



# Our Mission

The mission of the NEFRC is to celebrate the unique assets of Northeast Florida and to engage its people, businesses, governments and organizations. In doing so we:

- Communicate Issues • Convene Stakeholders • Collaborate with Others
- Calculate and Analyze • Construct Solutions



**BAKER COUNTY**  
County Seat: Macclenny  
Population: 27,937  
Land Area (sq. miles): 585  
Other Incorporated Communities: Glen St. Mary  
Established: 1861  
Named for: James McNair Baker, Confederate States senator and Florida judge



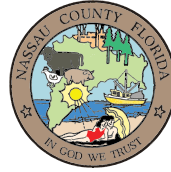
**CLAY COUNTY**  
County Seat: Green Cove Springs  
Population: 208,311  
Land Area (sq. miles): 601  
Other Incorporated Communities: Keystone Heights, Orange Park, Penney Farms  
Established: 1858  
Named for: Kentuckian Henry Clay, Secretary of State under John Quincy Adams



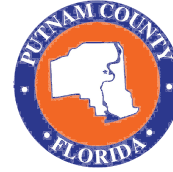
**DUVAL COUNTY**  
County Seat: Jacksonville  
Population: 926,255  
Land Area (sq. miles): 774  
Other Incorporated Communities: Atlantic Beach, Baldwin, Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach  
Established: 1822  
Named for: William Pope Duval, first territorial governor of Florida



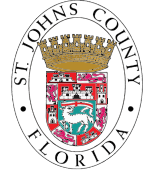
**FLAGLER COUNTY**  
County Seat: Bunnell  
Population: 108,310  
Land Area (sq. miles): 485  
Other Incorporated Communities: Beverly Beach, Flagler Beach, Marineland, Palm Coast  
Established: 1917  
Named for: Henry Flagler, developer of the Florida East Coast Railroad



**NASSAU COUNTY**  
County Seat: Fernandina Beach  
Population: 80,622  
Land Area (sq. miles): 652  
Other Incorporated Communities: Calahan, Hilliard  
Established: 1824  
Named for: Nassau Sound



**PUTNAM COUNTY**  
County Seat: Palatka  
Population: 72,277  
Land Area (sq. miles): 722  
Other Incorporated Communities: Crescent City, Interlachen, Pomona Park, Welaka  
Established: 1849  
Named for: Benjamin Alexander Putnam (1801-69), lawyer, soldier, judge, state legislator, first president of the Florida Historical Society



**ST. JOHNS COUNTY**  
County Seat: St. Augustine, oldest permanent settlement in U.S.  
Population: 235,087  
Land Area (sq. miles): 609  
Other Incorporated Communities: Hastings, St. Augustine Beach  
Established: 1821  
Named for: St. Johns River

## 2016-2017 Board Of Directors



**Hon. Roxanne Horvath**  
President  
St. Johns County



**Hon. Jimmy Anderson**  
1st Vice President  
Baker County



**Hon. Stan Totman**  
2nd Vice President  
Duval County



**Mr. Darryl Register**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Baker County

The Board of Directors of the Northeast Florida Regional Council is comprised of 35 members: two-thirds elected officials and one-third gubernatorial appointees. These individuals are recognized in the public and private sectors for their influence and leadership. They provide the Council with the insight and the tools to make critical decisions that affect the quality of life within our Region. The members named below are listed by their affiliation and title reflective of their status at the time of their service.

