



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

MEETING NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on **June 29, 2026**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Suwannee Room, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida**, and via Communications Media Technology at **7:00 p.m.**

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://meet.goto.com/704183445>

DIAL IN NUMBER: **Toll Free: 1.866.899.4679**

ACCESS CODE: **704 183 445**

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

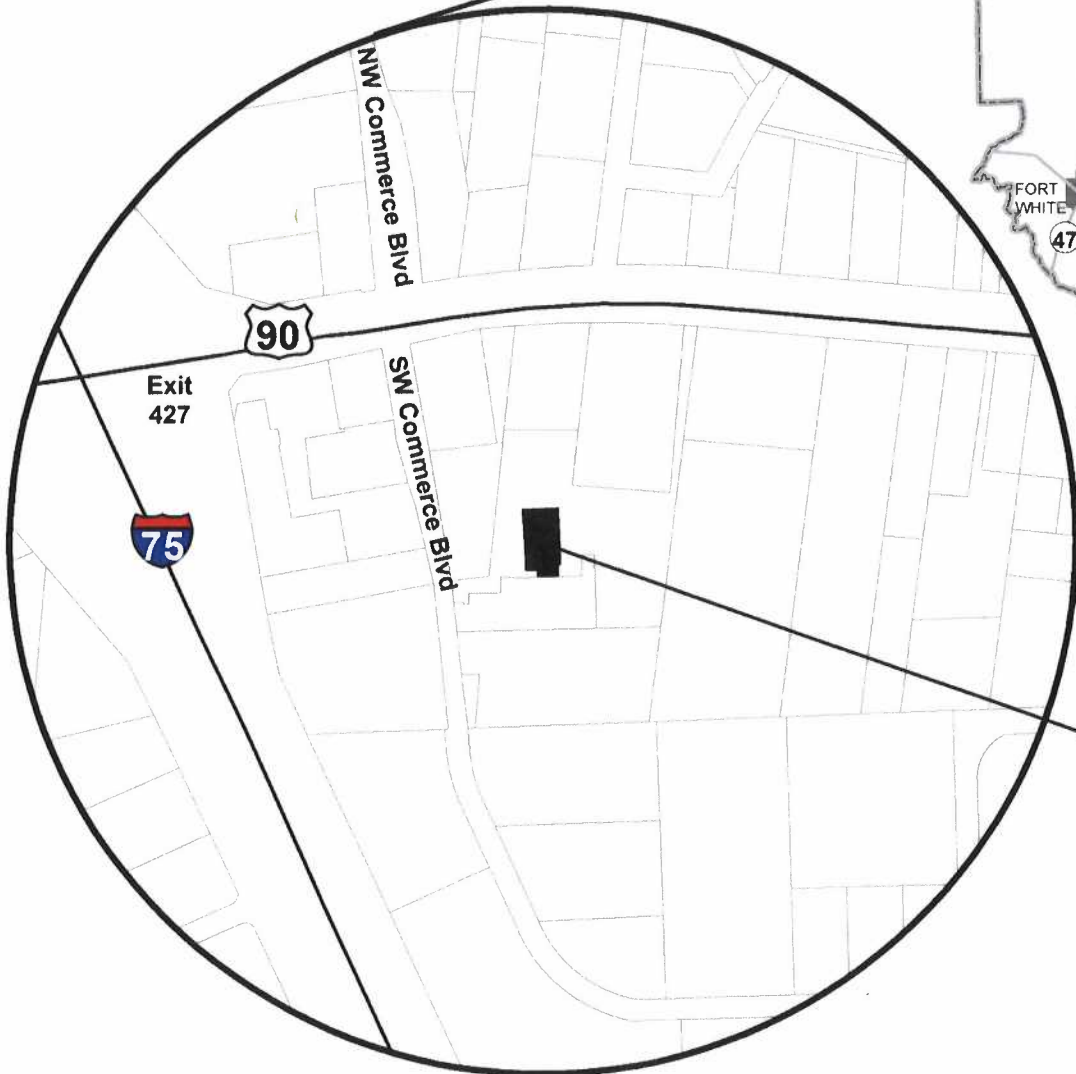
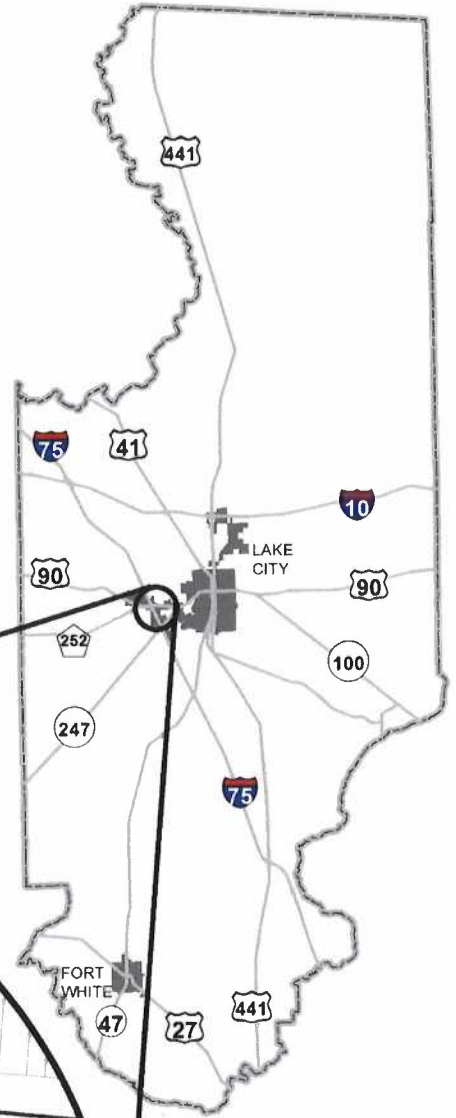
*Please email koons@ncfrpc.org by June 26, 2026 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting **in-person or via communications media technology**. **THANK YOU.***

Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites

213 SW Commerce Blvd
Lake City, Florida 32025

Directions: From the intersection of Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 90 (exit 427) in the City of Lake City turn, East onto U.S. Highway 90, travel approximately 450 feet to SW Commerce Blvd, turn right (South) onto SW Commerce Blvd, travel approximately 720 feet and the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites is on the left.



1 inch = 500 feet

Holiday Inn
Hotel & Suites





Serving Alachua
 Bradford • Columbia
 Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
 Lafayette • Levy • Madison
 Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 - 1603 • 352 . 955 . 2200

AGENDA

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Hybrid Public Meeting
 Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard
 Lake City, Florida and
 Via Communications Media Technology

June 29, 2026
 7:00 p.m.

Page

I.	INVOCATION		
II.	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE		
III.	INTRODUCTIONS		
IV.	APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA		
* A.	Minutes - May 28, 2026		5
* B.	Financial Report - May 2026		13
* C.	Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Update Hazardous Analyses - Fiscal Year 2026-27		19
* D.	Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointments		21
* E.	Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Reappointments		23
* F.	Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment Columbia Hamilton Suwannee		25
V.	APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA		
VI.	GUEST SPEAKER – Jason Lauritsen, Chief Conservation Officer Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation		
VII.	CHAIR REPORT		
* A.	Resolution of Appreciation		
	1. James Carter Jr., City of Lake City		27
* B.	Committee Appointments		31

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Proclamation Proclaiming July 4, 2026 America 250 Day **35**

* B. Clearinghouse Committee **39**

Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

1. #40 - Town of Greenville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ER)
2. #41 - City of Williston Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ER)
3. #42 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
4. #43 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-2ESR)
5. #44 - Town of Bronson Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
6. #45 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
7. #46 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Council welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the Council. If you would like to address the Council, please complete a form, come to the podium when you are called, speak into the microphone and state your name for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than three minutes. Your participation is welcomed.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- * A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report **41**
- * B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard **45**
- * C. Financial Disclosure Report Filing **55**

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This agenda item provides an opportunity for Council members to make announcements concerning community events and local government projects.

XIII. NEXT MEETING - July 23, 2026

* See Attachment

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

IV.A.

Hybrid Public Meeting
Drury Inn & Suites
Gainesville, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

May 28, 2026
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
IN PERSON

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Mary Alford, Alachua County
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Bryan Eastman, City of Gainesville
Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper
Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer
James Howell, Hamilton County
Ricky Jernigan, City of Lake City
Diane Landry, City of Perry
Donald Long, City of Newberry
Kirk Marhefka, Town of Cross City
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(FOR QUORUM)

Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Rick Davis, Madison County
James Ingle, City of Gainesville

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

None

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
NON-VOTING DELEGATE ABSENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wayne Bloodsworth Jr., City of High Springs
Don Hale, Suwannee County
Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler
Johnny Hiers, Levy County
Melissa McNeal, Union County
J.P. Moore, City of Madison
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Austin Burgess, Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission - In-Person

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Davis - In-Person
John Jenkins - In-Person
Pamela Koons - In-Person
Stew Lilker - In-Person
Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson - In-Person
Rita Najin - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In-Person
Lynn Franson - In-Person

