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- Land leased from Navy in 2023
- 25 acres of beach access and picnic area
- COJ Parks Department requires some improvements prior to opening to public

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24



25



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Naval Air Station Jacksonville



- **Facilities (Non-Housing):** 2,092 buildings (1,643 on main base)
 - Housing Structures: 301 buildings
- **Runways:** 10/28 9,000 ft
- **Tenant Commands:** 130
 - 23,500+ personnel daily
- **Major Tenants:**
 - Navy Region Southeast ★
 - Maritime Patrol Reconnaissance Wing 11
 - Fleet Readiness Center Southeast
 - Naval Hospital Jacksonville
 - DLA Warehouses
 - Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville
 - Naval Facilities and Engineering Command Southeast
 - Navy Entomology Center of Excellence

Annual Economic Impact of \$3 Billion

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NAS Jacksonville Aviation Laydown



- **MH-60R Seahawk Helicopter**
 - HSM-70 Airwing Squadron – 10
 - HSM-72 Airwing Squadron – 10
 - HSM 74 Airwing Squadron – 10
 - HSM-46 Airwing Squadron – 10
 - HSM-60 Reserve Expeditionary- 9
- **C-40A Clipper – 5 w/ VR-58**
- **C-130T Hercules 6 w/ VR-62**
- **US Customs and Border Protection**

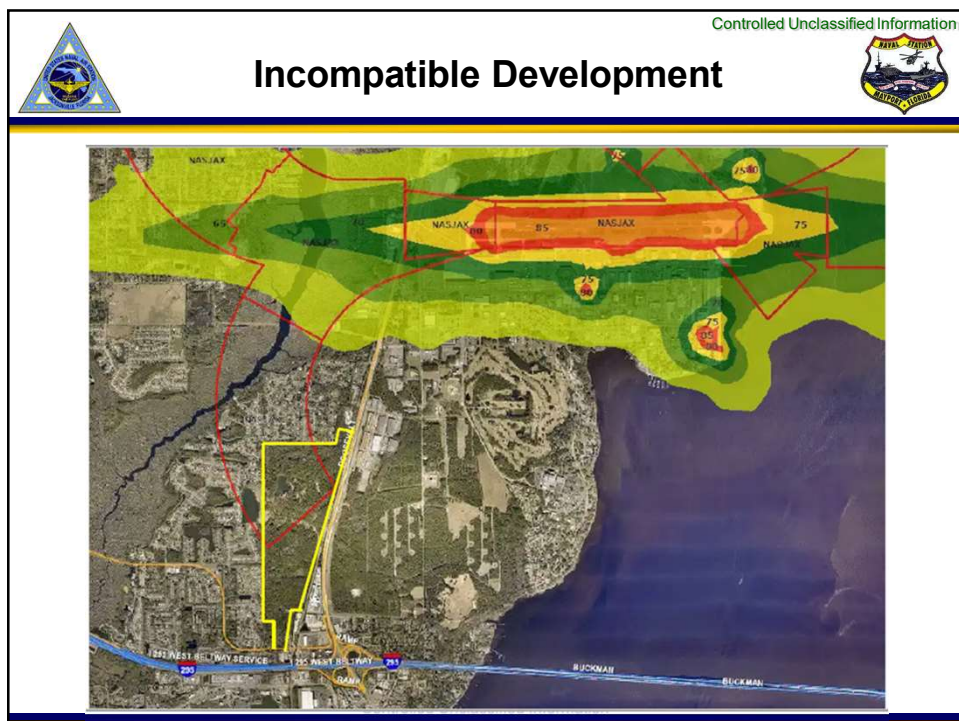
- **P-8A Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft**
 - VP-30 FRS - 14
 - VP-5 Fleet Squadron – 8
 - VP-8 Fleet Squadron - 8
 - VP-10 Fleet Squadron - 8
 - VP-16 Fleet Squadron - 8
 - VP-26 Fleet Squadron - 8
 - VP-45 Fleet Squadron - 8
 - VP-62 Reserve Squadron - 6
 - TOCRON-11
 - VUP-19






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Incompatible Development

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- **Five-year program to cover 300 acres next to NAS JAX fence line**
- **\$17.5M partnership between TCC, COJ (FDSC grants) and DOD REPI (NAS JAX)**

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Tillie Fowler Park

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- Land leased from Navy in 1979
- 509 Acres with facilities for:
 - Biking
 - Hiking and nature trails
 - Archery Range
 - Nature Center
- Picnic area with grills and playgrounds
- 35-foot elevated observation platform




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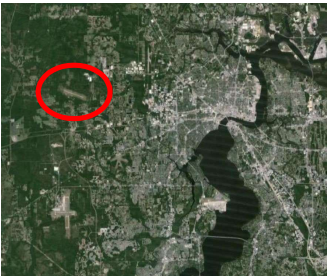




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Navy Outlying Field Whitehouse



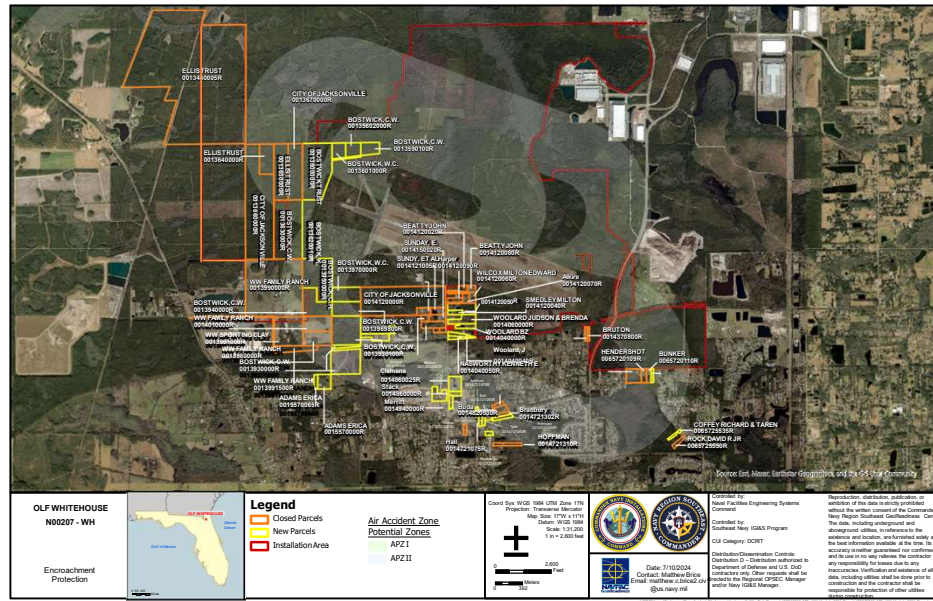
- **NOLF Whitehouse**
 - 8,000 ft Runway
 - Primary purpose Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP)
 - Aircraft Carrier Marking and Lighting
 - IFLOLS and MOVLAS
 - Multiple Helo Confined Area Landing LZ
 - Firehouse & ATC Tower manned for fixed wing operations

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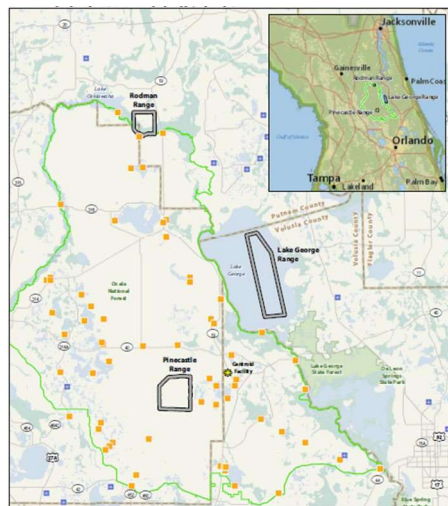


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Pinecastle Range Complex



- **Pinecastle Range Complex**
 - **3 Ranges**
 - Rodman Impact – Inert
 - Lake George – Inert/Chaff/Flares
 - Pinecastle Impact – up to 2,000#
 - Rodman – 2,700 acres in Putnam County owned by USG
 - Lake George – 9,000 acres owned by State with permanent Letter of Consent
 - Pine Impact – 5,700 acres inside Ocala National Force w/ permit through 2052
 - Only Navy-controlled live impact area on east coast
 - Training range for all Carrier Strike Groups prior to deployment


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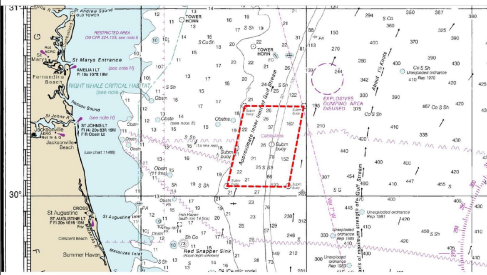
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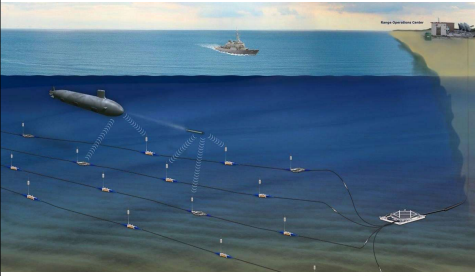

Jacksonville Shallow Water ASW Training Range

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- Opened in November 2022
- 300 'nodes' spread over 500 Sq Nmi
- Used for both Air and Surface ASW
- Weapons may be employed
 - No range boat locally


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Mayport Encroachment

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Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Buffering Efforts:

- Multi-Year Agreement with the City of Jacksonville since 2009**
 - Focused on impacts and incompatible development along the waterfront
 - Cruise Ship Terminal
- Mitigating development and incompatible use vulnerabilities through partnerships**
 - Florida Defense Support Task Force
 - Planning Commission Ex-Officio Member
 - Transportation Planning Organization
 - Mayport Waterfront Partnership
 - Strong Community Relationships
 - State/Community Support
 - North Florida Land Trust
 - Florida Defense Alliance
- SRA1A Project with FDOT**



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SR A1A

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- \$1M in Navy REPI funding provided to FDOT to initiate study



Alternative	Cost (in million)					Total
	Design	Wetland Mitigation	Right-of-Way	Construction	CEI	
12-ft NAVD Roadway Elevation	25.4	10.0	5.3	169.6	20.3	230.7
12-ft NAVD Bridge Elevation	33.9	1.2	0.0	225.9	27.1	288.0
8.3-ft NAVD Roadway Elevation	20.8	10.0	2.5	138.7	16.6	188.6

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Environmental Resiliency

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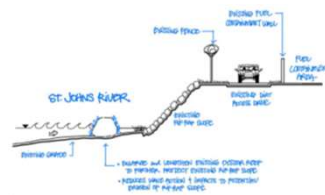
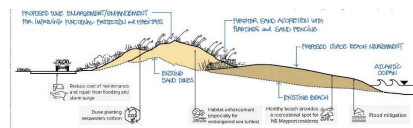
NS Mayport maintains a climate informed Installation Development Plan.

The Plan identifies several physical resiliency projects that were funded in FY23:

- Repair of the Coastal Dunes
- Study of Stormwater Hydrology
- Design of St Johns River Living Shoreline
- Design of State Route A1A improvements

NS Mayport works closely with partners from outside of our fence line including:

- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- St Johns River Water Management District
- The Cities of Jacksonville and Atlantic Beach and the Village of Mayport



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: PERSONNEL, BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE REVIEW RFP

As part of the Military Installation Resilience Review project, staff issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to provide technical services for completion of the project. The RFP was issued on December 12, 2024, with responses due by January 13, 2025.

There are five members on the selection committee:

- Ms. Beth Payne, CEO, NEFRC
- Ms. Fara Ilami, Regional Resiliency Manager, NEFRC
- Ms. Donna Starling, CFO, NEFRC
- Mr. James Richardson, Program Administrator, Environmental Protection Board, City of Jacksonville
- Chief David Motes, Fire Chief and Assistant County Administrator, Clay County

Three proposals were received. Interviews were held with each of the three vendors on Friday, January 24th. The selection committee meets on Monday, February 3rd to determine final recommendations for consideration by the Personnel, Budget and Finance Committee and ultimately, the Board of Directors.



Northeast Florida Regional Council RFP for MIRR Technical Assistance

As part of the Military Installation Resilience Review project, staff issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to provide technical services for completion of the project. The RFP was issued on December 12th, 2024, with responses due by January 13th, 2025.

There are five members on the selection committee:

- Ms. Beth Payne, CEO, NEFRC
- Ms. Fara Ilami, Regional Resiliency Manager, NEFRC
- Ms. Donna Starling, CFO, NEFRC
- Mr. James Richardson, Program Administrator, Environmental Protection Board, City of Jacksonville
- Chief David Motes, Fire Chief and Assistant County Administrator, Clay County

Three proposals were received.

- Jacobs Engineering
- Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
- Tetra Tech

Interviews were held with each of the three vendors on Friday, January 24th. The selection committee met on Monday, February 3rd to determine final recommendations for consideration by the Personnel, Budget and Finance Committee and ultimately, the Board of Directors.

Scoring totals:

Total Scores			
	Jacobs	Stantec	Tetra Tech
Member 1	91	90	77
Member 2	91	85	78
Member 3	89	92	70
Member 4	97	99	96
Member 5	98	97	68
Averages	93.2	92.6	77.8

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL-Northeast Florida MIRR
Scoring Sheet**

Vendor Name: _____ Scorer: _____

Category	Criteria	Corresponding Section(s) of Proposal	Possible Score	Actual Score
Contractor Description/Experience		1, 2, 3	20	
	Company history and description			
	Company in good standing (appendices)			
	Disclosures and conflict of interest			
	Organizational chart and project team availability			
	Services/experience reflect RFP needs and work with military			
Key Staff Assigned to Project		4, 5, 6	20	
	Project lead experience in managing similar scale/type of projects			
	Key staff experience in similar types of projects			
	Staff capacity to complete tasks in RFP			
Project Approach		7	30	
	Project management plan in relation to NEFRC as lead			
	Stakeholder engagement approach			
	Integration of regional and local resilience efforts and data			
	Description of data development and vulnerability/risk analysis			
	Description of methodology for development of mitigation measures			
	Description of quality control measures			
Previous Relevant Projects		8, 9	30	
	Previous experience in successfully conducting MIRR			
	Previous projects include stakeholder engagement			
	Previous projects include risk and vulnerability assessments			
	Previous projects include development of mitigation measures			
	Positive contractor references			
		Totals	100	

Notes: _____

Summary of MIRR Scoring Committee Meeting:
Notes on Jacobs & Stantec

- **Score Averages:** Jacobs 93.2; Stantec 92.6.
- **Completed MIRRs:** Jacobs has completed 2 MIRRs in Florida (South Florida and Emerald Coast) and has 1 underway in Florida (East Central); Stantec has completed 2 MIRRs outside of Florida (Annapolis, MD and Lakewood, WA); **Stantec has not completed any in Florida.**
- **Local Work:** Jacobs has worked on design, engineering, and implementation types of projects with JEA, JTA, NS Mayport, Blount Island, FDOT, JAXPORT, Camp Blanding, and CCUA; Stantec has worked on management plans, analysis, and grant writing with several NE FL local governments, including those in Clay, Flagler, and Nassau counties; and Stantec partner The Water Institute has worked on the Resilient Jacksonville Strategy and Compound Flood Model projects.
- **Work with Regional Councils:** Jacobs has worked directly with 3 Regional Councils on MIRRs; Stantec has not worked directly with Regional Councils.
- **Participation in NEFRC Resilience Initiatives:** Jacobs Team includes 1 local member from Halff who has worked at NEFRC and participated in Resilient First Coast; Stantec Team includes several members from Black and Veatch who have participated heavily in Resilient First Coast.
- **Budget:**

Jacobs

Exhibit 1. Breakdown of cost estimate by Tasks listed in the RFP

TASK NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION	COST
Task 1 - Project Management	\$69,060
Task 2 - Base and Community Management	\$127,030
Task 3 - Initial Resilience Assessment	\$120,330
Task 4 - Modeling Impacts of Potential Threats	\$156,460
Task 5 - Mutual Support Among Regional Installation	\$56,970
Task 6 - Develop Recommendations and Implementation	\$88,761
Task 7 - Final Report, Deliverables and Dissemination	\$99,870
Task 8 - Community Partnership Development	\$49,020
Travel	\$25,000
General Expenses	\$6,000
TOTAL	\$798,501

Stantec

Cost Estimate by Task		
Task	Task Description	Cost
Task 1	Project Management	\$110,312
Task 2	Base and Community Engagement	\$133,025
Task 3	Initial Resilience Assessment	\$193,157
Task 4	Modeling Impacts of Potential Threats	\$80,382
Task 5	Mutual Support Among Regional Installations and Local Governments	\$63,356
Task 6	Develop Recommendations and Implementation Plan	\$91,316
Task 7	Final Report, Deliverables, and Dissemination	\$95,992
Task 8	Community Partnership Development	\$32,381
Total		\$799,921

- **Project Managers:** Jacobs Project Manager has no MIRR experience but is a highly decorated military veteran and engineer; Stantec Project Manager was Principal in Charge for 2 MIRRs and 5 other military resiliency and/or sustainability projects, including 1 project with 17 communities at Robins AFB in GA
- **Project Team:** Jacobs Team is mostly internal with 2 from Throwe Environmental, 1 from Halff, and 1 from Pharos; Stantec Team is very diverse including 3 members from The Water Institute, 10 members from Black and Veatch, 1 member from the Florida Institute for Built Environment Resilience (a UF institute), and one of the Stantec key staff is the former manager of the Resilient Florida program.
- **Community Contribution (Interview Answers):** Jacobs will begin with stakeholder mapping, including Emergency Management information gathered from after action reports; Stantec will leverage national expertise joined with strong local team.

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 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 also include the following:

- Progress towards the Northeast Florida Military Installation Resilience Review,
- Status of the FY 2024-2025 Regional Resilience Entity Grant from the Florida Department of Protection's Resilient Florida Program,
- Overview of areas in the Region that have been prioritized for resilience measures,
- Announcement of a new Vulnerability Assessment project for the Town of Baldwin,
- Upcoming unique opportunities for Baker County provided by our non-profit partners and other agencies, and
- Progress on Flagler County's Compound Flooding Analysis and Adaptation Plan.

In addition, some of the recent benefits of collaborative sharing across other organizations and other states will be highlighted.





NORTHEAST FLORIDA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Community Resiliency Update

NORTHEAST FLORIDA 2024-25 DEVELOPMENTS

1

Resilient First Coast



What are we working on?

Regional Resiliency Action Plan (RRAP), Phase II

What is the recent progress?

- Steering Committee met, selected Co-Chairs, and determined the process for moving the RRAP forward
- Executive Committee met to begin work on RRAP, Phase II

What is next?

Full Collaborative to meet February 19, 2025

2

Military Installation Resilience Review



What is this project?

- Base and Community Engagement
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Emergency Preparedness Exercise
- Recommendations and Implementation Plan to Address Risks
- Unified Resilience Assessment Standards for the regional military

What is the recent progress?

- Evaluated proposals from consultants
- Met internally and prepared lists of stakeholders for Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee

3

Regional Resilience Entity Project (2024-2025)

What is the recent progress?

- Setting up knowledge building sessions with local governments to provide technical assistance on how to use their Vulnerability Assessments
- Compiling Vulnerability Assessment reports and data from around the region



4

Multi-Regional Efforts:



Priority Areas with most risk selected from each county:

- Cuyler in Baker County
- Fernandina Beach
- Central Duval
- North Central Clay
- St. Augustine
- Marineland
- Southern Putnam

Two small areas selected for planning adaptation measures:

- Marineland – A1A segment
- Southern Putnam – Fruitland/Hicks Ave.

5

Local Government Technical Assistance



- Working with Climate Central to generate imagery for key at-risk sites in Baker County as part of the Vulnerability Assessment

- Working with Flagler County on completion of Compound Flooding Analysis and Adaptation Plan
- Beginning work with the Town of Baldwin on a comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment

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BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER


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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ERIC ANDERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN – INITIAL REVIEW AND FEEDBACK PART 2

Pursuant to the State and Regional Planning Act, the Northeast Florida Regional Council maintains a Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) that addresses the five required issue areas: Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Emergency Preparedness, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, and Regional Transportation. The SRPP also contains four regional issue areas: Health, Energy, Cultivation and Demographics, and Equity.

