

Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2013-04

Considering, Recommending and Endorsing

**The Subscription by its Member Counties to the
Uniform and Scalable Florida PACE Funding Agency
Program for Immediate Funding, Financing and
Delivery of Energy Conservation and Efficiency,
Renewable Energy and Wind Resistance Improvements**

WHEREAS, each Regional Planning Council, including the Northeast Florida Regional Council, is recognized as Florida's only multi-purpose regional entity that is in a position to plan for and coordinate intergovernmental solutions to growth-related problems on greater than local issues, provide technical assistance to local governments and meet other needs of the communities in each region; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature based upon a compelling state interest enacted Section 163.08, Florida Statutes (2010), which authorized a new statutory program designed to providing financing for certain qualifying improvements consisting of energy conservation, renewable energy and wind resistance improvements to existing developed residential and commercial properties; and

WHEREAS, Flagler County and the City of Kissimmee created, via Interlocal Agreements, the Florida Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Funding Agency as a public service, without fee or charge to subscribing local governments, to provide a solution developed by proactive local governments to address and deliver a scalable, uniform program available to all local governments in Florida to deliver an efficient and economical financing program which does not rely on or depend on funding resources or back-up from any local government; and

WHEREAS, the Florida PACE Funding Agency program expressly removes liability from any participating county or municipality in that county, and insulates both counties and municipalities from requests for subsidy or contribution; and

WHEREAS, a subscription by each county to the programs and facilitative services provided by the Florida PACE Funding Agency is a swift and efficient means to secure a uniform program for property owners and vendors through a special purpose local government most effectively situated to deal with national mortgage lenders, as well as, attract needed capital from national and global credit markets for this Region; and

WHEREAS, all property owners, contractors and material men in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the member counties within the Northeast Florida Regional Council, will all benefit from the uniform availability of the program administration, and funding and financing made available through the Florida PACE Funding Agency and the voluntary provision of clean energy, renewable energy and wind resistance improvements to the Region; and

WHEREAS, successfully attracting the Florida PACE Funding Agency to this Regional area depends, in part, upon a collective Regional approach embraced by all of the counties represented on the Council so that property owners and contractors are not confused by a series of differing or narrow programs; and

WHEREAS, the Florida PACE Funding Agency program represents the best and immediate means for each county to promote to their incorporated and unincorporated area constituents a singular regional program with the objective of delivering the best and lowest cost administration and financing, and the best opportunity to yield immediate and substantial economic affect in terms of job creation, energy savings, storm mitigation and insurance savings; and

WHEREAS, embracing a uniform and consistent program from county to county truly promotes regional cooperation, and will open to all participants throughout the counties served by the Northeast Florida Regional Council a powerful means to foster economic development, furtherance of commerce, and the improvement of building stock within the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby declares that:

Section 1. The above recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution and such recitals are adopted as findings of fact.

Section 2. The Northeast Florida Regional Council resolves that:

- (a) It is in the best interest of the Northeast Florida Region to foster economic development on a regional basis associated with energy conservation, renewable energy and wind resistance improvements to existing buildings and structures;

- (b) Florida law authorized a funding and financing program for energy conservation, renewable energy and wind resistance improvements in 2010, and it is of paramount concern and benefit to the Northeast Florida Region that these kinds of improvements be authorized, undertaken, funded and financed without further delay and as soon as possible;
- (c) The Florida PACE Funding Agency, which represents a local government solution to the otherwise very expensive challenge of rapid implementation of such an improvements program, is immediately available to provide administration, funding, and financing of its improvements program and is presently commencing operation in Flagler and Nassau Counties, at no financial or staff cost or liability exposure to participating local governments; and
- (d) The Board of County Commissioners of the member counties of the Northeast Florida Regional Council, are each requested and urged to all embrace, as a single and smartly united region, the uniform and scalable program and activities of the Florida PACE Funding Agency - by each subscribing thereto and commonly making such opportunity available to all property owners, contractors, and material men within the entire Northeast Florida Region.

Section 3. This resolution encourages and requests the member counties of the Northeast Florida Regional Council to each carefully consider and subscribe to the powerful voluntary funding and financing PACE program now available through the Florida PACE Funding Agency.

Adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting assembled in the City of Jacksonville, the second day of May, 2013.



Larry Williams
President

Brian D. Teeple
CEO