Executive Committee Members names are bold

I. INVOCATION

Chair Mary Alford noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Thomas Demps gave the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council and guests pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Alford welcomed John Jenkins, County Manager, Dixie County; Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council member Louie Davis; Pamela Koons, wife of Council Executive Director Scott Koons; Rita Najin, wife of Council member Ricky Jernigan; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer. Also, in attendance at the meeting was Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson, Our Santa Fe River.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Alford asked that the consent agenda be approved.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wheeler, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Minutes - April 23, 2026
- B. Financial Report - April 2026
- C. Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Local Emergency Planning Committee -Fiscal Year 2026-27
- D. Meeting Schedule Program Year 2026-27

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Alford asked that the regular agenda be approved.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL PRESENTATION YEAR 2025

Scott Koons, Executive Director, gave a presentation which reviewed Council activities during the past year in the Regional Planning, Public Safety, Economic Development, Local Government Assistance and Transportation Programs of the Council. In particular, he highlighted the services that the Council provides, which benefit its local governments, including community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities. Chair Alford thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Resolution of Appreciation

1. Paula Arnold

ACTION: Mayor Louie Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to authorize the Chair to sign a Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation for Paula Arnold the former voting Persons with Disabilities Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Certificate of Service for Council Employee - Scott Koons - 50 Years

Chair Arnold reported that Scott Koons joined the Council staff on April 1, 1976. She noted that Mr. Koons has served as Executive Director since October 1, 2006. Chair Arnold presented a 50-year Certificate of Service plaque and a 50-year service pin to Mr. Koons. She noted that Mr. Koons has served longer than any employee in the history of the Council. Chair Arnold and Council members thanked him for his leadership and dedicated service to the Council.

C. New Member

Chair Alford welcomed new Council member Ricky Jernigan, City Councilman, City of Lake City.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

Lynn Franson, Senior Planner, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee did not meet earlier in the evening due to a lack of a quorum. She reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #27 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
- #28 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER)
- #29 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-3ESR)
- #30 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-4ESR)
- #31 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-2ER)

Ms. Franson stated with regards to these items, the staff reports found that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, were not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. She stated that staff recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Eastman, to approve the staff reports concerning Item #27 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR); Item #28 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER); Item #29 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-3ESR); Item #30 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-4ESR); and Item #31 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-2ER). The motion carried unanimously.

C. Program Committee - Fiscal Year 2026-27 Overall Program Design

Mayor Jhelecia Hawkins, Council Vice-Chair and Program Committee Chair, gave the Program Committee report. She stated that the Program Committee met on April 23, 2026 to review a draft of the Overall Program Design for the coming year. Mayor Hawkins stated that this document is used as a basis for the development of a budget and is also to give instruction to staff as to the work which is to be done during the next year. She stated that there are no changes proposed in the Overall Program Design which include new programs not previously discussed and/or approved by the Council.

ACTION: Mayor Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Overall Program Design as recommended by the Program Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget

Vice-Mayor Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, Council Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair, gave the Finance Committee report. She stated that the Finance Committee met virtually via communications media technology on May 20, 2026 to review the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget. Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson stated the anticipated expenditures for next year will be \$1,288,400. She also stated, almost all funds to be expended by the Council are received through contracts for services and grants. Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson stated there is one exception: Member local governments pay dues, which are proposed to remain at \$0.30 per capita for the 45th year, will produce approximately \$177,500.

Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson noted that the most significant policy decision that must be made with respect to the budget is related to personnel. She noted that there is provision for a total of four full-time staff positions, plus funds for part-time positions. Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson stated that the budget includes a recurring increase across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, equal to three percent of the salary for each employee.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Mayor Louie Davis, to approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Nominating Committee - Program Year 2026-27 Election of Officers

Mayor Hope, Council Immediate Past Chair and Nominating Committee Chair, gave the Nominating Committee report. He stated that the Nominating Committee met virtually via communications media technology on May 20, 2026 to prepare, for the Council's consideration, recommendations concerning officers for Program Year 2026-27.

He stated that the Nominating Committee recommendations for officers are, as follows:

Chair - Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper
Vice-Chair - Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne
Treasurer - Melissa McNeal, Union County
Secretary - Don Hale, Suwannee County
Immediate Past Chair - Mary Alford, Alachua County

Chair Alford asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing no nominations from the floor, she closed the nominations.