At the November 2024 meeting, the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors approved the 2024 Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Assessment and authorized staff to begin the SRPP five-year update. As such, staff has prepared an initial draft of four (issue areas) for review and feedback.

This is meant to be an initial step to highlight changes and trends in data, validate or amend regionally significant issue areas, and provide a general state of the region. A formal draft will be returned before the Board at the June 5, 2025 meeting.

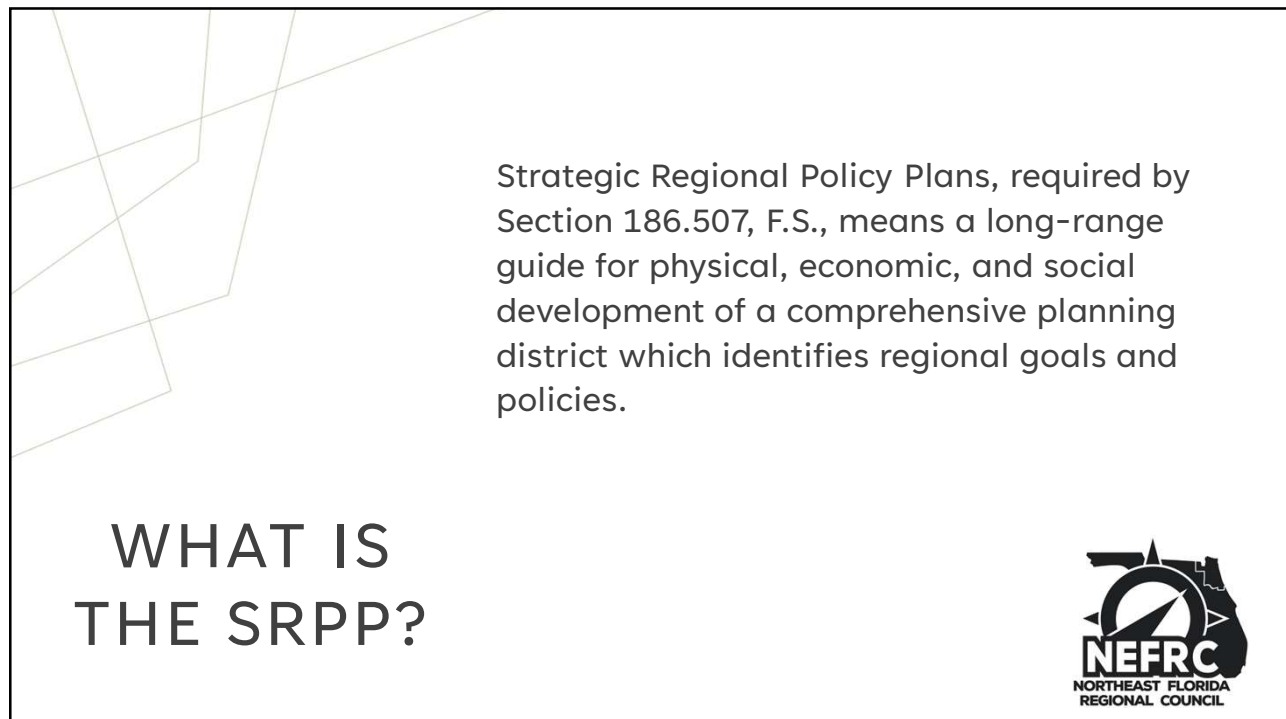
The drafts show track changes, with red deletions and blue additions. Draft maps have been included but will be updated for formal adoption.

- **Energy** - The State Statute does not require this element; staff recommend deleting it.
- **Health** - The State Statute does not require this element; staff recommend deleting it.
- **Natural Resources of Regional Significance**
- **Regional Transportation**

The Cultivation and Resilience Elements will be brought before the Board for review in April.



1



2

WHAT IS THE SRPP?

The SRPP **shall contain regional goals and policies** that address:

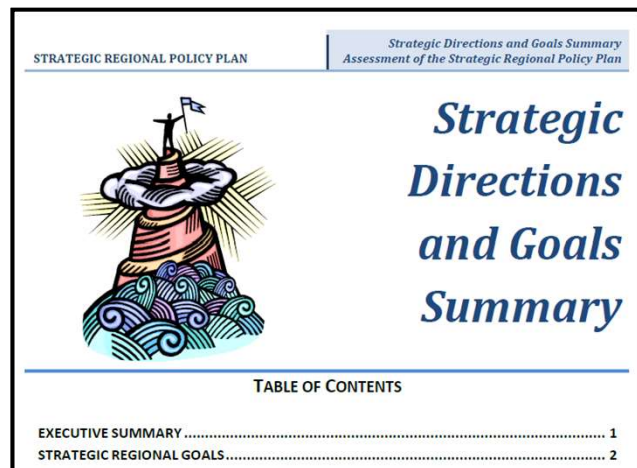
- 1) affordable housing
- 2) economic development
- 3) emergency preparedness
- 4) natural resources of regional significance
- 5) regional transportation

And **other regional goals and policies** as deemed appropriate by the council.

- 6) Health 7) Energy 8) Cultivation
- 9) Demographics and Equity

3

SRPP ASSESSMENT IN NOVEMBER 2024



- Reviewed Nine (9) Subject Areas/Elements

4

2024 SRPP ASSESSMENT

NEFRC Board approved the following updates:

1. Update and expand the Cultivation Element
2. Create a standalone Resilience Element, separating it from the Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency Element
3. Add the First Coast Wellbeing Index
4. Consider removing the Health Element
5. Consider removing the Energy Element
6. Consider removing SRPP alignment with the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars

5

SRPP WORKPLAN & TIMELINE

November 7, 2024	Board: SRPP Process Review and Plan Evaluation
January 9, 2025	Board: SRPP Review #1 (1st half) & suggested updates
February 6, 2025	Board: SRPP Review #2 (2nd half) & suggested updates
Jan - Feb of 2025	Public Workshops: Consider policy guidance for Cultivation and Resilience elements
April 3, 2025	Board: Review draft Cultivation & Resilience elements
April 10, 2025	Kickoff Meeting & Online Public Input: SRPP Update Process & Start of Public Input
April of 2025	3 Public Meetings: SRPP Update Process & Public Input
June 5, 2025	Board Approval: To release the Draft update
June - Aug 2025	Collect Feedback on Draft SRPP from local governments & make updates
October 2, 2025	Board Approval: Proposed SRPP Released to the State, then allow 60 days for Review.
Dec 2025 & Jan 2026	Collect Feedback on Proposed SRPP from state review agencies and local governments, then make updates
February 5, 2026	Board Approval: Adopt Final SRPP ***Rulemaking Begins***

6

SRPP REVIEW LAST FOUR ELEMENTS

The drafts show track changes, with **RED** deletions and **BLUE** additions. Draft maps have been included but will be updated for formal adoption.



7

- 1) This is not a required SRPP Element in the State Statute.
- 2) Element contains information on power alternatives, motor fuel alternatives, and pipelines.
- 3) NEFRC does not have a role in the implementation of these objectives.

Staff recommendation is to delete this optional Element.

ENERGY ELEMENT



8

- 1) This is not a required SRPP Element in the State Statute.
- 2) Element contains information on health trends and challenges.
- 3) Health measures are now included in the First Coast Wellbeing Index.
- 4) Some Objectives can be included in other SRPP Elements.

Staff recommendation is to delete this optional Element.

HEALTH ELEMENT



9

- 1) This is a required Element of the SRPP.
- 2) Updated the data, maps, and text.
- 3) Maintained the current Goals, Objectives, & Policies.

NATURAL RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE ELEMENT



10

- 1) This is a required Element of the SRPP.
- 2) Updated the data, maps, and text.
- 3) Maintained the current Goals, Objectives, & Policies.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT



11

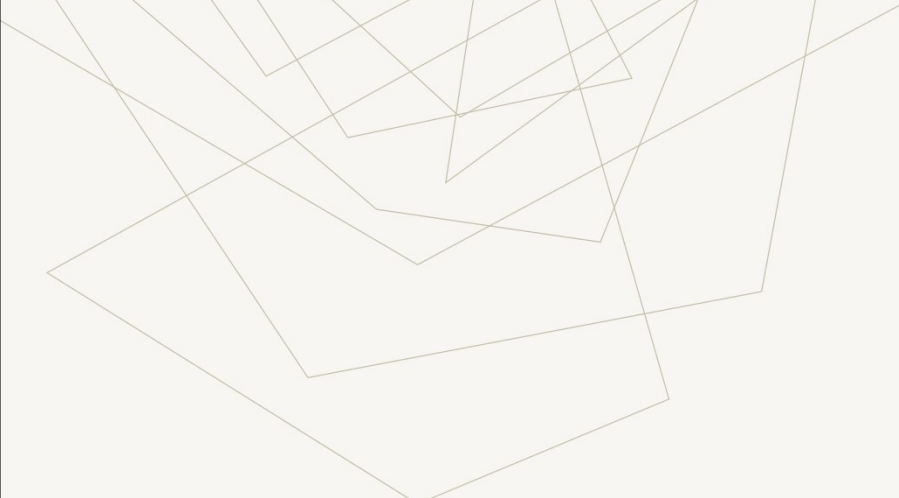
April 3, 2025	Board: Review draft Cultivation & Resilience elements
April 10, 2025	<u>Kickoff Meeting & Online Public Input:</u> SRPP Update Process & Start of Public Input
April of 2025	<u>3 Public Meetings:</u> SRPP Update Process & Public Input
June 5, 2025	Board Approval: To release the Draft update

April 3rd NEFRC Board Meeting


WHAT IS NEXT?

DRAFT - Cultivation Element
DRAFT - Resilience Element

12



Eric B. Anderson, CEM, AICP
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Northeast Florida Regional Council
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eanderson@nefrc.org



STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Energy



Energy

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Figure 2: Investor-Owned Utility Customers	5
Figure 3: State of Florida—Energy Sources.....	5
Figure 4: Renewable Energy Sources in Florida.....	6
Figure 5: Sources of US Oil Imports 2018.....	8
Figure 6: Florida's Major Petroleum Ports.....	9
Figure 7: Number of Public Charging Stations	10

ENERGY TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

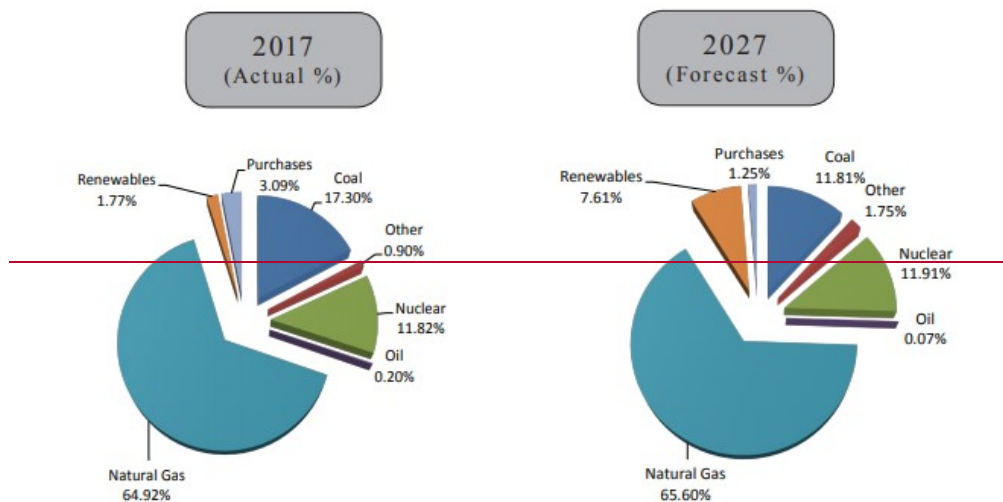
The Energy Element includes information about energy use, available energy sources and recommendations to help Northeast Florida become more energy independent. Energy independence is vitally important for national security and economic stability because of our reliance on fuel imported from other nations and sources of energy that have become increasingly scarce and costly to obtain. Ways to achieve energy independence include: conserving energy; using energy efficiently; utilizing renewable and alternative energy sources; and utilizing local resources. It should be noted that there are objectives with no policies in this element. This is the case when it is not yet clear what role NEFRC will have in the implementation of the objective.

ENERGY IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

The State of Florida has its concerns and responsibilities toward energy, which stems from the following facts:

- a. Florida's energy usage is in part for transportation and electric power generation
- b. Florida depends on petroleum, ranking fourth in all states
- c. Florida is one of the nation's largest net fossil fuel consumers

As shown in the chart in Figure 1, the main source of energy in Florida is currently natural gas. Natural gas will continue to be Florida's main source of energy in the future.

Figure 1: Florida Energy Consumption Estimates 2017

Source: FRCC 2018 Regional Load & Resource Plan

Energy resources and infrastructure are critical to Northeast Florida's ability to expand, diversify, and compete economically. This energy document is divided into two sections. The first discussion relates to power and electric generation. The second discussion relates to transportation energy.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: POWER ALTERNATIVES AND RESILIENCY

The following discussion provides an overview of energy sources being utilized throughout the region. The energy sources included are electricity and natural gas. These may be considered traditional energy sources. Later discussion relate to other sources including nuclear power and renewable energy.

Electricity

There are nine providers of electricity within Northeast Florida. They are:

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – JEA is the eighth largest municipally-owned electric utility in the United States in terms of number of customers. JEA's electric service area covers all of Duval County and portions of Clay and St. Johns Counties. JEA's service area covers approximately 900 square miles and serves more than 420,000 electric customers. JEA operates five coal-fired power plants in the Northeast Florida Region.

Florida Power & Light (FPL) – FPL is an investor-owned electric utility company that services portions of Northeast Florida. FPL is the largest electric utility in Florida and

serves approximately 4.5 million customers in Florida. Florida Power and Light operates a steam generation plant in Putnam and St. Johns Counties.

Clay Electric Cooperative—The Clay Electric Cooperative covers most of Clay and Putnam Counties, the southern half of Baker County, and a southwestern portion of Duval County.

Beaches Energy Services—Beaches Energy powers more than 35,000 customers throughout Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra, and Palm Valley. The utility has a non-generating power plant at Jacksonville Beach.

Seminole Electric—Seminole Member Cooperative includes Clay Electric Cooperative. The Seminole Generation Station (SGS) Units 1 and 2 are 650 MW coal-fired units located five miles north of Palatka in Putnam County. SGS Unit 3 is a 750 MW coal-fired electrical generating unit located near Units 1 and 2.

Duke Energy Florida—Serves the southwestern portion of Flagler County. Progress Energy merged with Duke Energy in July 2012. The new Duke Energy is the largest regulated utility in the U.S., with approximately seven million customers across six states.

Florida Public Utilities—Florida Public Utilities (FPU) provides natural gas, propane and electric service to homes and businesses throughout Florida. In Northeast Florida, FPU covers the eastern half of Nassau County.

Green Cove Springs Electric Utility—The City of Green Cove Springs began providing electric power to its citizens and the surrounding community in 1907. Now over 100 years later, the Public Power Utility continues to provide service to the City of Green Cove Springs and a surrounding customer base in Clay County. The utility has a non-generating power plant in Green Cove Springs.

Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC)—The Okefenoke REMC covers the western half of Nassau County and the northern half of Baker County. REMC is an electric cooperative powering more than 35,000 residential consumer member, commercial and industrial accounts in southeast Georgia and northeast Florida

Investor-Owned Electric Utilities

Figure 2 depicts the number of customers served by Florida Power and Light, Duke Energy Florida, and Florida Public Utilities Corporation. These are the three investor-owned utilities that operate in the Northeast Florida Region. The numbers included in the table account for customers in the entire service area of the utility corporation, not just in Northeast Florida. Investor-owned utilities are those that generate power and sell. Municipals and cooperatives are non-generating companies that purchase power.

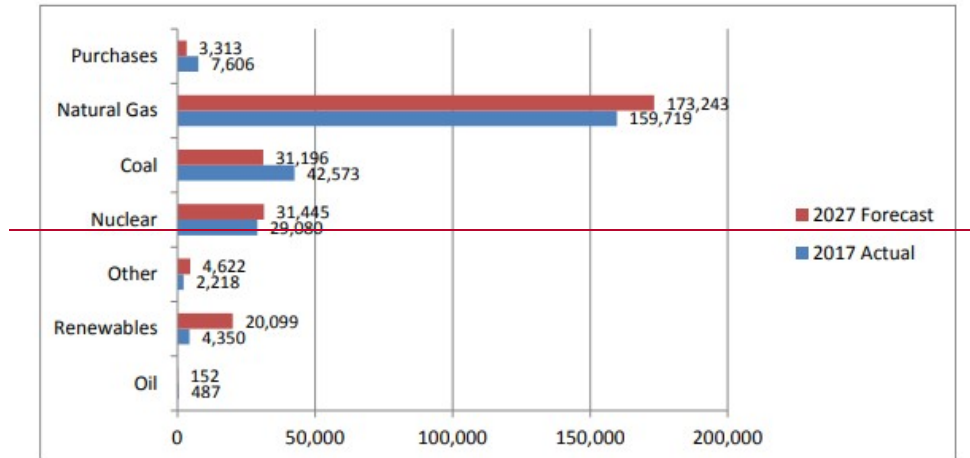
Figure 2: Investor-Owned Utility Customers

UTILITY	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	OTHER	TOTAL
Florida Power & Light Co.	4,338,224	547,908	11,654	4,085	4,901,871
Duke Energy Florida	1,677,197	179,206	2,135	27,029	1,885,567
Florida Public Utilities Co.	24,575	4,409	2	3,006	31,992

Source: Facts and Figures of the Florida Utility Industry, Florida Public Service Commission, 2019

Natural Gas

Northeast Florida utilities get a portion of power from natural gas. The region is dependent on two natural gas distribution systems, the Florida Gas Transmission Pipeline, which traverses Clay, Duval, and Nassau Counties, and the Southern Natural Gas Pipeline, which traverses Baker and Nassau Counties. A municipal and a gas district are located in Putnam County. The Peoples Gas System is an investor-owned company in Nassau, Duval, and Clay Counties. Much of the natural gas supplied to this Region come from the Gulf Coast states. The natural gas pipelines in this Region are energy resources of Regional significance. Natural gas will continue to be an important energy resource for Florida.

Figure 3: State of Florida - Energy Sources

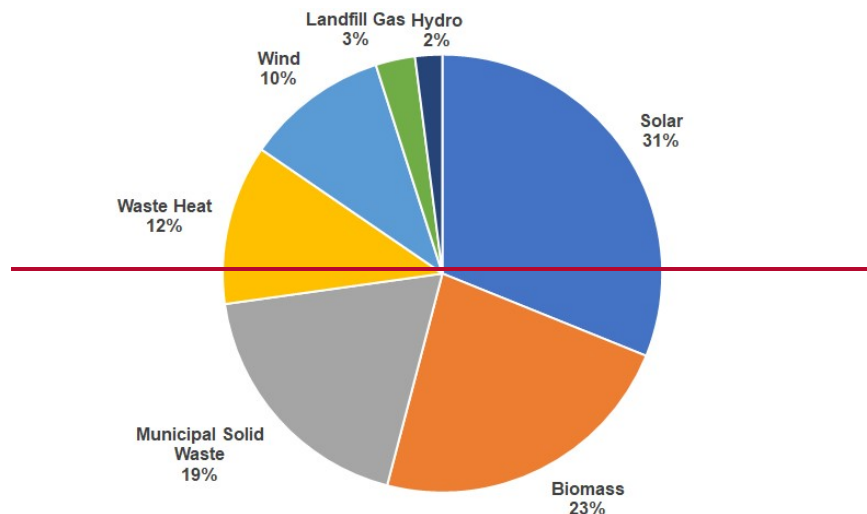
FRCC 2018 Regional Load & Resource Plan

Other Sources of Energy

This section provides an overview of solar, wind, biomass, biofuel, and other renewable energy sources available to utilities in Northeast Florida. While there are other providers and distributors of energy to the Region, JEA and Seminole Electric are the only producers of electricity in this Region. Therefore, when applicable, the following section focuses on

these two utility generators and their programs related to alternative sources. Seminole Electric does not have any alternative fuel sources in this Region.

Figure 4: Renewable Energy Sources in Florida



Source: FPSC's Review of 2018 Ten-Year Site Plans for Florida's Electric Utilities, November 2018

Based on the trends for electric energy sources for Northeast Florida it can be stated that the Region is not diverse in fuel sources and has a disproportionate dependency on coal to generate the Region's electricity. The Region is in its early stages of alternative fuel source development.