### BAKER COUNTY

**Hon. Jimmy Anderson**  
Baker County Commissioner

**Hon. James Bennett**  
Baker County Commissioner

**Mr. Michael Griffis**  
City of Macclenny Representative

**Mr. Darryl Register**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

### CLAY COUNTY

**Mr. Michael Bourre**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

**Mr. Doug Conkey**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

### DUVAL COUNTY

**Hon. Elaine Brown**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

**Hon. Aaron Bowman**  
Jacksonville City Council

**\*Hon. John Crescimbeni**  
Jacksonville City Council

**Hon. Danny Becton**  
Jacksonville City Council

**\*Hon. Bill Gulliford**  
Jacksonville City Council

**Mr. Ronald Timonere**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

**Mr. Stan Totman**  
Jacksonville Representative

### FLAGLER COUNTY

**Hon. Catherine Robinson**  
Mayor, City of Bunnell

**\*Hon. David Sullivan**  
Flagler County Commissioner

**Ms. Helga Van Eckert**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

### NASSAU COUNTY

**Hon. John Drew**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

**Hon. Len Kregar**  
City of Fernandina Beach Commissioner

**Mr. Robert "Bob" Spaeth**  
Nassau County Representative

**Hon. George Spicer**  
Nassau County Commissioner

### PUTNAM COUNTY

**Hon. Buddy Goddard**  
Putnam County Commissioner

**Hon. Larry Harvey**  
Putnam County Commissioner

**\*Hon. Terrill Hill**  
Mayor, City of Palatka

**\*Mr. Kelly Redford**  
Putnam County Representative

**Mr. Kenny Eubanks**  
Putnam County Representative

**Mr. Vernon Myers**  
Putnam County Municipal Representative

**Hon. E. Walton Pellicer II**  
Putnam County Commissioner

### ST. JOHNS COUNTY

**Hon. Roxanne Horvath**  
City of St. Augustine Commissioner

**Hon. James K. Johns**  
Gubernatorial Appointee

**Hon. Paul M. Waldron**  
St. Johns County Commissioner

### EX-OFFICIO NON-VOTING MEMBERS

**Mr. Curtis Hart**  
Florida Department of  
Economic Opportunity

**Mr. Geoffrey Sample**  
St. Johns River Water  
Management District

**Mr. Larry Parks**  
Florida Department of  
Transportation

**Mr. Gregory Strong**  
Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection

\*Appointed in 2017



## Training & Exercises

This year the Northeast Florida Regional Council trained nearly 1,000 individuals across a wide variety of programs. NEFRC staff was recognized for the State's leading training numbers from the Northeast Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, which trained nearly 800 people and offering 23 courses. In addition to all of the training classes offered by the NEFRC, we were also able to offer eleven exercises throughout the year. This gave individuals from a variety of agencies a chance to practice and execute their emergency plans in a controlled environment. Topics included:

- **LEPC/CSX Train Derailment**
- **Initial Responding Unit to a HazMat Incidents**
- **Hurricanes & Natural Disasters**
- **Points of Dispensing**



- **Special Needs Sheltering**
- **Continuity of Operations**
- **Hospital Evacuation**
- **Pandemics – Disease Outbreaks**



## Elected Official's Luncheon and Regional Awards for Excellence

For the past 15 years the NEFRC has celebrated the service of our elected officials and recognized the great work of people who work tirelessly to make a difference in the quality of life in Northeast Florida. This year we gathered on December 7th to thank our elected officials and to present awards to the most noteworthy projects, programs and people. This year's winners of our Regional Awards for Excellence are:

*Affordable Housing:*

**Sara Little, Baker County**

*Culture, Historic Preservation or Adaptive Reuse:*

**Princess Place Estates**

*Economic Development & Tourism:*

**PGA Tour Corporate Headquarters Project**

*Education:*

**WJCT's Be My Neighbor Day 2017**

*Environmental Stewardship:*

**Fernandina Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Project**

*Planning and Growth Management:*

**Kelly Gibson, City of Fernandina Beach**

*Public Safety:*

**City of Palm Coast Fire Department Internship Program**

*Inclusion:*

**The ALICE Report**

*Transportation:*

**Smart Region Master Plan**

*Quality of Life:*

**St. Augustine's Mayor Shaver**

*Special Achievement Award:*

**UNDERDOG Dreams**

*Regional Leadership:*

**Fernandina Beach Vice-Mayor Len Kreger**



## The Regional Leadership Academy

Twelve candidates graduated as part of the Regional Leadership Academy in 2017. This program introduces established leaders from all segments of the community to regional issues, strengthens the network of existing leaders who are ready and eager to collaborate, and forms the foundation for the policy think tank that advises the NEFRC, the Regional Community Institute.