There are several alternative energy sources being utilized in Northeast Florida:

Solar – Solar photovoltaic (SV) may be high in price initially and require large installations but there are no fuel costs and the carbon emissions are generally non-existent. A utility must consider the costs and benefits. Recent years have seen increased development of solar generating facilities in Northeast Florida. JEA purchased a power agreement with Jacksonville Solar, LLC to provide energy from a 15.0 MW DC-rated solar farm. JEA expanded universal solar by contracting with eight new solar installations, increasing installed solar by 350 percent, and launched the JEA SolarSmart program that allows customers to choose to have up to 100 percent of their power come from solar. JEA was also recognized by T&D World for leadership in integrating intermittent renewable energy resources without compromising power quality and reliability. JEA also has one of the largest solar PV systems in the Southeast at the Jacksonville International Airport. In addition, JEA has provided incentives for over 400 solar domestic hot water systems. Florida Power & Light is close to completion of a solar generating facility in Baker County, with two more proposed as of August, 2020.

Landfill—This energy source is predominantly methane collected from landfills. JEA owns three internal combustion engine generators that are fueled by the methane gas produced by the landfill. JEA also receives landfill gas from the Northside landfill, which is fed to the Northside Generating Station and is used to generate power at Northside Unit 3.

Wind—JEA purchases 10MW of wind capacity from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and in turn the NPPD buys back the energy at specified on/off peak charges. JEA and other utilities receive federal environmental credits associated with green projects.

Biomass—Biomass is material collected from wood processing, forestry, urban wood waste, agricultural waste, and other plant and biological sources. JEA continues to conduct research and evaluate the feasibility of this energy source.

Nuclear—In March 2008, JEA approved the policy of pursuing nuclear energy partnerships with the goal of providing ten (10%) percent of JEA's power from nuclear sources. In June 2008, JEA entered into a purchase power agreement with the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) for a portion of MEAG's entitlement to the Vogtle Units 3 and 4, new nuclear units proposed to be constructed at the existing Plant Vogtle located in Burke County, Georgia.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: MOTOR FUEL ALTERNATIVES AND RESILIENCY

The following discussion provides an overview of energy sources being utilized throughout the region for transportation related needs. The energy sources included in the following discussion are petroleum, gasoline, natural gas, biofuels and electric vehicles.

Introduction and Overview

Affordable transportation of people and goods is vital to economic health. When the price of oil rises, the U.S. suffers as costs for transportation, food, and other goods increase. Because 95% of the country's transportation is powered by oil, few options are available when prices jump, causing the nation's welfare to be dependent upon the whims of the global oil market. Supply disruptions, or even the threat of disruption in the Middle East or elsewhere can cause price shifts that cost consumers and industries billions of dollars.

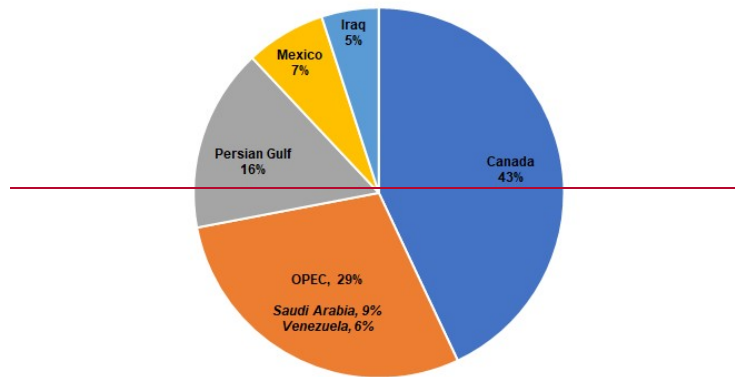
The North Florida Clean Cities Coalition is working to bring more viable alternative fuels and energy-efficient vehicles to this Region. This non-profit organization serves business, government, and non-profit agencies in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns

Counties. The Coalition advocates using alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies to achieve a triad of missions: reduce dependence on imported petroleum, develop Regional economic opportunities, and improve air quality.

Petroleum

Petroleum provides nearly forty (40%) percent of total U.S. energy demand and the transportation sector uses seventy (70%) percent of all petroleum in the U.S.

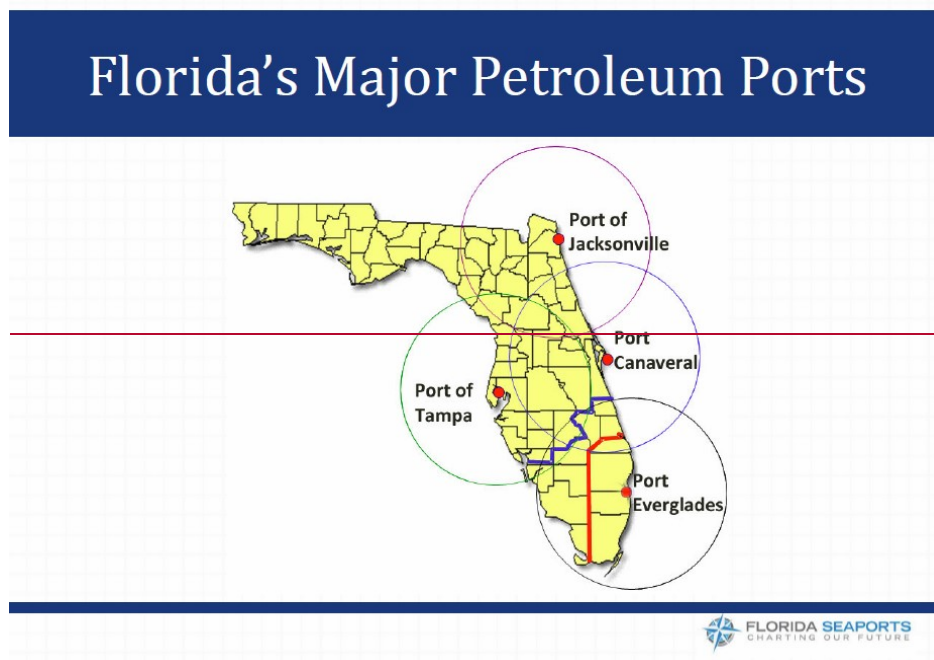
Figure 5: Sources of US Oil Imports 2018



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, October 2018

The United States imports a large amount of the oil it consumes. The U.S. imports forty-three percent (43%) of its oil from Canada and twenty-nine percent (29%) from OPEC. The U.S. Government Accountability Office reports that oil production will likely peak by 2040.

The State of Florida has four (4) major petroleum ports that are identified in Figure 6 below. The Port of Jacksonville is one of Florida's major petroleum ports.

Figure 6: Florida's Major Petroleum Ports*Source: Florida's Seaports*

Other Sources of Motor Fuels

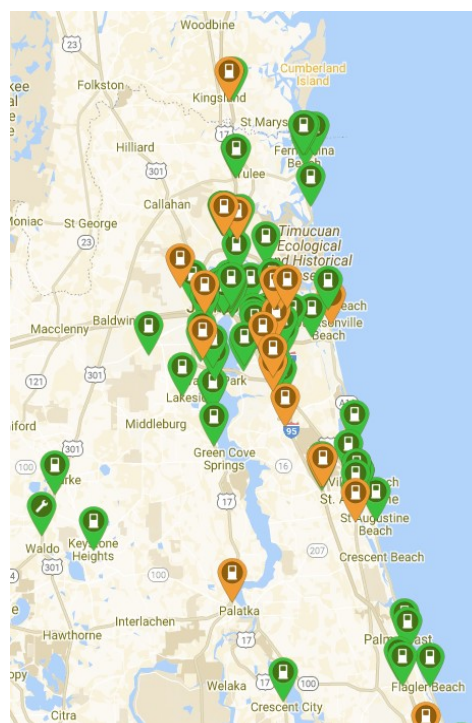
Natural Gas—Natural gas is an attractive transportation fuel because it burns cleaner than other fossil fuels. Natural gas vehicles produce up to thirty (30%) percent less greenhouse gas emissions than comparable gas or diesel vehicles. According to the American Public Transit Association, alternative fuels powered more than half of all U.S. transit buses in 2018. Between 2008-2018, the share of conventional diesel buses dropped from 70% to 42%. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, natural gas powers more than 175,000 vehicles in the United States and roughly 23 million vehicles worldwide. Domestic natural gas production is predicted to grow in the coming decades, reducing the need for natural gas imports. Shale gas is expected to be the largest source of natural gas in the future, accounting for nearly fifty (50%) percent of total U.S. natural gas production in 2035, compared to 16 percent in 2009. Depending on vehicle size and type, natural gas vehicles can provide better fuel efficiency, lower operating costs, and reduced emissions compared to conventional fuels. They emit fewer harmful greenhouse gas pollutants (i.e. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gasses).

Biofuels—Biofuels are projected to become a larger portion of the nation's fuel supply in the coming years. Biofuels can be produced from plants, algae, agricultural waste, food waste, municipal solid waste, and other sources. Ethanol and biodiesel are the two most

common types of biofuel produced in the U.S. In this Region, St. Johns County has a biodiesel fuel program. Residents can bring used cooking grease to five collection points to be recycled into biodiesel fuel. At the Federal level, the policy is to look into ethanol. However, this Region does not produce any ethanol as a fuel source.

Electric Vehicles — Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming more popular nationally due to incentives, advanced motor and battery technologies, higher gasoline prices, and environmental concerns. Electricity prices fluctuate far less than oil prices, so increased reliance on electricity for transportation could help make transportation costs more predictable and reduce the negative economic effects of oil price fluctuations. Electric vehicles themselves have zero emissions, although generating the electricity to power the vehicle may produce emissions. Depending on where the EV is charged, its power will come from a varying mix of coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewable energy. The dominant source of electrical generation in Northeast Florida is dependent on coal. Electric or hybrid vehicles are charged with charging units that can be installed at home, the workplace, or in public areas. Electric vehicle charging stations have become increasingly more visible throughout the region over the past decade. In 2014, there were only eight public charging stations in the region. Since that time, there has been a significant increase in public charging stations located throughout Northeast Florida. Figure 7 depicts the number of public charging stations located in various locations across north and central Florida.

Figure 17: Number of Public Charging Stations

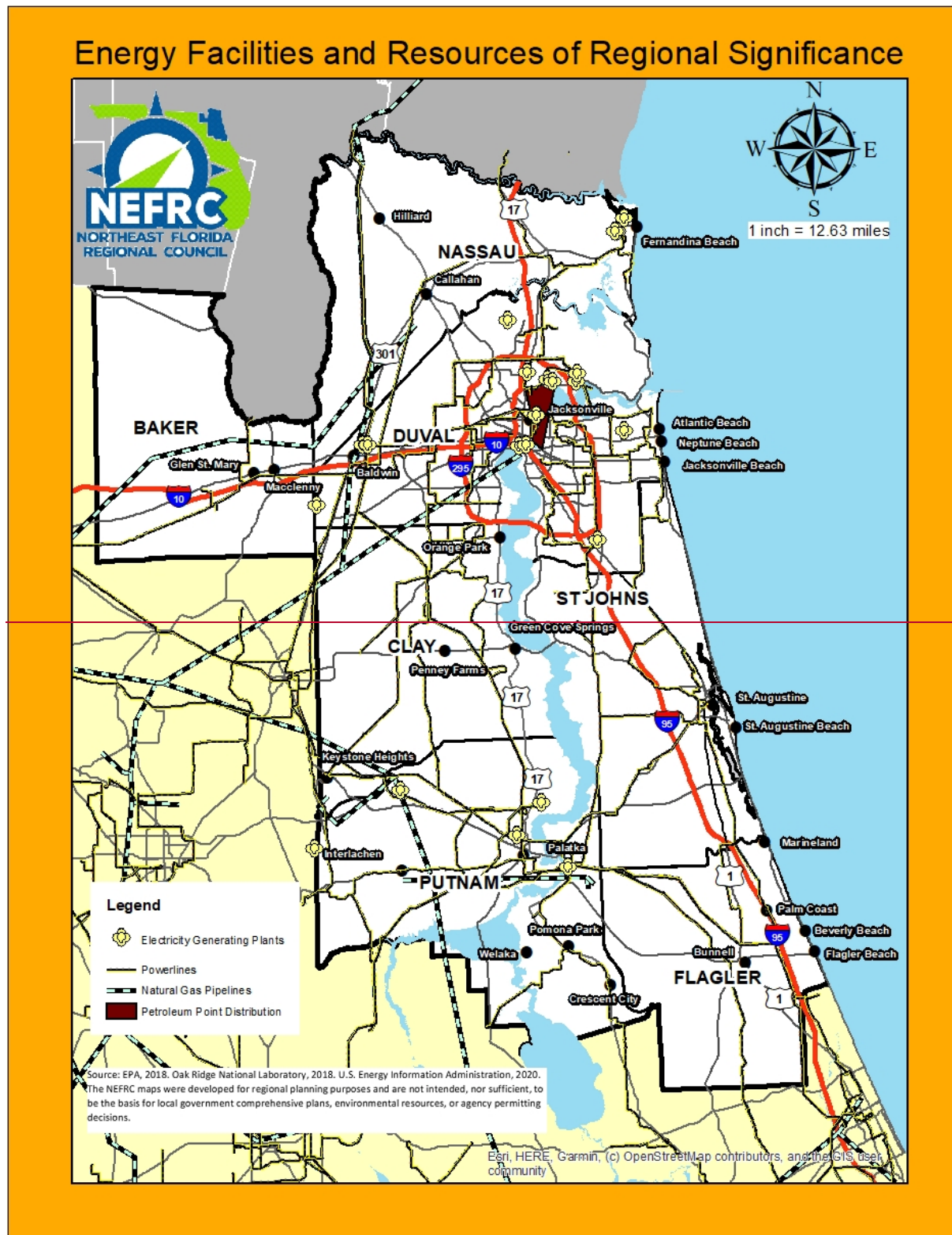


Source: plugshare.com

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

The Energy Resources of Regional Significance map shows the natural gas pipelines, the major electric transmission lines as defined by 403.522 F.S., and the power generation plants in the Northeast Florida Region. There are two pipelines, the Southern Natural Gas and the Florida Gas Transmission pipeline. There are six power plants, five JEA plants, all in Duval County and one Seminole Electric Plant in Putnam County. Pipelines, distribution facilities, power generation sites, and major transmission

lines are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.—

Resources of Regional Significance: Energy Facilities And Resources

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: A region that is flexible, innovative and takes full advantage of the diversity of potential energy sources, especially local sources. We will not wait for federal or state guidance or mandates to act if action can benefit the region. We acknowledge that, as a region vulnerable to natural disasters, resiliency and redundancy in energy, both in motor fuel and power, can set us apart from regions that choose not to address these issues that can be of large impact to business and residents.

Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership

OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT CAPITALIZES ON ITS REGIONAL STRENGTHS, WHERE ENERGY IS RELIABLE, AVAILABLE, AND ABUNDANT

OBJECTIVE: A FOCUS ON WHAT WORKS FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA TODAY, WITH STRATEGIES THAT ARE FREQUENTLY RE-EXAMINED TO ADDRESS CHANGE

OBJECTIVE: REDUCED DEPENDENCY ON FOREIGN OIL

OBJECTIVE: PRIORITIZED AND INCENTIVIZED ENERGY INVESTMENTS

OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT USES A DIVERSITY OF ENERGY SOURCES, INCLUDING RENEWABLES

Policies

Policy 1: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(11)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 2: NEFRC considers impacts to resources of regional significance and extra jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally

~~acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.~~

~~**Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)**~~

ENERGY MEASURES

Northeast Florida Greenhouse Gas *GHG) Emissions 2017 (Metric Tons)

LOCATION	VEHICLES	NATURAL GAS	ELECTRICITY	TOTAL GHG EMISSIONS
Jacksonville, Duval County	5,879,770	869,755	5,107,309	11,856,834
Fernandina Beach, Nassau County	94,730	66,420	140,971	302,121
Palatka, Putnam County	48,504	42,495	203,411	294,410
St. Augustine, St. Johns County	78,824	817	116,828	196,469
Bunnell, Flagler County	33,707	328	26,778	60,813
Green Cove Springs, Clay County	25,544	1,334	31,270	58,148
Macleenny, Baker County	16,609	310	37,246	54,165

Source: <https://www.eere.energy.gov/sled/>

Electricity Sales to Customers

UTILITY PROVIDER	MEGAWATTS
Green Cove Springs (Clay)	108,398
Beaches Energy Services	690,398
JEA (Clay, Duval, St. Johns)	12,325,781
Clay Electric (Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Putnam)	3,316,392
Okefenokee (Baker, Nassau)	167,127
*Florida Power and Light	110,053,141
*Florida Public Utilities	634,763
*Duke Energy Florida	39,144,651

Source: Florida Public Service Commission, 2018 Statistics of the Florida Electric Utility Industry

***Includes customers outside of Northeast Florida**

~~2018 Northeast Florida Power Generation Site Fuel Sources~~

JEA

<i>Fuel Source</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>Natural Gas</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Coal</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>Purchases</i>	<i>18%</i>
<i>Petroleum Coke</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>Oil</i>	<i>0%</i>

Source: 2018 JEA Annual Report

~~SEMINOLE ELECTRIC | UNITS 1 & 2 IN PUTNAM COUNTY~~

<i>Fuel Source</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>Bituminous Coal and Petroleum Coke</i>	<i>100%</i>

Source: Seminole Ten Year Site Plan

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Regional Health



Regional Health

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REGIONAL HEALTH TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

This chapter was originally developed with input from the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida Inc., and the many partners who helped us understand health issues as we developed First Coast Vision. **It should be noted that there are objectives with no policies in this element. This is the case when it is not yet clear what role NEFRC will have in the implementation of the objective.**

According to the World Health Organization, health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Globally, the paradigm shift in public health from sickness and disease towards wellness and prevention is prompting increased cross sector integrated strategies. Four primary areas of prevention include building healthy and safe communities; expanding quality preventive services in both clinical and community settings; empowering people to make healthy choices; and eliminating health disparities.

Healthy People 2020, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies, provides structure and guidance for achieving better population health by the year 2020. This framework offers specific, important areas of emphasis where action is needed in the United States to attain better health outcomes. The four over-arching goals of the framework are:

- Attain high quality, longer lives free of preventable disease, disability, injury, and premature death;
- Achieve health equity, eliminate disparities, and improve the health of all groups;
- Create social and physical environments that promote good health for all; and
- Promote quality of life, healthy development, and healthy behaviors across all life stages.

A renewed emphasis on the relationships between economic, social, and political factors and health and mental well-being status is transforming local leaders' perspectives on identifying the most leveraged loci of change in health improvement. Health behaviors are determined from, and influenced by, a multitude of factors that are personal (i.e., biological, psychological); organizational and environmental (i.e., both social and physical); and policy and programs. Social justice challenges in poor communities and rural areas exacerbate the potential impacts of these factors. Significant and dynamic interconnections that exist among these various levels of health determinants will most likely influence effective

interventions when health determinants are addressed at all levels. Healthy People 2020 identifies the following as the key social determinants of health:

- Economic Stability;
- Education;
- Social and Community Context;
- Access to Health Care; and
- Neighborhood and Built Environment.

REGIONAL HEALTH CHALLENGES¹

As a nation, we are learning that growing a healthy community is a lifelong process—one that requires our constant nurturing and vigilance. Healthy communities result from healthy choices and environments that support shared responsibility. In addition, everyone has a role to play in building a healthier, more vibrant community. The emphasis in public health toward prevention elevates the importance of two focus areas that directly impact healthy communities: an effective health system that fosters both quality coordinated health care services and environmental conditions that support and promote healthy and safe lifestyles and behavior.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has integrated healthy community design as a core function supporting their overall mission, which is to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health through cross sector collaborations. Healthy community design can improve people's health by:

- Increasing physical activity;
- Reducing injury;
- Increasing access to healthy food;
- Improving air and water quality;
- Minimizing the effects of climate change;
- Decreasing mental health stresses;
- Strengthening the social fabric of a community; and
- Providing fair access to livelihood, education, and resources.

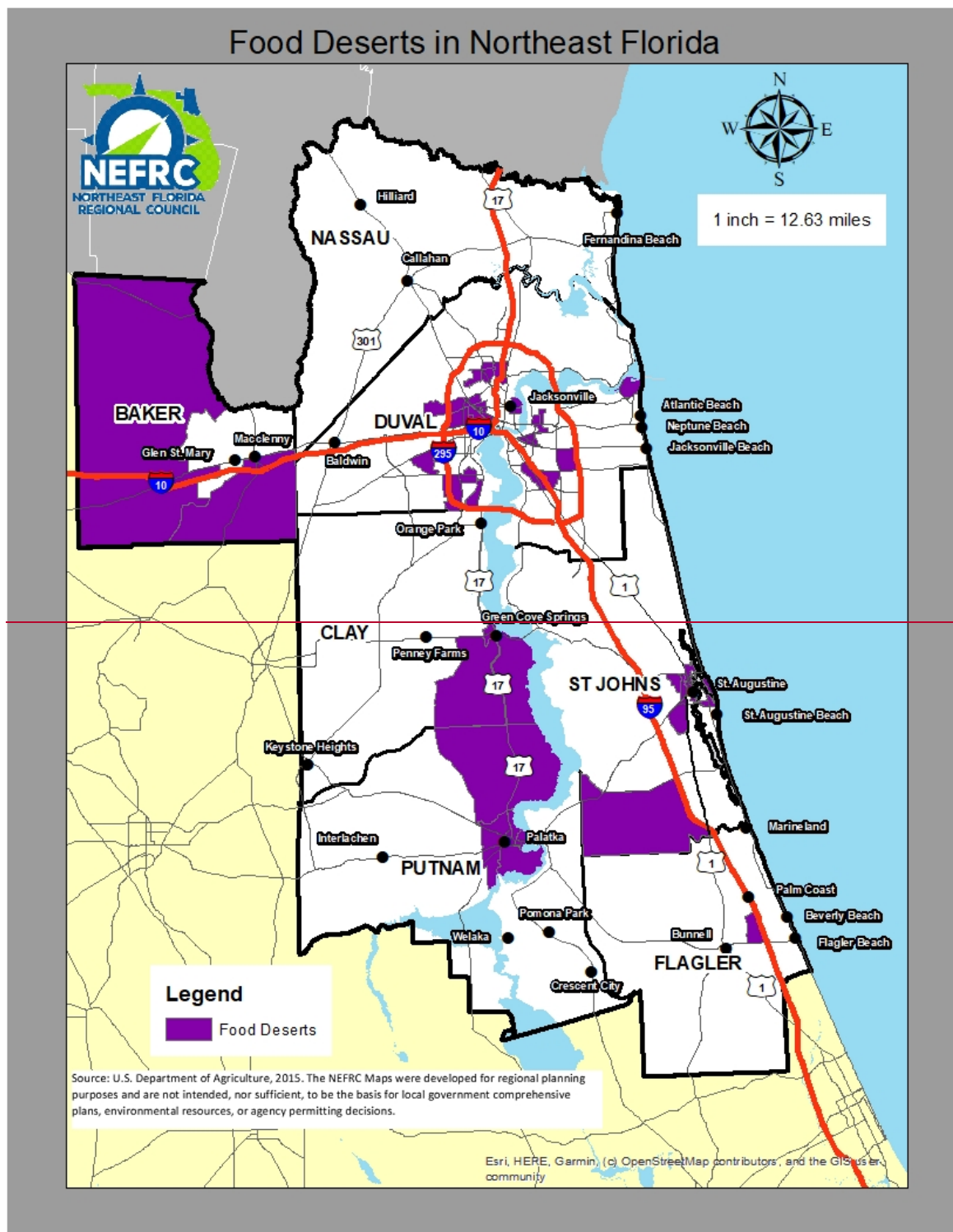
¹ Sources: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/> and <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx>

As traditional health care delivery continues to evolve due to rising costs and other social and political factors, strategies around prevention promote new approaches to health care delivery and access. Hospital and medical systems are integral to community health. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) supports collaborative networks of organizations working together to improve operations that address public health prevention strategies. These strategies support environmental and other social factors that have a bigger impact on health outcomes than medical care. Effectively integrating community prevention into health services delivery is critical to our Regional health system.

HRSA suggests, as an example, that access to healthy community environments and social supports increases the ability of patients to follow through on recommended chronic disease management treatments such as participating in regular physical activity or changing dietary habits. This in turn can improve health outcomes and decrease the need for drugs or other medical interventions. Community prevention complements medical care through actions to improve the physical and social environment in which people live, work, and play; and by investing in policies and infrastructure that support safe, healthy communities.

The map that identifies Health Facilities of Regional Significance later in this section shows licensed Florida hospitals in the Region, according to the Agency for Healthcare Administration.

In an effort to help visualize the challenge to ensuring that all residents have access to healthy food, the following map shows food deserts in the Region, as identified by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA defines a food desert as a low-income census tract where a substantial number or share of residents has low access to a supermarket or large grocery store. Low access communities include those where 500 or more people, or 33% of a census tract's population, live more than one mile from a supermarket in urban areas or more than 10 miles from a grocery store in rural areas.

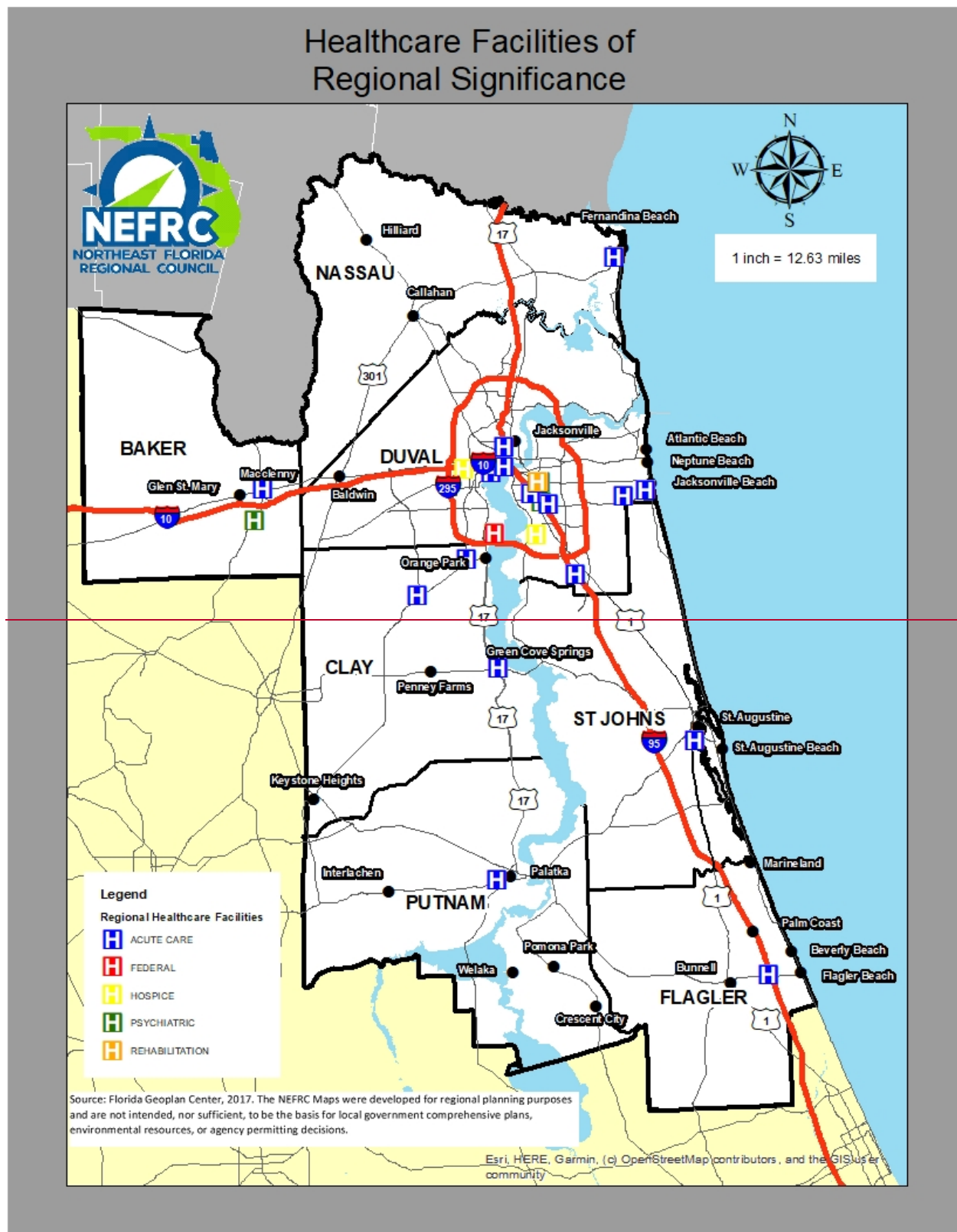
Figure 1: Food Deserts in Northeast Florida

Source: USDA

One of the Action Items from First Coast Vision is to foster the relationships developed through the visioning process with partners who support the health of our Region. This includes measuring growth management planning outcomes relative to health metrics, ensuring cross sector collaborations that support a healthy Region during vision implementation, and considering the future impact of decisions in our Region on the health of those who live and work in Northeast Florida. First Coast Vision revealed the importance of health to our overall goals. Each of the health objectives and policies are aligned with the strategic issues in the SRPP.

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

Licensed hospitals are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.

Resources of Regional Significance: Health Facilities

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

~~**Goal:** The Region supports local and regional efforts to ensure that the Region's residents have access to a healthy lifestyle and good health care. Many policies in other elements of the SRPP support the implementation of these objectives. NEFRC supports our partners in seeking improvement in health outcomes throughout the region.~~

~~**Pillar:** Civic and Governance Systems, Quality of Life and Quality Places~~

~~STRATEGIC ISSUE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH~~

~~**OBJECTIVE:** THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR IS A KEY COMPONENT OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA'S ECONOMIC BASE.~~

~~**OBJECTIVE:** A ROBUST ECONOMY THAT SERVES THE NEEDS OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA RESIDENTS WITH JOBS THAT PAY WELL AND PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF BENEFITS. THIS ECONOMIC WELL-BEING TRANSLATES INTO A POPULATION WITH POSITIVE EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL OUTCOMES THAT RESULT IN INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY.~~

~~STRATEGIC ISSUE: TRANSPORTATION AND HEALTH~~

~~**OBJECTIVE:** THE REGION PROVIDES OUR RESIDENTS WITH GREAT PLACES TO WALK TO SAFELY.~~

~~**OBJECTIVE:** THE REGION PROVIDES MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION THAT ADDRESSES BARRIERS TO ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY FOR ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS.~~

~~**OBJECTIVE:** A SAFE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT GIVES PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS EQUAL PRIORITY WITH MOTOR VEHICLES. ROADWAYS ARE DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE CONFLICTS BETWEEN AUTOMOBILES AND BICYCLES OR PEDESTRIANS, THEREFORE RESULTING IN SAFE TRAVELS REGARDLESS OF TRANSPORTATION MODE.~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND HEALTH

~~***OBJECTIVE: NORTHEAST FLORIDA MAINTAINS GOOD AIR QUALITY AS A RESULT OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK, MORE EFFICIENT ENERGY USE BY ITS RESIDENTS AND PRESERVATION OF NATURAL AREAS THAT ACT AS “CARBON SINKS” THAT HELP MAINTAIN THE REGION’S AIR QUALITY. THESE AREAS ALSO ARE IMPORTANT TO WATER QUALITY, WILDLIFE, AND QUALITY OF LIFE.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: GOOD SURFACE WATER AND DRINKING WATER QUALITY. OBJECTIVE: IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OUR RESIDENTS, INCLUDING REDUCING RATES OF CHRONIC DISEASES BY PROVIDING MORE PUBLIC PLACES TO EXERCISE.***~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: HOUSING AND HEALTH

~~***OBJECTIVE: HOUSING OPTIONS THAT PROVIDE CHOICES TO ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS AND PROMOTE DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC DIVERSITY AS ONE WAY TO ENSURE THAT OUR COMMUNITIES ARE VIABLE AND INTERESTING PLACES FOR THE LONG TERM.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: HOUSING STOCK THAT IS SAFE AND FREE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS THAT CAN BE DETRIMENTAL TO HEALTH.***~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

~~***OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT IS ONE OF THE NATION’S HEALTHIEST.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: RESIDENTS HAVE GOOD ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH-SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGARDLESS OF LOCATION OR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS.***~~

~~STRATEGIC ISSUE: SAFETY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT~~

~~OBJECTIVE: THE REGION SUPPORTS BUILDING AND RETROFITTING COMMUNITIES AND BUILDINGS FOR SAFETY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY.~~

~~POLICIES~~

~~POLICY 1: NEFRC GATHERS BEST PRACTICES AND CONNECTS COMMUNITIES WITH STRATEGIES AND PRACTITIONERS THAT CAN HELP ADDRESS THEIR ISSUES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE ASPIRATIONAL GOALS OF FIRST COAST VISION. CONVENING TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND DISCUSS SOLUTIONS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS APPROACH.~~

~~PILLAR: QUALITY OF LIFE AND QUALITY PLACES, SCP: 187.201(4)(A)F.S.~~

~~OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN.~~

~~POLICY 2: NEFRC CONSIDERS IMPACTS TO RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND EXTRA JURISDICTIONAL IMPACTS AS IT REVIEWS CONSISTENCY WITH THE SRPP. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND PROPOSERS OF PROJECTS SHOULD INCLUDE BEST AVAILABLE DATA GATHERED USING PROFESSIONALLY ACCEPTABLE METHODOLOGY IN SUPPORT OF THEIR PROPOSALS, SUFFICIENT TO DETERMINE IMPACTS. WHERE MITIGATION IS PROPOSED, USING STRATEGIES OUTLINED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES OR PLANS, THE SRPP OR A COMBINATION IS ENCOURAGED.~~

~~PILLAR: INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH LEADERSHIP, SCP: 187.201(15)(A)~~

REGIONAL HEALTH MEASURES

HEALTH- RESOURCE- AVAILABILITY 2018: PROVIDER- RATE PER 100,000- COUNTY- POPULATION	DENTIST* STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 54.8	PHYSICIAN * STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 304.7	FAMILY- PRACTICE * STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 18.8	OB/GYN* STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 9.3	PEDIATRICIANS* STATE RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION 21.9	HEALTH- RESOURCE- AVAILABILITY 2018: FACILITIES- RATE PER 100,000- COUNTY- POPULATION	HOSPITAL- BEDS STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 308.2	NURSING- HOME- BEDS STATE- RATE PER 100,000- POPULATION 399.8
BAKER	10.9	36.4	3.6	0	0		91	683.9
CLAY	43.1	178.4	20.1	5.6	15.5		235.5	483.7
DUVAL	53.8	399.3	25.5	11.9	28.7		401.4	426.6
FLAGLER	39.6	154.9	15.7	5.5	2.8		91.3	221.2
NASSAU	33.7	149.2	24.1	4.8	9.6		74.6	288.7
PUTNAM	17.7	88.5	8.2	6.8	9.5		134.8	459.0
ST. JOHNS	71.2	399.5	38.1	7.5	24.0		138.7	310.5

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE, AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

*DATA FOR PROVIDERS ARE FOR FISCAL, NOT CALENDAR YEAR

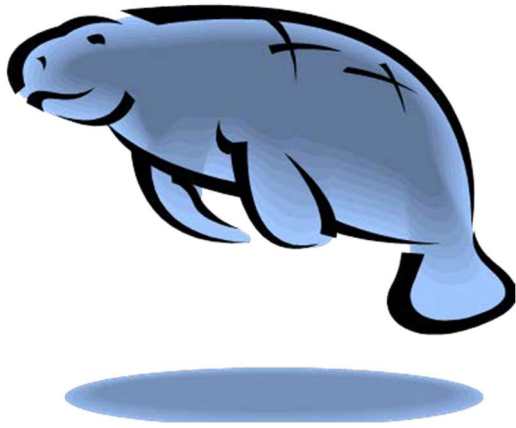
COUNTY	SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATOR: PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WITH HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE BY COUNTY 2014-2018	STATE PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WITH HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE COUNTY 2014-2018

BAKER	87.5	86.5
CLAY	89.6	86.5
DUVAL	88.0	86.5
FLAGLER	87.3	86.5
NASSAU	89.0	86.5
PUTNAM	84.0	86.5
ST. JOHNS	91.6	86.5

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, US BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Natural Resources of Regional Significance



Natural Resources of Regional Significance

NATURAL RESOURCES TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

Natural Resource Summary

The St. Johns River flows north through the Region and empties into the Atlantic Ocean in Duval County offering beauty and economic opportunities to the entire Region. The River and its tributaries present real prospects for economic benefits such as eco-tourism. The Regional climate features moderate winters attracting new residents that are also attracted to Georgia and the Carolinas. The Region has an abundance of natural resources and has so far developed in a pattern that allows much of the land area of the Region to remain in managed forests, with a lesser amount of acreage in agriculture.

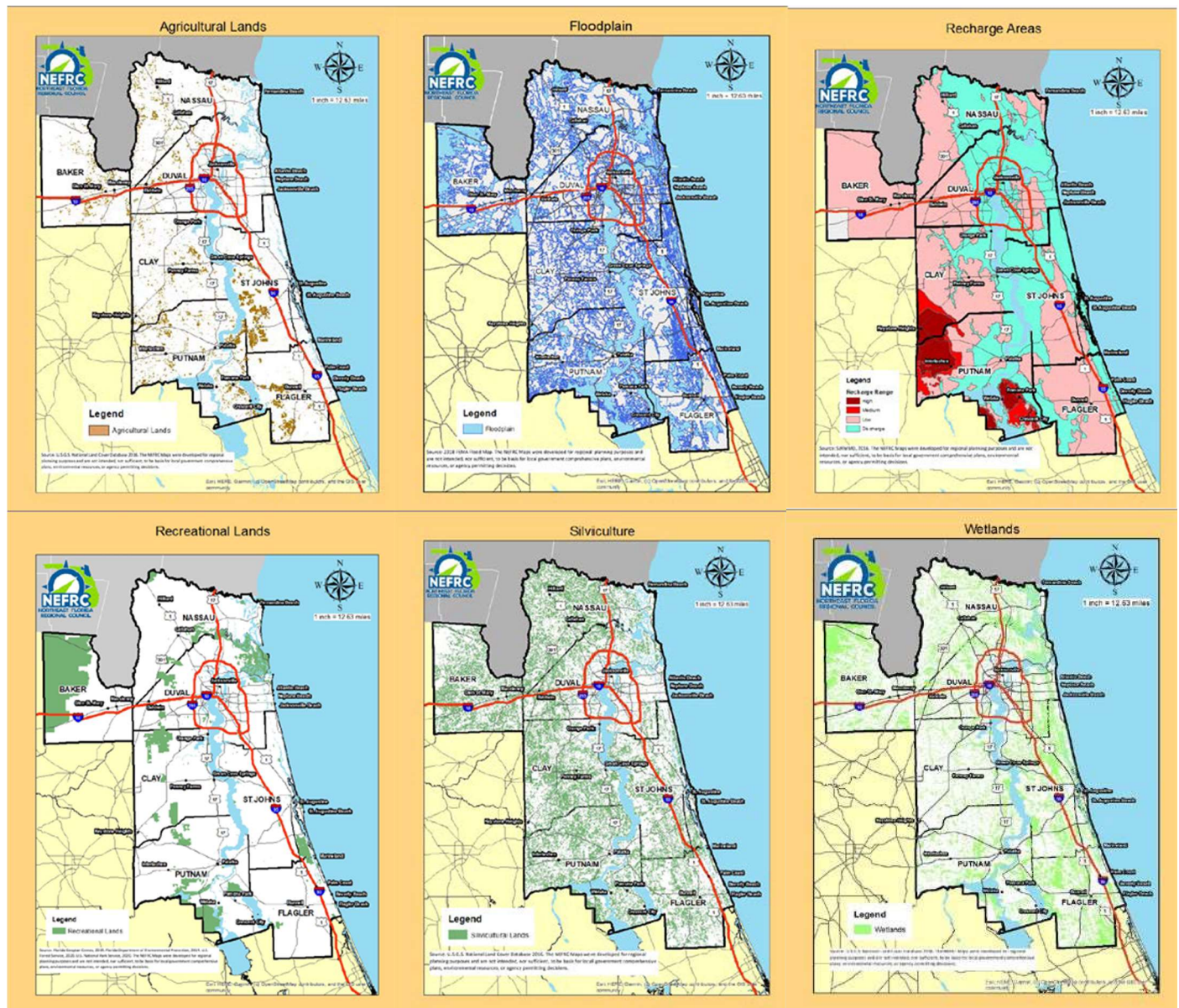
In the NEFRC Grow Smart Survey that preceded the 2009 Reality Check First Coast visioning exercise, 32% of residents thought preserving the environment should be the first priority when considering development. The same number thought that the economy should be the first consideration. These two opinions point out the close relationship between the environment and economy.