**Success:** RLA Graduates routinely present to RLA Classes, and have been known to win Regional Awards for Excellence in their fields!

**Success:** The Regional Leadership Academy did not need to recruit for the Class of 2018, as nominations were received from previous graduates sufficient to fill the class!

**240**  
graduated  
regional  
leaders

## The Regional Community Institute

Regional Leadership Academy graduates and NEFRC current and former Board members make up the membership of the Regional Community Institute. This policy think tank has advised the NEFRC on issues from sea level rise to thriving small business, from a transportation corridor between Tampa and Jacksonville to water issues. They also crafted First Coast Vision, part of the NEFRC's guiding Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

**Success:** RCI collaborated with southern Georgia on water issues.



**The Regional Community Institute is working on REGIONAL TOURISM in 2018.**

## Transportation Disadvantaged

NEFRC staffs the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Boards for Baker, Clay, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties. These Boards are comprised of volunteers and agency representatives who advise on coordination of transit for the transportation disadvantaged. They assist the service providers in this very challenging field, helping them to address this very important need.

**Success:** Regional coordination of transit is a top priority for LCBs in Northeast Florida.

**Over the last two years, five of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans overseen by NEFRC have been significantly updated.**

## Affordable Housing Needs Plan

NEFRC's Board prepared to adopt a Regional Housing Needs Plan with three major goals and five broad strategies. The NEFRC invited the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Banker's Roundtable Meeting to be held at the Council's offices in June where regulators and banks discussed affordable housing opportunities for cooperation.

**Success:** The Affordable Housing Needs plan, a goal of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, is on track for approval by the NEFRC Board in 2018.

## SHIP Program

The NEFRC is now partnering with St. Johns Housing Partnership to house qualified residents of Putnam County. St. John's Housing Partnership manages the rehabilitation contracting and the NEFRC manages the planning tasks and provides staffing for the Local Housing Advisory Committee.

**Success:** The Putnam County Local Housing Advisory Committee completed a triennial review of the program.

**15**  
Homes  
Serviced

**19**  
Applications  
Processed.

## P2R2

The Public/Private Regional Resiliency Committee continues to provide leadership and action on sea level rise in Northeast Florida, and what the business community needs to know, and do,

about it. They are currently focusing on Pre-FIRM buildings, investigating where they are, their vulnerabilities, if and how they can be made more resilient, and what might be done to finance improvements.

**Success:** P2R2 action item on Regional Evacuation Planning has become a NEFRC policy priority.

**Success:** P2R2 consists of volunteers with a business focus. There is no structure to the committee, as it operates by consensus. It works!



## Technical Assistance

NEFRC is under contract with Pomona Park, Interlachen and Beverly Beach to provide assistance with planning and zoning issues as needed. Preliminary preparations were made for the local governments to adopt ordinances concerning the new requirement of a Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.

**Success:** The local governments were assisted with three rezonings and a road right of way dispute that was settled.

## Comprehensive Planning

Every month, large scale (more than 10 acres) comprehensive plan amendments from any of the seven counties or their municipalities are reviewed by NEFRC Staff against two criteria as mandated by State law. Those criteria are adverse impacts to critical State resources, and extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government.

**Success:** All reviews were conducted in the 30 day time period required by statute.

**NEFRC considered twenty-one comprehensive plan amendments for eight local governments totaling 4,113.62 acres.**

## Economic Impact Analysis

**OVER**  
**25**  
economic  
development  
projects in  
Northeast  
Florida.

NEFRC provides economic impact analysis modelling services for our economic development partners to assist in determining the level of public investment, if any, a local government will offer to secure an economic development opportunity.

**Success:** NEFRC's analysis helped secure the Amazon distribution which will grow the Region's economy by \$2 Billion/year.

## Elevate Northeast Florida

The NEFRC in partnership with JAXUSA and CareerSource was awarded a matching grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to update the region's 2011 economic development strategy called Innovate Northeast Florida. This new effort called Elevate Northeast Florida is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2018.

**Success:** We have agreement that our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy will align with the results of Elevate Northeast Florida

**8**  
partners  
are investing  
in Elevate  
Northeast  
Florida.