Florida allows wetlands to be permitted for development, subject to requirements for mitigation. Over time, this practice results in fragmentation of wetland systems, and the gradual but continual loss of wetland ecosystem functions and services. The cumulative effect results in Regional impacts. The loss of forested and natural areas means less water recharge from the surface to the aquifer and increased storm water runoff impacts to water bodies such as the St. Johns River, which often experiences algal blooms in the summer months. The annual State of the River Report provides an overview of conditions in the river and should be carefully monitored by the Region. The number of septic tanks permitted is a metric tracked in this report, as these systems, when they fail, have the potential for negative impacts on the River and ground water.

The Floridan Aquifer has provided drinking water of excellent quality to the entire Region for many years. The Floridan Aquifer will reach limits for withdrawal at some ~~point, and~~ point and will no longer be available as the sole source of drinking water in the Region. ~~The 2017 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan designated Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties as Water Supply Caution Areas, adding them to the status Flagler County had received several years earlier. The 2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan concludes that fresh groundwater alone cannot supply the projected increase in demand during the planning horizon (2020-2045) without causing unacceptable impacts to water resources. As such, e~~Each jurisdiction ~~must~~^{ch} now include a Water Supply Facility Work Plans to local comprehensive plans, thereby highlighting the importance of water supply. Per capita public supply water use is tracked not to highlight the differences between Counties (and factors such as power plant location, agriculture, and density make usage in

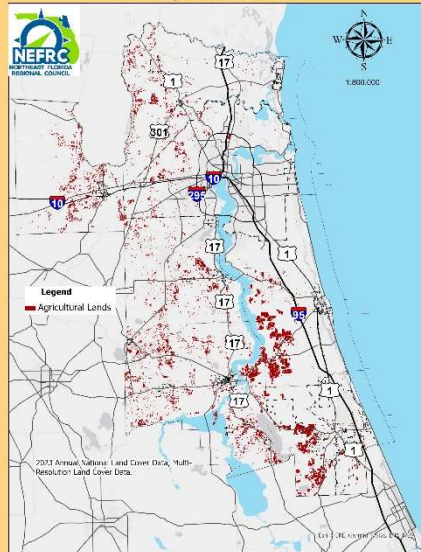
Northeast Florida vary widely) but to look for trends of less usage over time.

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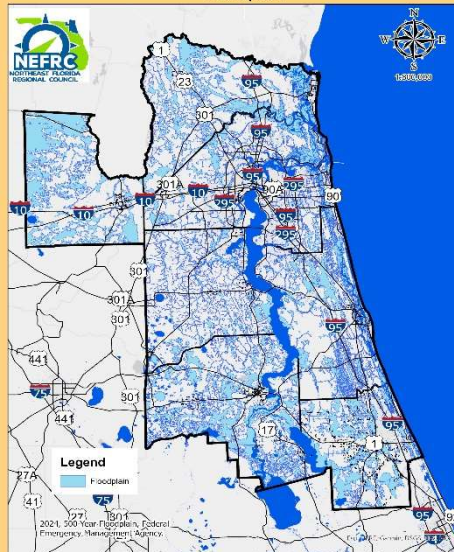
STRATEGIC ISSUE: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

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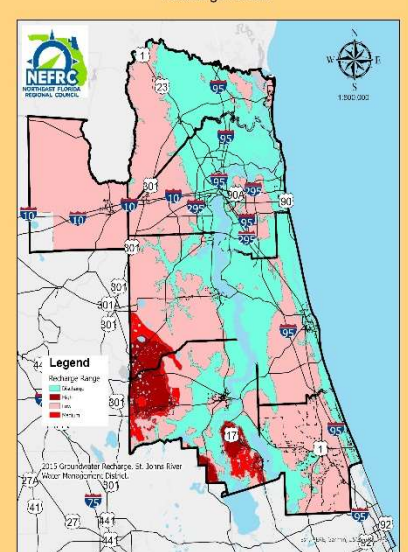
Agricultural Lands



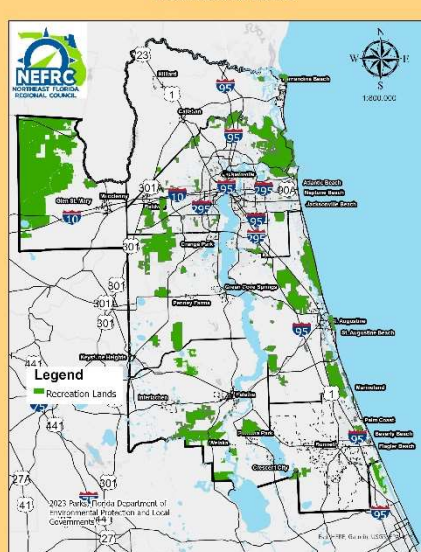
Floodplain



Recharge Areas



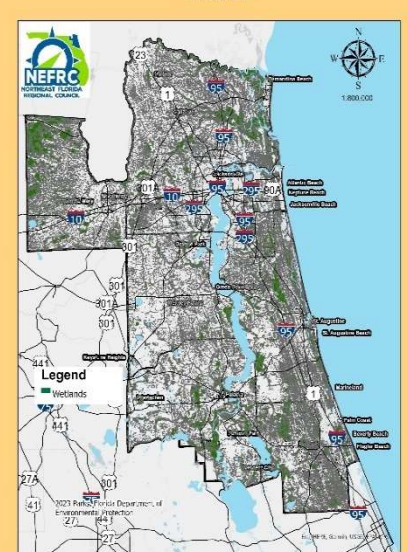
Recreational Lands



Silviculture



Wetlands



REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

STRATEGIC ISSUE: HEALTHY, WELL-FUNCTIONING, SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

The State has mandated [the](#) identification of Natural Resources of Regional Significance. The maps include those resources included in the ~~1997 and 2012~~ SRPP, updated to reflect [the](#) best available data. They also include those resources suggested by Counties in the Region and parks greater than 20 acres identified as Florida Land Management Areas, or in the Florida State Park System. The lists are included for ease of reference. Local governments should consider impacts ~~to~~ [on](#) these Regional resources when they plan, and NEFRC will review such impacts if it is required to review a proposal with the potential for impacts.

Section 403.061(28) of the Florida Statutes grants the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the power to establish rules that provide for a special category of water bodies within the state to be referred to as “Outstanding Florida Waters”~~”.~~” These resources are worthy of special protection because of their natural attributes. Several natural resources of Regional significance are also Outstanding Florida Waters, including Pellicer Creek in Flagler and St. Johns Counties, Upper Black Creek in Clay County, and the Nassau River-St. Johns Marshes in Nassau and Duval Counties. A complete list is included in Section 62-302.700 F.A.C.

The Region has a role in the protection of state and federal listed species, and its support of preservation of appropriate natural areas is just one way that species can benefit. Developments of Regional Impact are required to assess their potential impact on listed species, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 380.06.

Natural Resources List and Maps

Water Bodies and Wetlands (including associated tributaries)

Amelia River	Georges Lake	Okefenokee Swamp
Ashley Prairie	Goodson Prairie	Oklawaha River
Atlantic Coast and Ocean	Graham Swamp	Ortega River
Big Cypress Swamp	Guana River	Pablo Creek
Big Gum Swamp	Haw Creek	Pellicer Creek
Big Island Swamp	Hull Cypress Swamp	Pinhook Swamp
Black Creek	Impassable Bay	Pottsburg Creek Swamp
Boggy/Mills Creek	Intracoastal Waterway	Putnam Prairie
Brady Branch Swamp	Julington/Durbin Creeks	Rice Creek Swamp
Broward River	Kingsley Lake	Rice/Etonia Creeks
Bulow Creek	Lake Disston	Rodman Reservoir
Cabbage Swamp	Lake Geneva	San Sebastian River
Cedar Swamp	Lake George	Six-Mile Creek
Clapboard Creek	Levy's Prairie	St. Augustine Inlet
Coastal Barrier Resource	Lofton Creek	St. Johns Inlet
System (Comprised of	Long Swamp	St. Johns River
undeveloped coastal	Lower St. Johns River	St. Johns/Nassau Valley
barriers along the Atlantic.	Lowry Lake	Marshes
Source is FEMA, 2012)	Matanzas Inlet	St. Mary's Inlets
Crescent Lake	Matanzas River	St. Marys River
Cunningham Creek	Moccasin Swamp	Thomas Creek
Deep Creek	Moses Creek	Tolomato River
Deep Creek Swamp	Moultrie Creek	Tolomato/Matanzas River
Doctors Lake	Mud Lake Marsh	Marshes
Dunns Creek (Putnam)	Nassau River	Trestle Bay Swamp
Durbin Swamp	Nassau Sound	Trout Creek
Fish Swamp	New River Swamp	Trout River
Florida East Coast Estuary	North River	Twelve-Mile Swamp
Fort George River	Ocean Pond	Yellow Water Creek

Parks and Preserves

9A Mitigation Parcels	Cecil Field Conservation	Guana River Wildlife
Alpine Groves Park	Corridor	Management Area
Amelia Island State Park	Cedar Point	Guana Tolomato Matanzas
Anastasia State Park	Cedar River Sanctuary	National Estuarine
Bayard Conservation Area	Cradle Creek Preserve	Research Reserve
Beach and Peach Preserve	Crescent Lake Conservation	Hagstrom Conservation
Belmore State Forest	Area	Easement
Betty Steflink Memorial	Deep Creek Conservation	Half Moon Island Preserve
Preserve	Area (SJRWMD)	Haw Creek Preserve
Betz Tiger Point Preserve	Deep Creek State Forest	Haw Creek Preserve State
Big Pottsburg Creek	Dunns Creek Conservation	Park
Big Talbot Island State Park	Area	Heart Island Conservation
Black Creek Ravines	Dunns Creek State Park	Area
Conservation Area	Dutton Island Park and	Horseshoe Point
Branan Field Mitigation	Preserve	Conservation Area
Park Wildlife and	E. Dale Joyner Nature	Huguenot Memorial Park
Environmental Area	Preserve at Pelotes	Intracoastal Waterway
Brandy Branch Trail Head	Island	J. A. Ginn Jr. Parcel
Bryant Skinner	Egans Creek Greenway	Jack Wright Island
Conservation Easement	Etoniah Creek State Forest	Conservation Area
Bulls Bay Preserve	Fanning Island Preserve	Jacksonville Naval Air
Bulow Creek State Park	Faver-Dykes State Park	Station
Bulow Plantation Ruins	Ferngully Preserve	Jennings State Forest
Historic State Park	Fort Caroline National	Jim Wingate Park
Camp Blanding Military	Memorial	John M. Bethea State Forest
Reservation	Fort Clinch State Park	Julington-Durbin Preserve
Camp Chowenwaw Park	Fort George Island Cultural	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park
Camp Milton Historic	State Park	Kings Road Historical
Preserve	Fort Matanzas National	Preserve
Canopy Shores Park	Monument	Kingsley Plantation
Caravelle Ranch	Fort Mose Historic State	Lake George Conservation
Conservation Area	Park	Area
Caravelle Ranch Wildlife	Four Creeks State Forest	Lehigh Greenway
Management Area	Geiger Tract	Little Talbot Island State
Carl Duval Moore State	Goodbys Creek Preserve	Park
Forest and Park	Graham Swamp	Loblolly Mitigation
Cary State Forest	Conservation Area	Preserve
Castaway Island Preserve	GTMNERR - Guana River	Loblolly Park
Castillo de San Marcos	Site	Longbranch Crossing
National Monument		Conservation Easement

Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area	Princess Place Preserve Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park Ralph E. Simmons State Forest	St. Marys River Ranch Conservation Easement St. Marys Shoals Park Stokes Landing Conservation Area
Matanzas State Forest Mayport Naval Station McGirts Creek Preserve Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park	Ravine Gardens State Park Reddie Point Preserve Relay Tract Conservation Easements	Stone Mountain Industrial Park Sylvan West Conservation Easement
Miller Farm Moccasin Slough Monticello Wildlands Monticello Wildlands Conservation Easement	Ribault River Preserve Rice Creek Conservation Area River to Sea Preserve at Marineland	Theodore Roosevelt Area Thomas Creek Conservation Area Thomas Creek Preserve Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve
Moses Creek Conservation Area Murphy Creek Conservation Area	Roberts Property Rodman Bomb Target Sal Taylor Creek Preserve Sample Swamp San Pablo Creek Conservation Easement	Turnbull Creek Regional Mitigation Area Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area Vaill Point Park
Ocala National Forest Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park	Satsuma Tract Saturiwa Swamp Conservation Area Seven Sisters Islands Shell Bluff	Verdie Forest Washington Oaks Gardens State Park Watson Island State Forest Welaka National Fish Hatchery
Olustee Experimental Forest Ordway-Swisher Biological Station Osceola National Forest Otis Road Trail Head Pellicer Creek Corridor Conservation Area	Skinner-Smith Parcel Southeast Intracoastal Waterway Park St. Johns County Conservation Area St. Marys River House	Welaka State Forest Whitehouse Naval Outlying Field Yellow Water Branch Trail Head
Peterson Tract		

Trails

Amelia Island Trail Belle Terra Parkway Trail Black Creek Trail 309C Trail Camp Blanding Trail Colbert Land Bike Path Crescent City Trail Cross Florida Greenway	Cross Florida Greenway North Doctors Lake Drive Bike Path Etonia Creek Trail Jacksonville Baldwin Rail Trail Lehigh Greenway Rail Trail	Palatka to Lake Butler State Trail Palatka to St. Augustine State Trail Palm Coast Parkway Bike Path Rice Creek Trail S-Line Trail
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State Road 121 Rail Trail

Blueways

Black Creek

Bulow Creek

Bulow River

Florida Circumnavigational

Saltwater

Guana River

Intracoastal Waterway

Julington-Durbin Creek

Lofton Creek

Middle Prong Creek

Moultrie Creek

Pellicer Creek

Pumpkin Hill Creek

Putnam County Blueway

System

San Sebastian

Simpson Creek

Six Mile Creek

Spruce Creek

St. Johns River

St. Marys River

Thomas Creek

Tolomato River

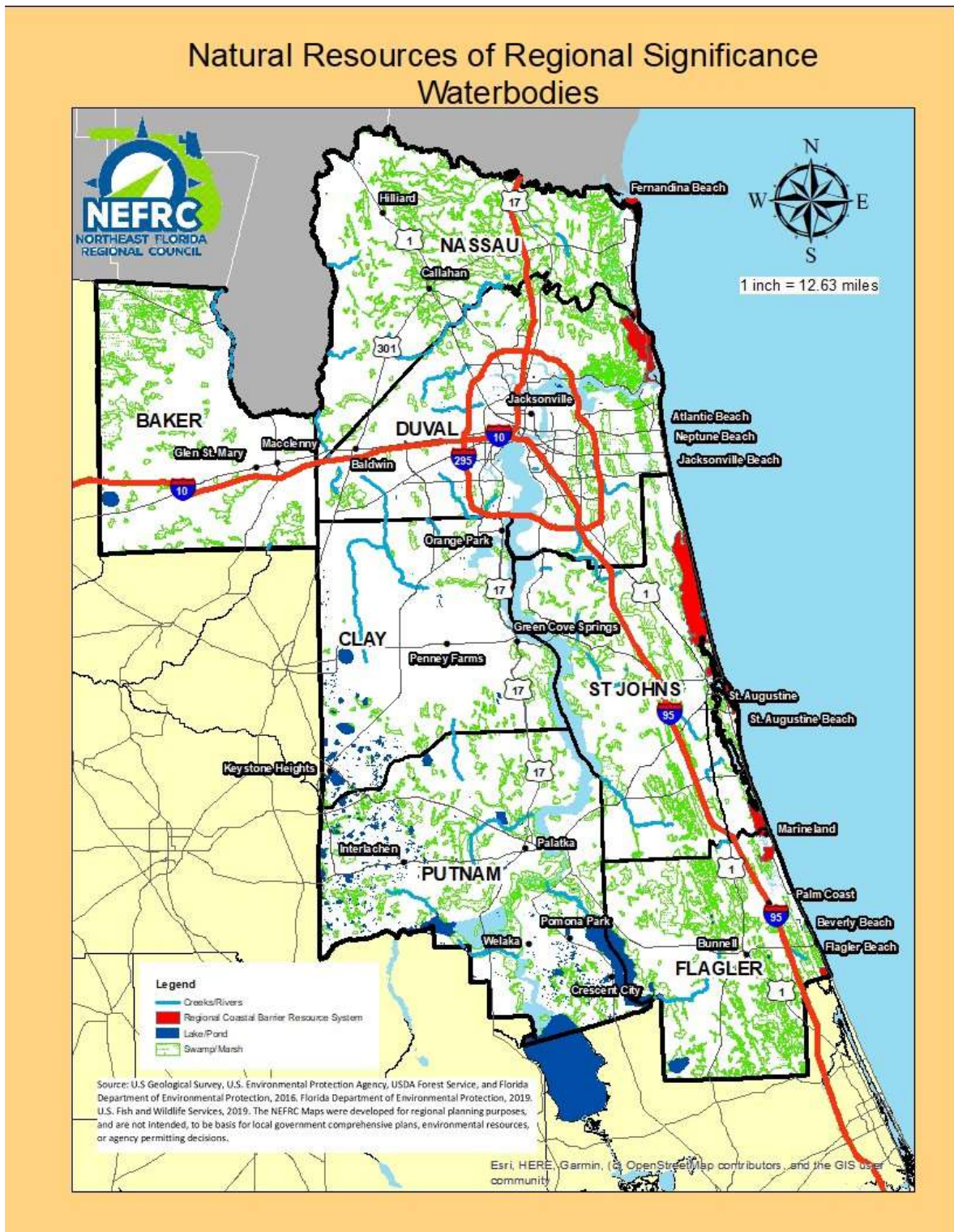
Trout Creek

Floridan Aquifer and Recharge Areas

Features provided on Natural Resources Recharge Areas map (USGS Land Use cover, 2009)

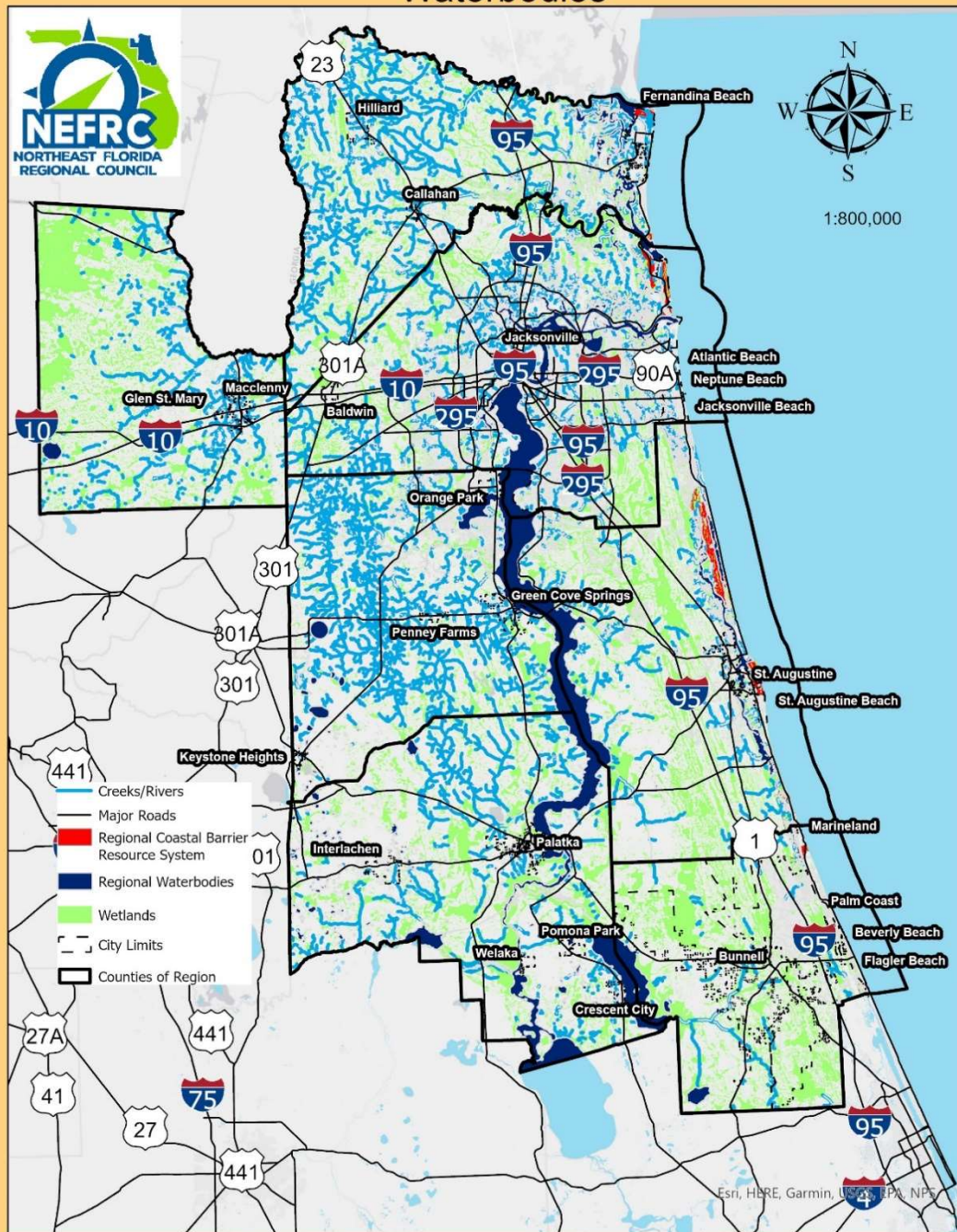
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Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Water Bodies

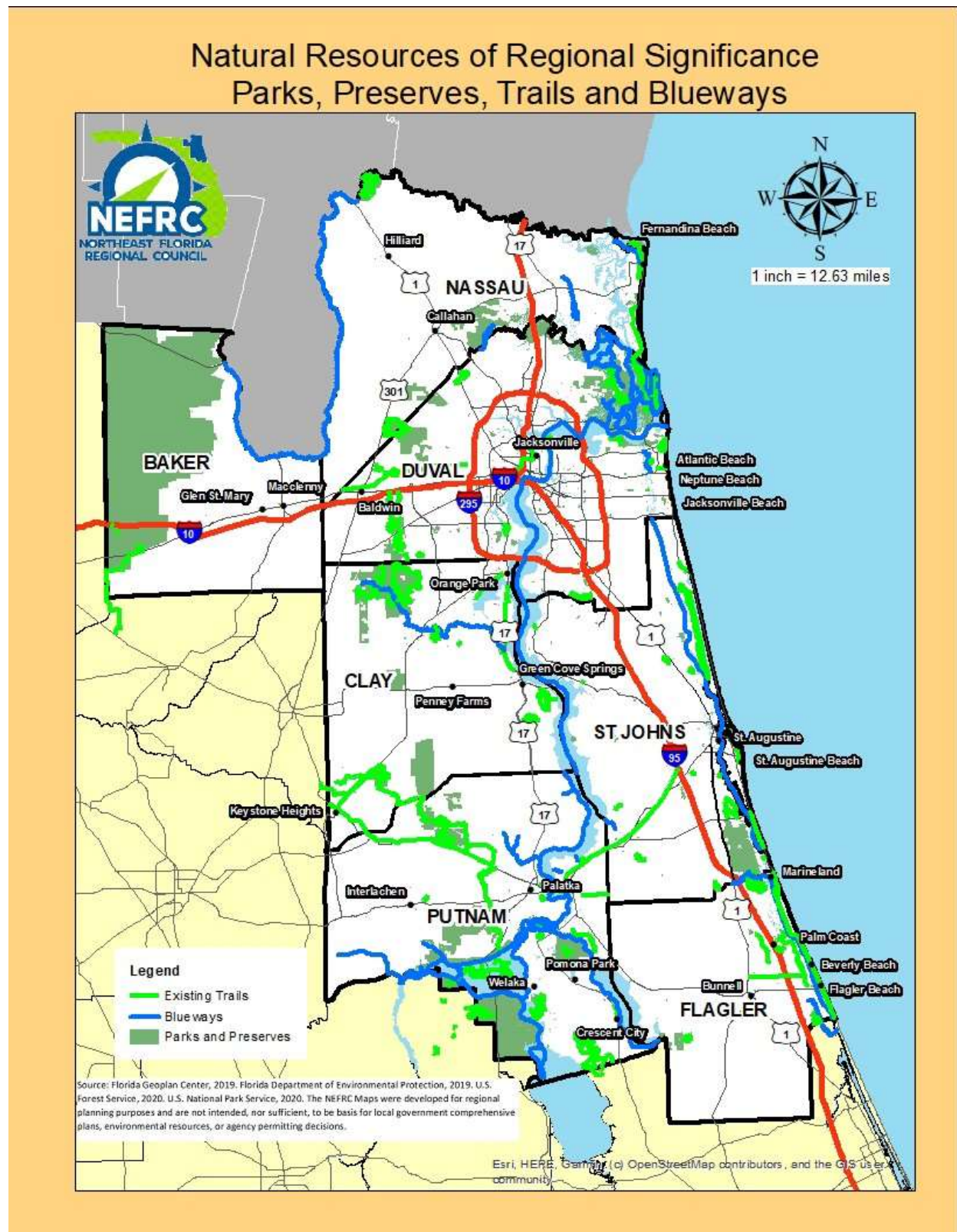


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Natural Resources of Regional Significance Waterbodies

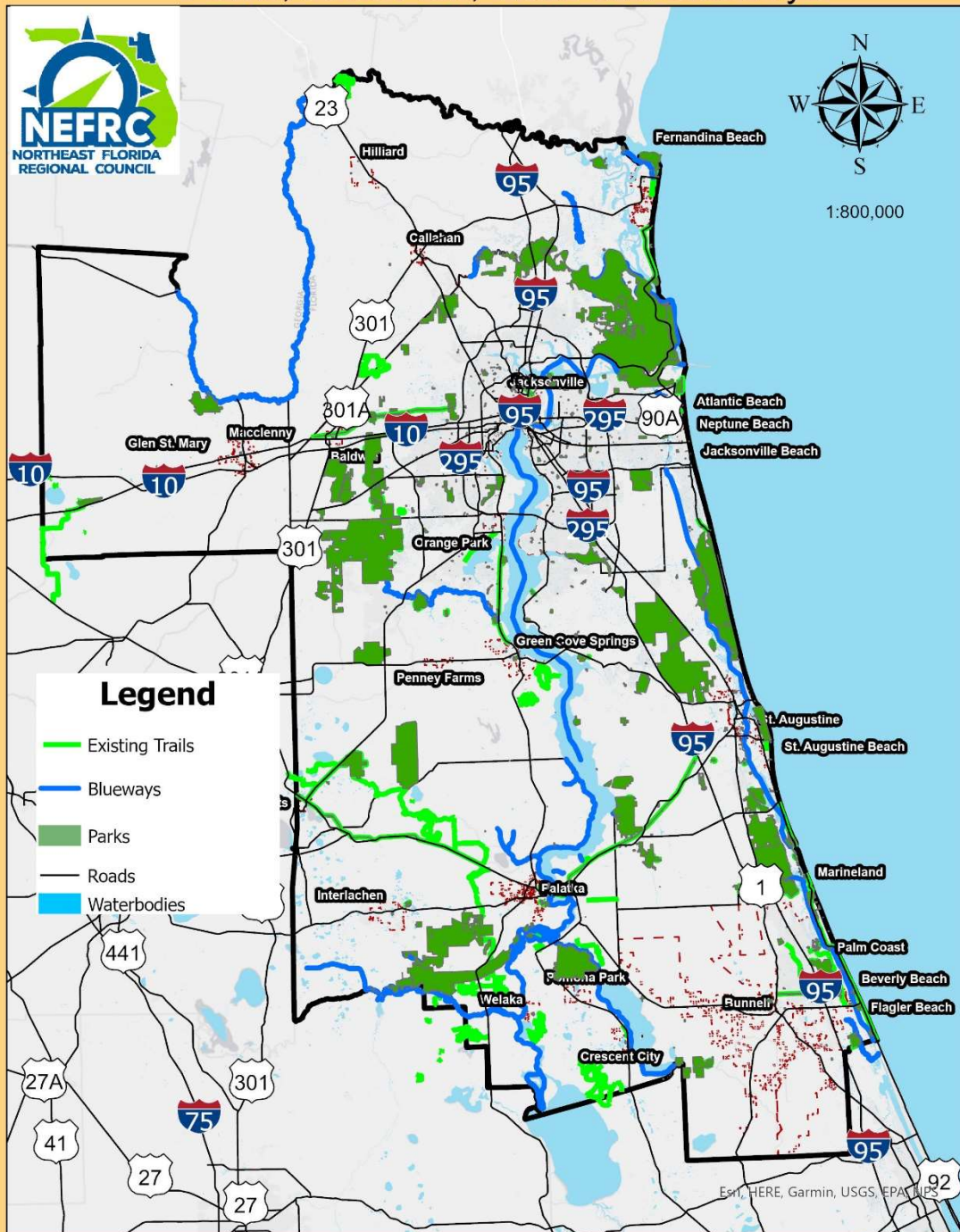


Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 2023 and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, 2024.

Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Parks, Preserves, Trails & Blueways

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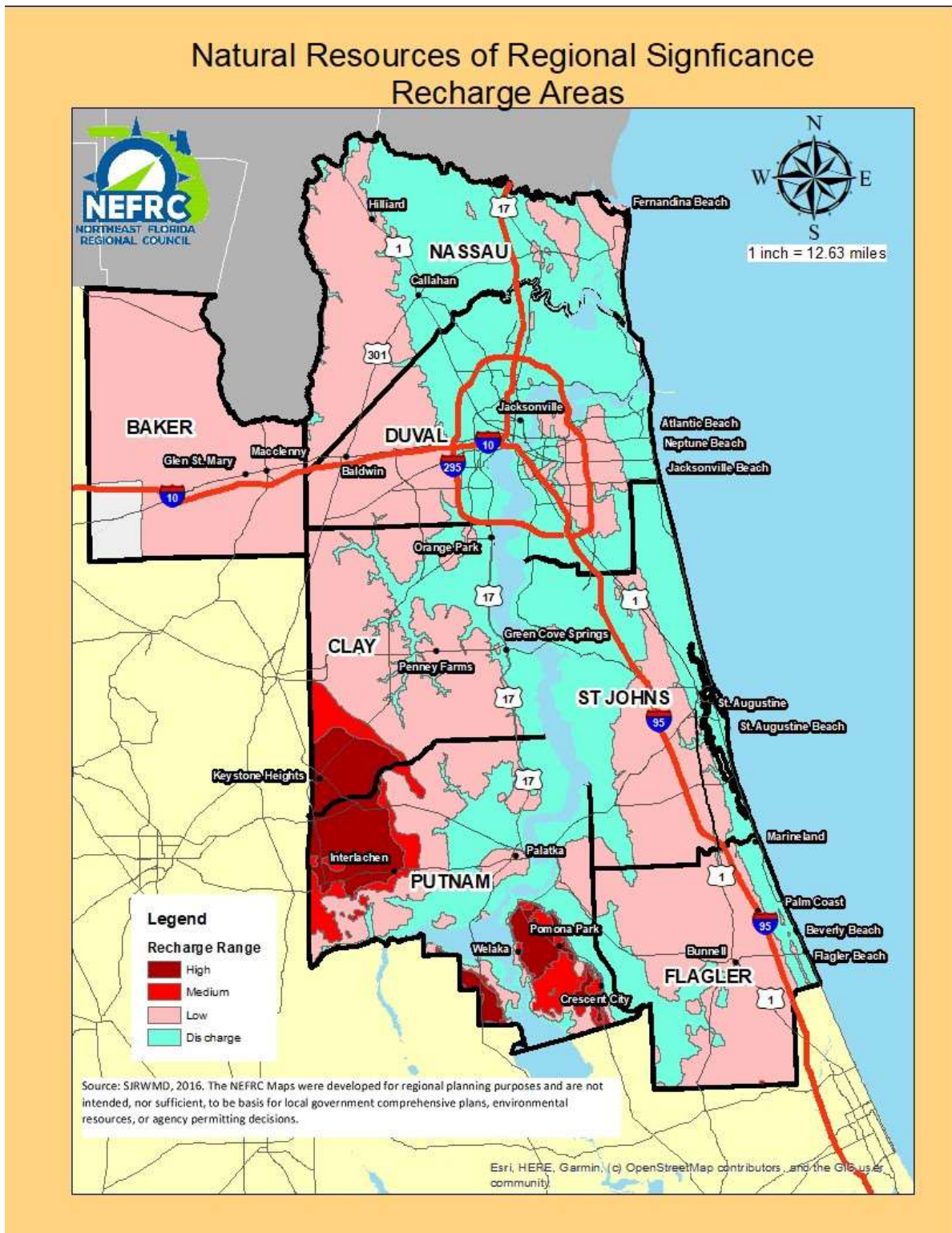
Natural Resources of Regional Significance Parks, Preserves, Trails and Blueways



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 2024.

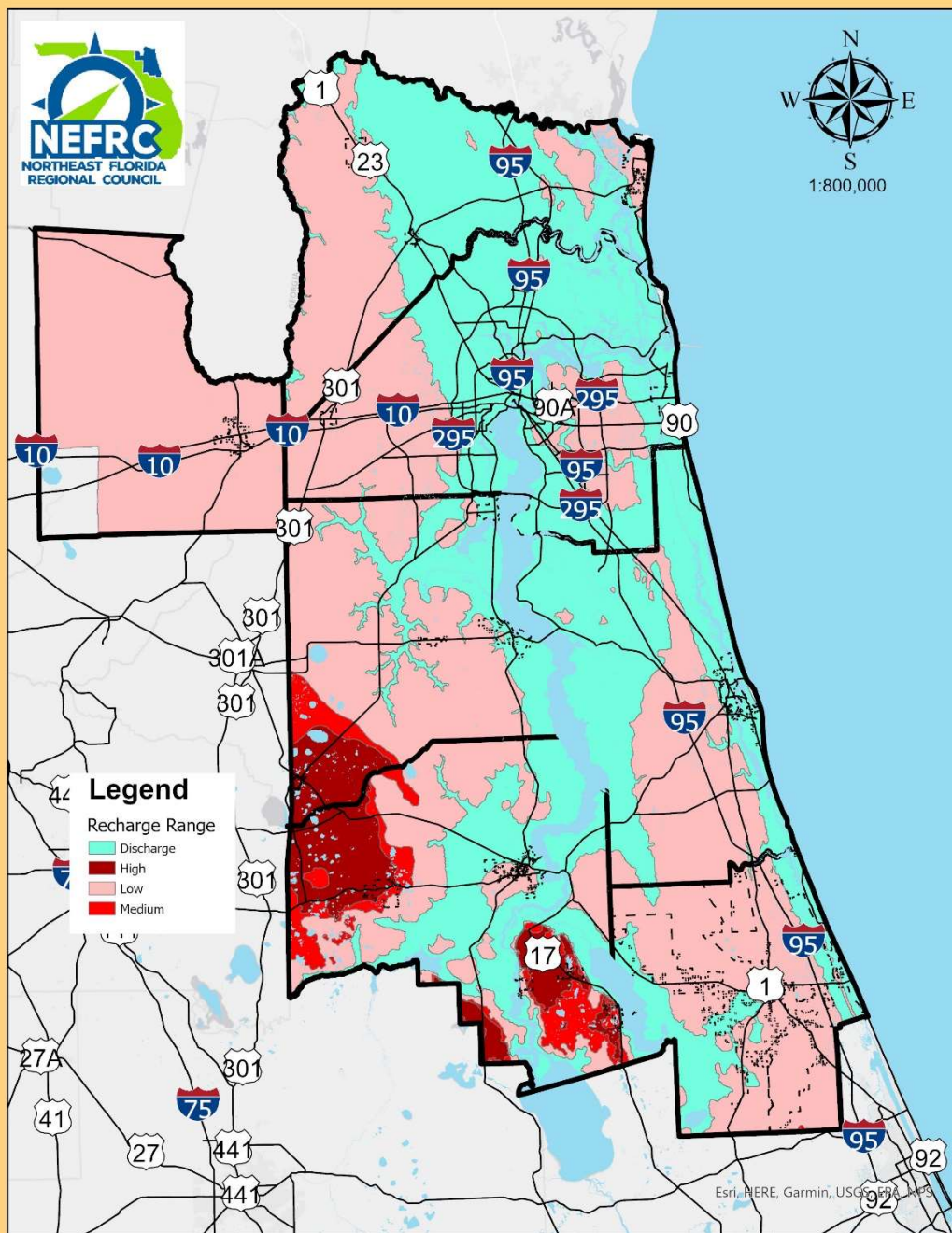
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Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Recharge Areas



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Recharge Areas



Source: St. Johns River Water Management District, 2015.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: Northeast Florida recognizes that some resources have the potential to impact more than one jurisdiction, and their viability is of concern to the Region. NEFRC promotes the protection of these resources, as contained on the Natural Resources of Regional Significance list.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~

OBJECTIVE: RESOURCE ADAPTATION

Policies

Policy 1: The Region, as it determines the impact of climate change on Northeast Florida, and if needed, devises plans to mitigate and adapt, will seek to achieve a balance that supports the people, protects the resources and takes advantage of Regional assets.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.~~

Policy 2: The Region supports innovation to lessen the impact on resources, including utilizing alternative energy sources for power generation and transportation.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S~~

Policy 3: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(4)F.S~~

Policy 4: The Region supports ~~preservation of ecosystem services for clean air, the preservation of ecosystem services for clean air and~~ water, habitat for wildlife populations, and flood control.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.~~

Policy 5: NEFRC and its partners will endeavor to educate residents about the connection between their homes, the services, forests, wildlife and habitats, and planning practices to enhance sustainability and adaptation to climate change.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.~~

OBJECTIVE: HEALTHY, WELL-FUNCTIONING, AND SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Policy 6: NEFRC promotes the protection of Natural Resources of Regional Significance.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.**~~

Policy 7: The NEFRC will consider the long-term health of resources on the Natural Resources of Regional Significance list as it makes decisions and reviews projects that may impact them.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.**~~

Policy 8: NEFRC encourages local governments to consider impacts to these resources as they plan.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.**~~

Policy 9: Field verification, site surveys, and other detailed analyses may be used to determine the exact boundaries of Natural Resources of Regional Significance. The maps included in this plan generally depict location and connectivity.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.**~~

Policy 10: The Region supports protection of the populations of threatened, endangered and listed species, and will comply with the requirements of federal and state law in decision making regarding species, habitats, and natural systems.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.**~~

OBJECTIVE: ENHANCED WATER QUANTITY

Policy 11: The Region seeks to maximize water conservation by domestic, agricultural, industrial, and commercial users.

~~**Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.**~~

Policy 12: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reduction of gross and residential per capita residential water consumption.
- Development of a uniform comprehensive water consumption per capita tool to clearly and consistently track usage annually.

- Reduction~~s~~ of agricultural runoff by increasing the number of farms that have implemented both water table and nutrient *Best Management Practices*.
- Achieving 100% compliance with *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)* permits.
- Eliminating [the](#) use of potable water for lawn irrigation by 2060.
- Maximizing [the](#) use of reclaimed water.
- Use of Florida Friendly and similar landscaping techniques to reduce irrigation needs and conserve water consumption.
- Diversifying sources of water.
- Tracking the percentages of water supply from each source.
- Educating the Region on water consumption and conservation.
- Protecting recharge areas.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: ENHANCED AIR QUALITY

Policy 13: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reducing vehicle miles ~~travelled~~ [traveled](#) in the Region.
- Increasing use of public transit.
- Increasing energy efficiency.
- Efforts to create more carbon sequestration areas.
- Maintenance of air quality standards.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(10)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: WATER QUALITY

Policy 14: The Region strives for all water bodies to meet water quality standards.

Policy 15: The Region is committed to considering the integrity of ecosystems to be as valuable to the Region as economic growth, as they are interdependent.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

Policy 16: With its partners and through the *Regional atlas* and data clearinghouse the NEFRC will provide access to information on best practices, technologies, and tools to maintain water quality standards and preserve the integrity of ecosystems.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

Policy 17: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reduction of discharge of nutrients and pollutants into surface and groundwater.
- Elimination of failing septic tanks.
- Reduction of new septic tank installations.
- Expansion and improvement of data collection and evaluation for water quality through better coordination among agencies.
- Protection of functioning wetlands.
- Maintenance of riparian and wetland buffers.
- Purchase of land and wetlands for water conservation purposes.
- Development of a uniform wetland database to measure loss/gain of wetland function.
- Promotion of Low Impact Development in land planning and engineering design to manage stormwater runoff.

~~Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.~~

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 18: ~~The~~ NEFRC considers impacts ~~on~~^{to} resources of regional significance and extra-jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)~~

NATURAL RESOURCES MEASURES

County	Public Supply Per Capita Water Use in Gallons Per Day	Public Supply Residential Per Capita Water Use in Gallons Per Day
Baker	222 147.66	172 102
Clay	92 94.69	68 71
Duval	142 136.35	94 90
Flagler	90 96.05	50 54
Nassau	200 152.22	156 112
Putnam	113 113.32	54 59
St. Johns	112 126.13	75 93

Source: ~~2023~~2018 Survey of Annual Water Use for St. Johns River Water Management District, Technical Fact Sheet SJ2019-FS1

County	Septic Tanks Permitted 2017-2018 2022-2023	Total Septic Tanks Permitted
Baker	67 124	7,953 8,479
Clay	101 340	32,132 33,337
Duval	272 657	92,907 95,966
Flagler	37 129	6,192 6,728
Nassau	178 295	21,951 23,304
Putnam	131 371	40,874 42,271
St. Johns	234 447	30,415 32,220

Source: Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems permitting, Florida [Department of Environmental](#)

[Protection](#) ~~Department of Health~~

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Regional Transportation



Regional Transportation

LIST OF FIGURES

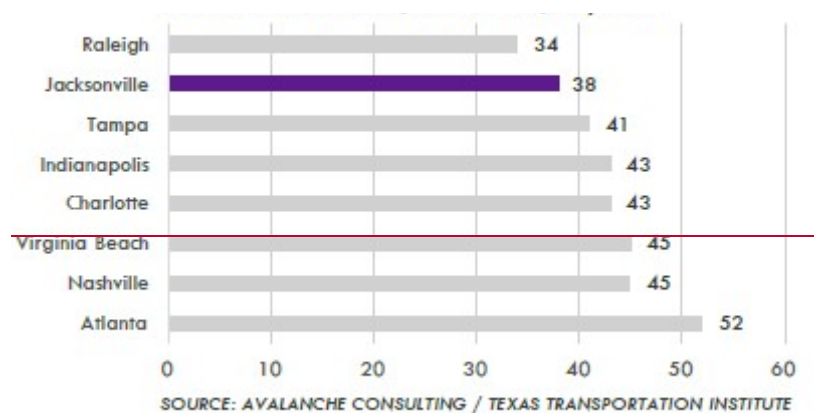
Figure 1: Annual Number of Hours of Delay Due to Traffic Congestion Per Auto Commuter, 20 22 ¹⁴	2
Figure 2: Average Travel Time to Work.....	4 ⁴³
Figure 3: % of Workers That Drive Alone to Work.....	5 ⁵³
Figure 4: Share of Employed Residents Working Outside the County.....	6 ⁶⁴
Figure 5: Share of Employed Workers Living in Another County.....	7 ⁷⁴
Figure 6: List of Transportation Facilities of Regional Significance.....	12 ¹²⁸

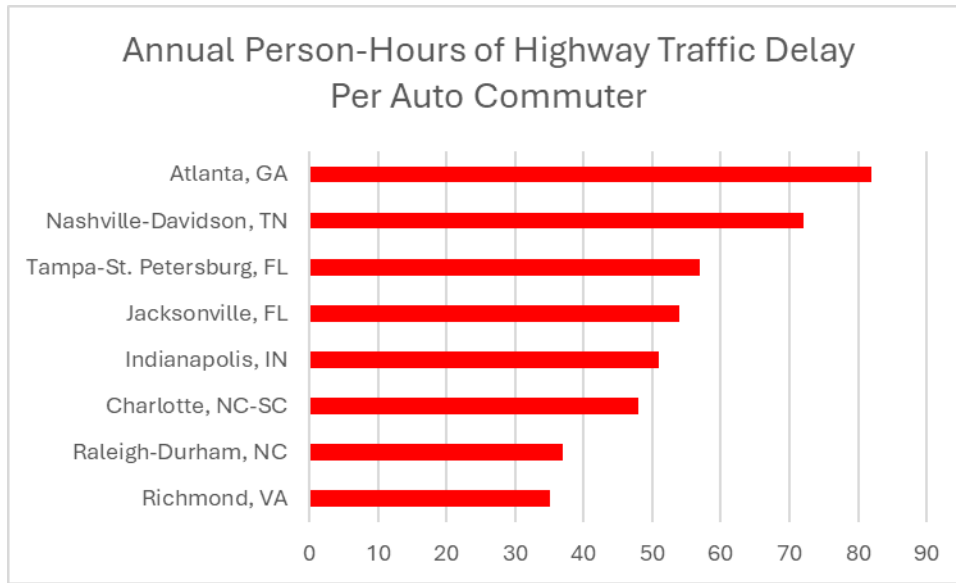
TRANSPORTATION TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

This element is aligned with ~~Elevate Northeast Florida and~~ the ~~2019~~ 2022 – 2027 Comprehensive Economic Development ~~Strategy~~.

~~Unlike many other fast-growing regions, the Jacksonville metro does not suffer from severe traffic congestions.~~ On average, commuters in the region lose ~~just 38~~ 54 hours annually due to traffic congestion. In Atlanta, on the other hand, commuters spend an average of ~~52~~ 82 hours a year in traffic. Less congestion translates to lower costs for Jacksonville drivers. ~~The average cost of congestions for commuters in Jacksonville is less than \$850 annually. Among benchmark regions, only drivers in Raleigh experience lower costs due to congestion.~~ (Note, traffic data is only available for the five-county MSA – labeled “Jacksonville” in the chart below – not the seven-county Northeast Florida study area.)

Figure 1: Annual Number of Hours of Delay Due to –Traffic Congestion Per Auto Commuter, ~~2014~~2022

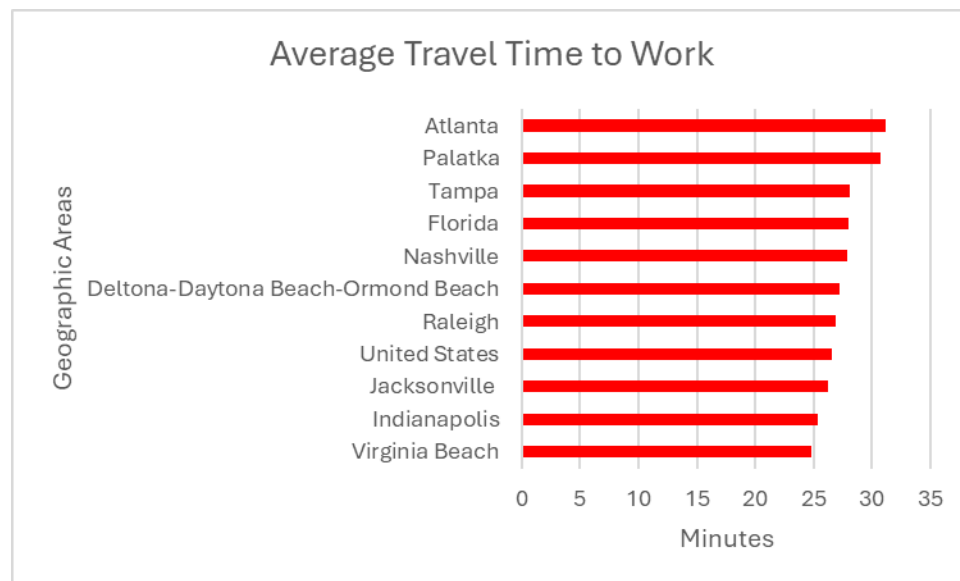
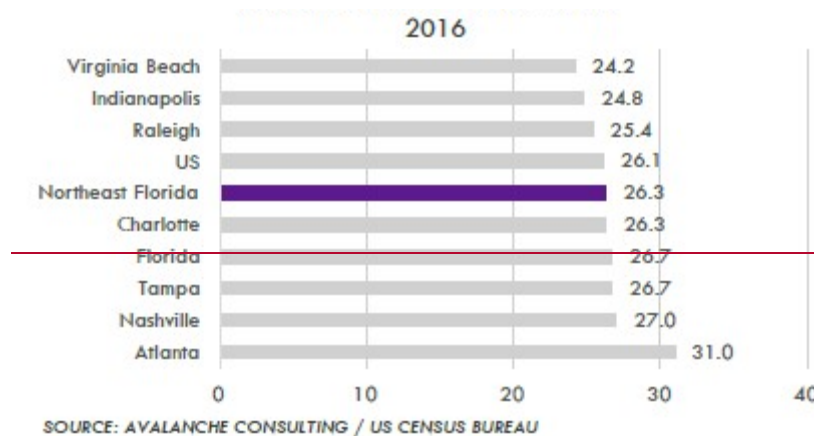




Source: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2022

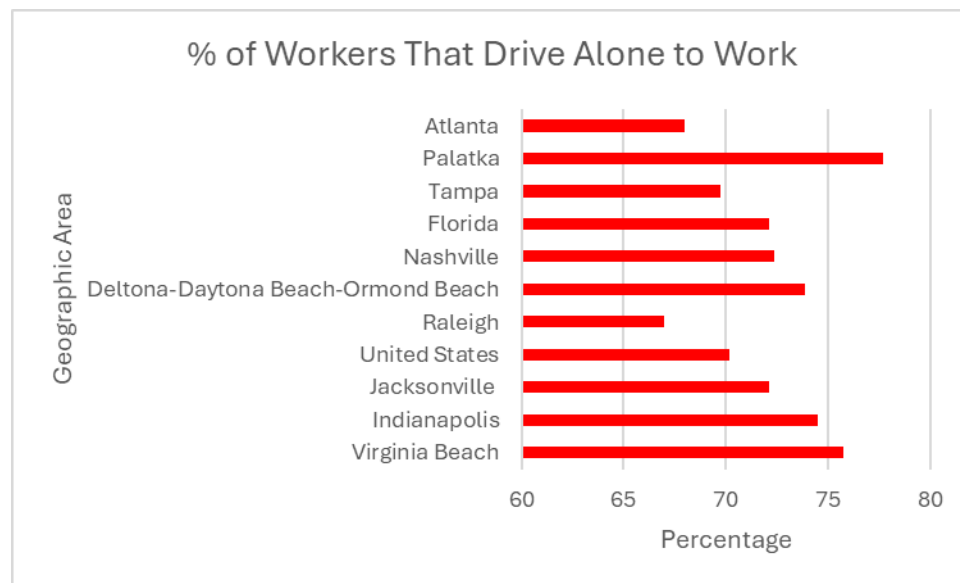
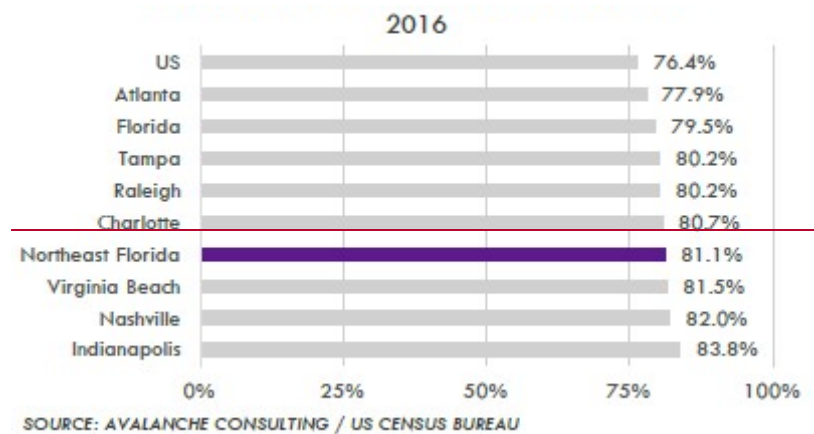
Short commute times often indicate that a region's job centers are ~~in close proximity to its residents, and also the presence of efficient public transit options. Lowering traffic congestion reduces out-of-pocket transportation costs for residents~~ close to its residents and also the presence of efficient public transit options. Lowering traffic congestion reduces residents' out-of-pocket transportation costs and public expenditures on roadway maintenance and expansions. Ultimately, shorter commutes equate to a higher quality of life for workers and their families.

While commuters in the region do not face the same ~~levels-of-congestion~~ congestion levels as their counterparts in many other parts of the US, they do have long commutes. On average, workers in Northeast Florida spend more than 26 minutes commuting to work. However, this is larger for those in Flagler and Putnam, with commute time in their respective Metropolitan/Micropolitan Areas nearly 27 minutes and slightly over 30 minutes. The figure is higher for workers in specific counties such as Baker, Clay, and Nassau. Congestion is related to urban sprawl.

Figure 2: Average Travel Time to Work

Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

More than ~~70~~80% of workers in Northeast Florida (representing all three metropolitan/micropolitan areas which comprise the Northeast Florida Region) drive alone to work, ~~a higher proportion than~~nearly proportionate to the US and statewide average, excluding workers in the Palatka Mircopolitan Micropolitan Area, with almost 80% of workers driving alone. Approximately 15% of Northeast Florida workers telecommute, a higher percentage than the national average but slightly less than the statewide figure.

Figure 3: % of Workers -That Drive Alone to Work

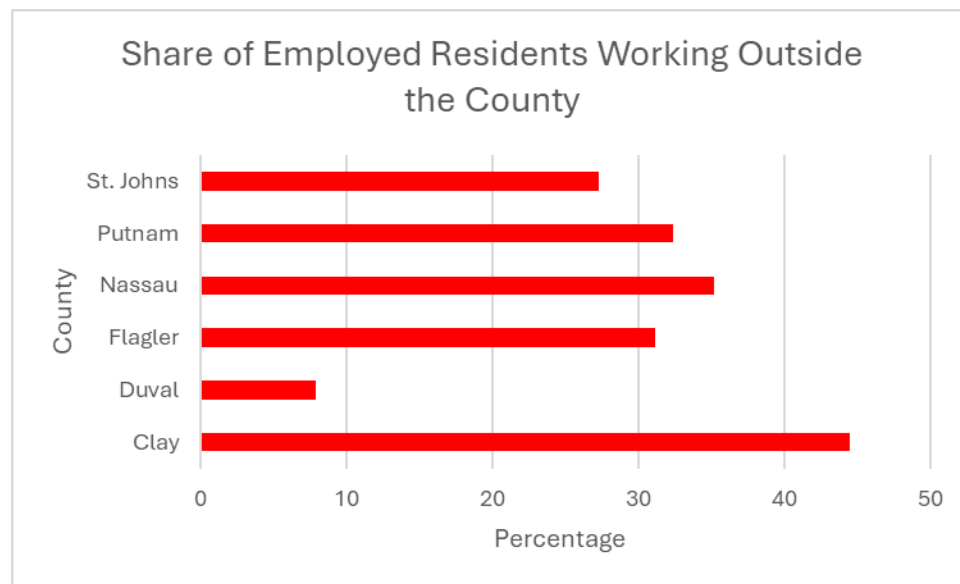
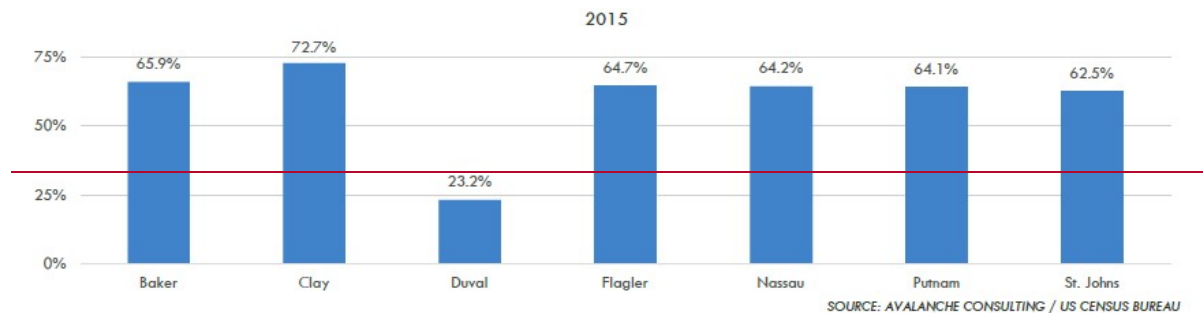
Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

Counties within the Northeast Florida region are deeply intertwined economically. Much of the wealth earned by residents in many counties within the region is dependent on employment opportunities located in Duval County. Conversely, Duval County relies extensively on the talents of residents in neighboring counties. At least 60% of the employed residents in every county other than Duval within Northeast Florida are employed outside of their home county. ~~Within Duval County, however, fewer than 25% of employed residents~~ However, fewer than 8% of employed residents within Duval County work elsewhere.

Commuting patterns play several important roles in a region's economy. Regions that can draw outside workers can significantly increase their available workforce. At the

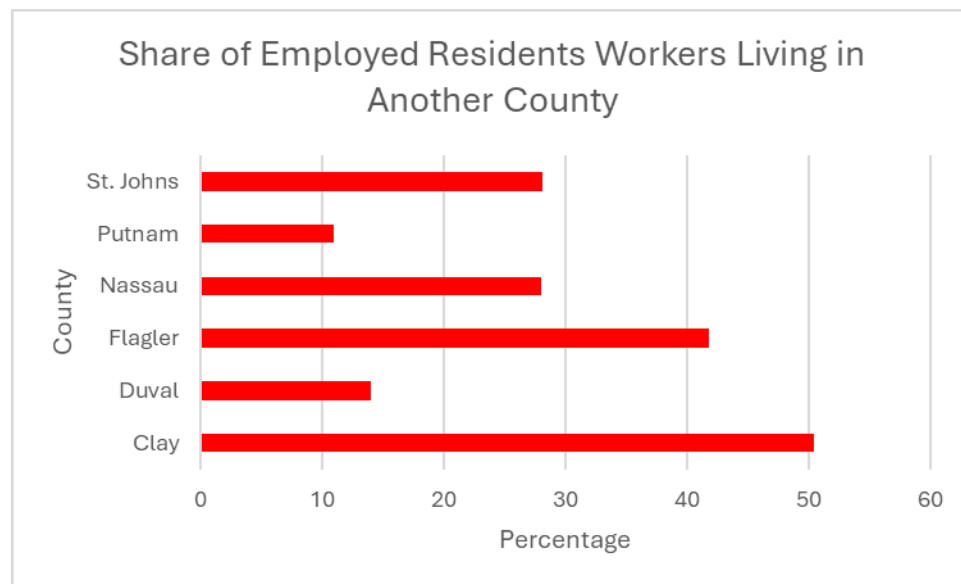
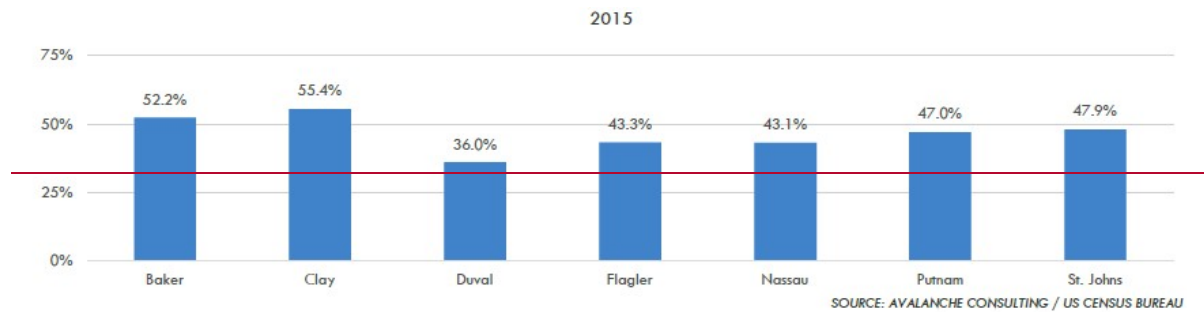
same time, long commutes by individuals who live and work in different locales ~~contributes~~ contribute to traffic congestion and its ~~negative~~ adverse side effects.

Figure 4: Share of Employed Residents Working Outside the County



Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

Duval County relies on imported workers less than other counties in the region. At least one in three workers employed in each of the seven ~~counties in the Northeast Florida region live in another county~~ Northeast Florida counties live in another. For some, such ~~as as Baker and~~ Clay, more of their workforce commutes in than lives locally.

Figure 5: Share of Employed Workers Living in Another County

[Source: American Community Survey, 2023.](#)

TRANSPORTATION SUMMARY

Northeast Florida is a transportation hub. Three major Interstates converge in or near the seven County Region. The First Coast Expressway is being built to connect I-10 to I-95 through Clay County. Two deep-water ports exist at Fernandina Beach and Jacksonville. The St. Johns River offers the option of river transport and cruise ships. Every railroad with a presence in Florida has facilities in Northeast Florida. An international airport in Jacksonville, along with several Regional and commercial airports and one of the longest runways in Florida at Cecil Field, offer opportunities and room for expansion of transport by air. The military impacts many aspects of life in the Region. A change to flexible start times for workers commuting to and from some of the military installations in the Region has made a positive impact on the capacity of roads in the vicinity at peak hours.

Maximizing the Region's transportation assets remains a challenge. The Region depends almost exclusively on roads; most of the Region's residents drive, to the exclusion of most other modes of transportation. Bus transit exists in limited parts of the Region or is available to the transportation disadvantaged as para-transit. The Jacksonville Transportation Agency provides fixed route service and is innovating with flexible service to accommodate getting users the "last mile" to their final destinations. The City of Jacksonville has recently approved a pilot program to allow scooters in the downtown area. Transportation Disadvantaged programs are well established in Florida and well-utilized in Northeast Florida. They have a special benefit in rural areas, where no other transit is available.

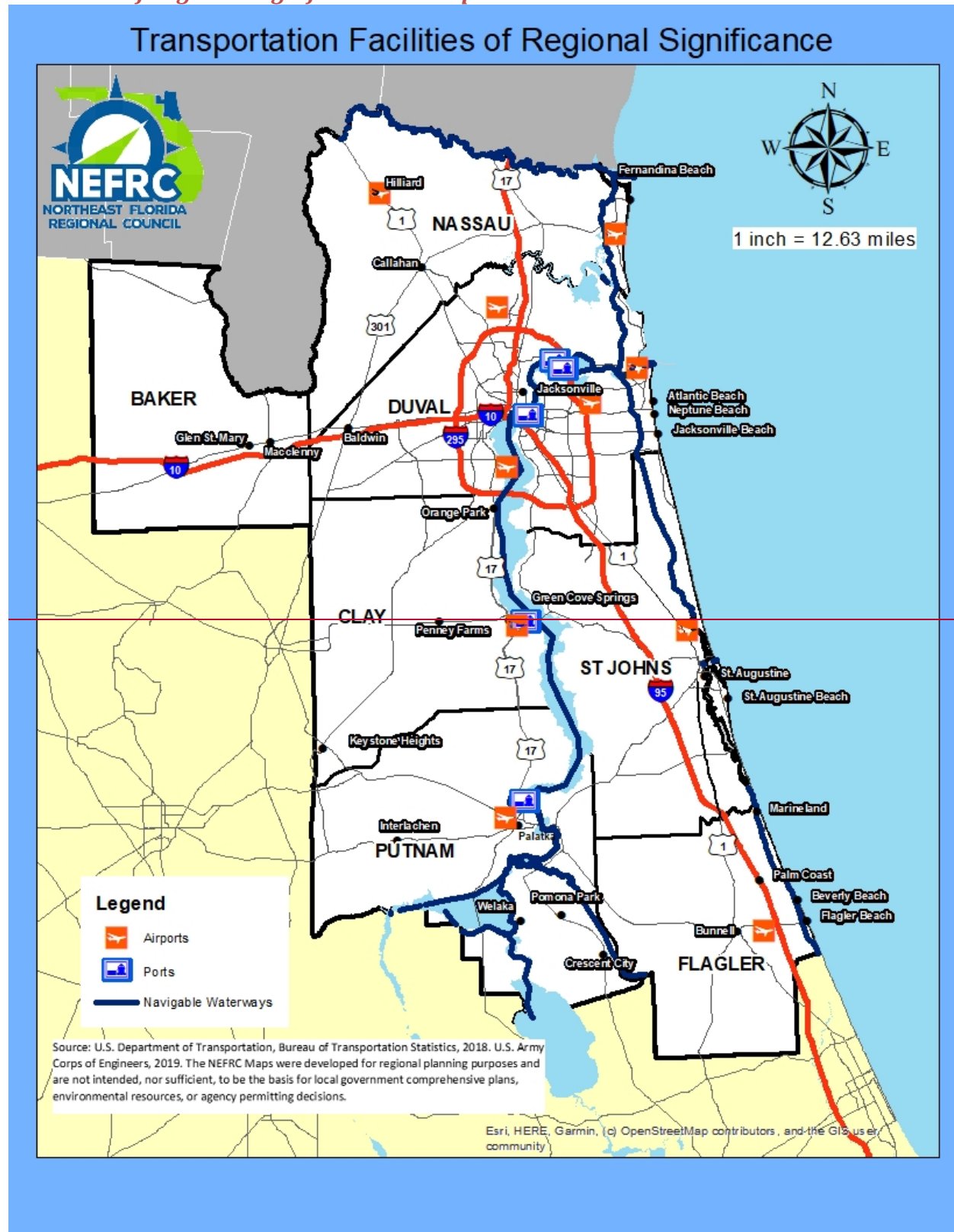
Transportation network companies (TNCs) operate in ~~the more~~ more urban areas but often not in rural ones. Unpaved roads are a factor in rural areas, impacting the longevity of vehicles owned by residents, businesses, and transit agencies. Low densities and unpaved roads may explain why TNC service is often unavailable in rural areas. TNCs provide convenience but do nothing to limit congestion, ~~and in fact may add it~~ and, in fact, may add to it. The limited options also limit the ~~options~~ possibilities for residents ~~of residents who are~~ trying to take advantage of opportunities to increase their incomes, as many jobs are out of reach without an automobile. The presence of existing rail lines is an asset, but they are not currently used for commuter rail, ~~and they~~ and are not ideally located to shift freight from the ports. Most freight is trucked from the ports to rail. While higher-speed passenger rail is being used in South Florida and ~~being~~ built in Central Florida, it has not yet been extended to Northeast Florida.

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

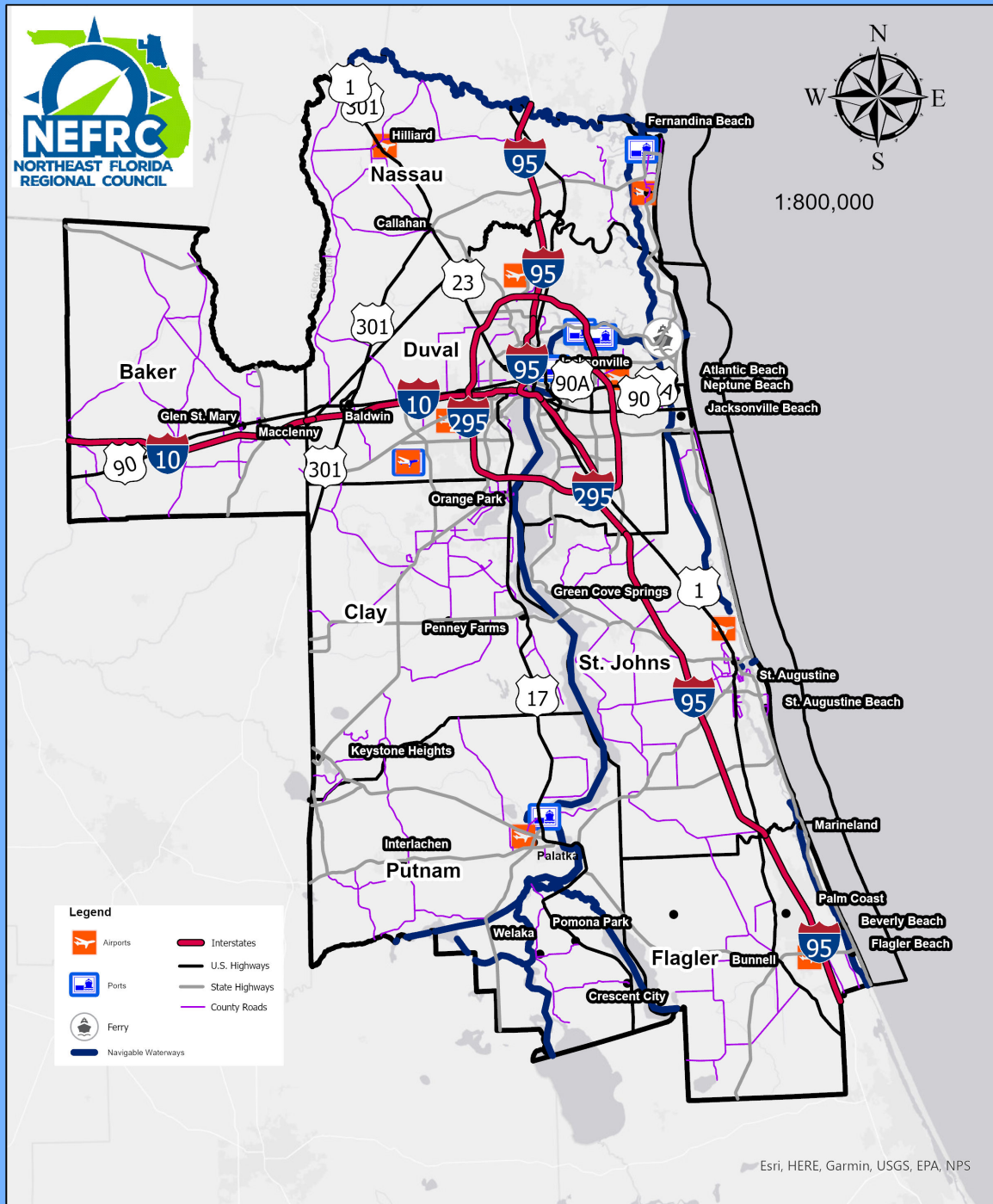
A roadway facility in Northeast Florida will be a Regionally Significant Roadway if it meets one of the following criteria.

1. **Roadways Providing Direct Access to a Regional Activity Center** — Any roadway which provides direct access to a Regional activity center is designated as Regionally significant because it facilitates travel to and from a center whose service delivery area consists of greater than one County. Regional activity centers are defined as a major facility or development area that regularly attracts use by citizens from more than one County, and includes Regional malls, Regional airports, major universities, professional sports centers, etc.
2. **Designated Hurricane Evacuation Route** — Any roadway which is a hurricane evacuation route is designated as Regionally significant because of its importance in meeting the evacuation needs of the Region. Hurricane evacuation routes are those designated by County emergency management officials that have been identified with standardized statewide directional signs by FDOT, or are identified in the Regional hurricane evacuation study for the movement of persons to safety in the event of a hurricane.
3. **Florida State Highway System** — Any roadway on the state highway system is designated as Regionally significant because of the involvement of local government in land use planning and approvals, and the state for funding and access management decisions.
4. **Arterials Crossing County Lines** — Any arterial which crosses County lines is designated as Regionally significant, because the land use planning and decisions by one local government may affect the operating conditions in the adjacent County, and roadway improvements need to be coordinated to attain and maintain acceptable operating conditions.
5. **Connecting Arterials** — Any arterial which directly connects two roadways that fit into any of the above categories.

The transportation facilities on the following map are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.

Resources of Regional Significance: Transportation Facilities

Transportation Facilities of Regional Significance



Source: Florida Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2024.

Figure 6: List of Transportation Facilities of Regional Significance

INTERSTATES				
I-10 (SR 8)	I-95 (SR 9)	I-295 (SR 9A)		
US ROADS				
US 1 (SR 15 and SR 5)	US 301 (SR 200)	US 90 (SR 10 and SR 212)	US 17 (SR 15)	
STATE ROADS				
SR 2	SR 23	SR 111	SR 126	SR 208
SR 5A	SR 23 (First Coast Outer Beltway)	SR 113	SR 128	SR 211
SR 9B	SR 26	SR 114	SR 129	SR 224
SR 10A	SR 100	SR 115	SR 134	SR 228
SR 11	SR 101	SR 115A	SR 139	SR 228A
SR 13	SR 102	SR 116	SR 152	SR 230
SR 16	SR 103	SR 117	SR 202	SR 243
SR 19	SR 104	SR 121	SR 206	SR 312
SR 20	SR 105	SR 122	SR 207	SR A1A
SR 21	SR 109			
COUNTY ROADS				
CR 2	CR 105A	CR 125	CR 213	CR 304
CR 5	CR 105B	CR 127	CR 214	CR 305
CR 5A	CR 106	CR 130	CR 215	CR 305A
CR 13	CR 107	CR 139B	CR 216	CR 308
CR 13A	CR 107A	CR 163	CR 217	CR 308B
CR 13B	CR 108	CR 200A	CR 218	CR 309
CR 15A	CR 109A	CR 201	CR 219	CR 309B
CR 16A	CR 110	CR 203	CR 220	CR 309C
CR 20A	CR 115	CR 204	CR 220A	CR 309D
CR 21	CR 115A	CR 205	CR 220B	CR 310
CR 21A	CR 115C	CR 207A	CR 225	CR 311
CR 21B	CR 116	CR 208	CR 226	CR 312
CR 21D	CR 117	CR 209	CR 228	CR 315
CR 23A	CR 119	CR 209A	CR 229	CR 315C
CR 23C	CR 121	CR 209B	CR 231	CR 318
CR 23D	CR 121A	CR 210	CR 250	CR 352
CR 99	CR 122	CR 210A	CR 250A	CR 739
CR 101A	CR 123	CR 211	CR 302	CR 739B
CR 103	CR 124	CR 212		

(Note: Policy 28 defines such facilities, and this list may not be all-inclusive.)

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: Create efficient connectivity within the Region, and with state, national, and global economies. Include centers of population and jobs that are well-connected, limit commute times for most residents and provide opportunities for all residents of the region to work if they choose. Northeast Florida makes development of regional employment centers and infrastructure a first priority, politically and fiscally.

Goal: ~~In order to promote a diversified and vibrant regional economy, the Region supports an efficient multi-modal transportation framework to move people and goods, and NEFRC and its partners support over time the infrastructure investments needed to make it work~~ To promote a diversified and vibrant regional economy, the Region supports an efficient multimodal transportation framework to move people and goods. NEFRC and its partners support the infrastructure investments needed to make it work over time. The framework maintains an environment ~~that includes~~ with mobility options to move goods and people to support business and industry.

Pillar: Innovation and Economic Development

OBJECTIVE: MOBILITY – PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM MOBILITY AND ACCESS

Policies

Policy 1: The Region supports ~~strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including~~

- Reduced commute times and automobile dependence, as they provide additional opportunities for residents to engage in physical activity.
- Reduced automobile dependence through community design that encourages walking, scooters, and bicycles as transportation modes.
- Mixed-use communities that integrate residential and employment-generating land uses to reduce the need to travel great distances for work.
- Using park design and community design to ensure that recreation areas are accessible to all residents, ~~and~~ providing mobility and programmatic options so that all ~~of~~ residents can get to recreation areas without the use of a personal vehicle.
- Increasing the proportion of trips of less than a mile that are accomplished by walking, ~~and~~ the proportion of trips of less than 5 miles that are accomplished by biking.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

Policy 2: The Region aspires to provide the most reliable, comprehensive, and cost-effective service possible to the transportation disadvantaged. The NEFRC will use partnerships to realize Regional efficiencies, provide access to all necessary services, and increase trips that encourage social interaction.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: CONNECTIVITY – MAXIMIZE THE UTILITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNED AND CONNECTED CENTERS

OBJECTIVE: ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS: A MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

OBJECTIVE: INTEGRATED PLANNING: THE LINK BETWEEN LAND USE, RESOURCES AND MOBILITY

Policy 3: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

~~Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(4)F.S.~~

Policy 4: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Local governments as they identify areas appropriate for mixed-use development.
- Communication of the benefits of density and mixed-use development, including demonstration of property value increase.
- Emphasis on balance between individual and common spaces and the transition of densities, so that residents of the Region see the benefits, regardless of the lifestyle choices they make.
- Incentives for dense and/or ~~mixed-use~~mixed-use development.
- Incentives to private landowners to maintain wise forestry practices and maintain ecosystem services on their lands.
- Maintenance of a diversity of land use in the Region.

- Conservation of natural resources through public land acquisition to preserve ecosystem services.
- Reduction of impervious surfaces in the Region.
- Infill and redevelopment.
- Use of ~~low-impact~~ low-impact development practices.
- Balance between land use and parking policies.
- Learning from other communities and Regions.
- Sensitivity to communities in road and mobility infrastructure design.
- Communities that are planned for people first, not cars.
- Giving residents great places to walk ~~to~~-safely. Encouraging developers and local governments to promote mixed-use communities that provide alternative forms of transportation, such as sidewalks, bike paths, and transit stops in locations with the highest density.
- Provision of reliable transit options.
- Designation of areas for *Transit Oriented Development* (TOD) and the offering of ~~cost effective~~ cost-effective incentives within them for development that is affordable, dense, and/or green.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES: FUNDING MOBILITY AND MAINTAINING CAPACITY

OBJECTIVE EDGE – MAKING FULL AND TIMELY USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Policy 5: Northeast Florida is receptive to technology that improves the transportation system or can otherwise benefit the quality of life in the Region. If technology can help us ~~to improve quality of life in the Region, we~~ improve the quality of life in the region, we will embrace it.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: CLARITY ON THE DEFINITION OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Policy 6: Regionally significant transportation facilities are those facilities used to provide transportation between municipalities located both within and outside the region and other specially designated facilities. Regional facilities and resources provide an interconnected system for the movement of people, goods, and services between the cities,

counties, and states in the Region. The regional road network is comprised of connecting interstate, intrastate and U.S. highways, state roads and county roads, airports, ports, and train and transit facilities. In addition, regionally significant facilities include any roadway that currently or, as proposed and funded provides direct access to a regional facility or resource.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership~~, SCP: 187.201(17)(a)

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 7: NEFRC considers impacts to resources of regional significance and extra jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership~~, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MEASURES

Travel Time Reliability in the Peak Hour	Interstate	Expressways/Freeways
North Florida TPO Performance Measure <u>2021</u> 2016	<u>94</u> 89 %	<u>94</u> 89 %
River to Sea TPO Performance Measure for Flagler County 2014 <u>2023</u>	<u>100</u> 98 %	98 <u>94.6</u> %

Agenda Item

Tab 10

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Tab 10

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: EDA FUNDING: POST DISASTER RECOVERY FOR HURRICANES HELENE & MILTON

The Economic Development Administration awarded NEFRC a non-competitive grant for post disaster economic recovery for the 2024 Hurricane Season, including hurricanes Helene and Milton. This funding will allow for the continuation of economic recovery work, including collaboration and coordination for projects and grant funding and technical assistance as needed by local communities.

NEFRC will also use this funding to start the Community Visioning Initiative aimed at providing low-cost community visioning to smaller local governments that often have fewer resources for future visioning and planning. This program will engage community stakeholders to create a vision for the future on an individual community basis.





- NEFRC received \$500,000 for four years to fund disaster recovery capacity following Hurricane Milton and Helene.
- The funding will be used to:
 1. Continue to support the Post-Disaster Economic Recovery Coordinator's role in the region.
 2. Support efforts related to or resulting from the September/October 2024 Hurricanes, which exacerbated the ongoing impacts of prior disasters and economic challenges.
 3. Establish the Community Visioning Program.

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COMMUNITY VISIONING PROGRAM



- The CVP was announced in January 2025 at the NEFRC Regional Awards ceremony.
- This program will target smaller local governments and municipalities that lack the financial or staff resources to conduct visioning work.
- The CVP will increase the community's ability to plan for the future, including long-term recovery and resilience.