ACTION: Mayor Hope made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to elect the slate of nominees for officers to a one-year term for Program Year 2026-27 as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Austin Burgess, Senior Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, stated that the Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation recently prepared the Corridor Collaborative Communities Guidebook for local governments concerning wildlife habitat protection.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson discussed local government resolutions opposing the Water First North Florida project.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. He stated that the Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. Mr. Koons also stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the April 2026 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the April 2026 report.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. He stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. Mr. Koons noted that the Scorecard reports metrics for each of the following Six Pillars: Talent and Supply Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems, and Quality of Life and Quality Places. He reviewed the May 2026 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee
Table Top Hazardous Materials Exercise

Mr. Koons reported that the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, with support from Council staff, held a Table Top Hazardous Materials Exercise on May 6, 2026 at the Dixie County Emergency Operations Center. He noted that the exercise consisted of a simulated accident involving a pickup truck towing an anhydrous ammonia nursing tank crashing into an electric vehicle school bus powered by a lithium-ion battery. Mr. Koons stated that the exercise provided an opportunity for the participating agencies to enhance interagency communication and coordination, and provided participants an opportunity to practice their response skills. Finally, he stated that the exercise was attended by 15 agencies and companies involving 29 individuals.

D. Financial Disclosure Report Filing

Mr. Koons reported that all members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year. He stated that the financial disclosure form filed by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfills this requirement. Mr. Koons noted that local elected officials and all other filers are required to file the form online this year.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Mayor Louie Davis announced that several new businesses recently opened in Waldo.

Commissioner Eastman discussed the Special Legislative Session concerning ad valorem property taxes to be held June 1-3, 2026.

Commissioner Long announced a ground breaking ceremony was recently held for Harvest Singularity, a controlled environment, industrial hydroponics greenhouse project producing leafy green vegetables, that will create 50 jobs at the Ag-Tech Park in Newberry.

Mr. Koons presented Chair Alford with a John Moran framed landscape photograph of an American Lotus at Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park for her service as Chair during Program Year 2025-26.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Alford stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on June 29, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

6/29/26
Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Paula Arnold has served as the voting Persons with Disabilities Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since January 2017; and

WHEREAS, Paula Arnold ably discharged the duties as the Persons with Disabilities Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the members and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Paula Arnold for dedicated service rendered to the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Madison County and the State of Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for all citizens of the community to view and recognize the accomplishments and service of Paula Arnold.

Mary C. Alford, Chair

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

May 28, 2026

Date

Certificate of Service

has been awarded to

Scott R. Koons

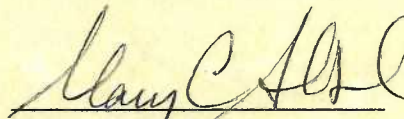
as an expression of appreciation for 50 years of dedicated service as an employee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council from April 1, 1976, to April 1, 2026.

50

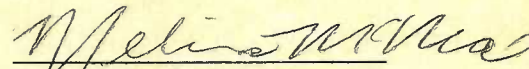
Years

Witness the Seal of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the signatures of its duly authorized officers thereunto affixed.

Given this 28th day of May in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Six.



Mary C. Alford, Chair



Melissa McNeal, Secretary





IV.B.

Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - May 2026

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for May 2026. The following paragraphs discuss revenues and expenditures to the budget for the month and year to date.

Revenue

The total revenue for the Council for year to date is within budgeted figures. Revenue at the end of eight months is 55 percent of budget.

Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of eight months are 59 percent of budget.

Conclusion

In conclusion, staff is pleased with the financial condition of the Council. The adjusted general fund balance should remain at an acceptable level at the end of the fiscal year.

Overall, as is regularly reported, the financial condition of the Council is sound. Staff is not aware of anything in the current fiscal year that will change this situation.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\monthlyfinancereport for may-26.docx

Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
May 31, 2026

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking / Savings	2,294,597
Accounts Receivable	903,948
Other Current Assets	21,573
Total Current Assets	<u>3,220,118</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>3,220,118</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	9,761
Other Current Liabilities	313,758
Total Liabilities	<u>323,519</u>
Equity	<u>2,896,599</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>3,220,118</u>

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
May 31, 2026

SUMMARY STATEMENT

	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	May 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue	1,453,100	76,748	799,472	55%
Expenses	1,453,100	88,443	862,064	59%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
May 31, 2026

REVENUE

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	May 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Program Development	51,100	1,894	42,098	82%
Regional Planning				
Regional Planning & Review	70,000	0	70,408	101%
Regional Mitigation Resiliency	70,900	0	31,360	44%
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance				
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	58,900	0	0	0%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	149,000	0	61,680	41%
Hazards Analyses	18,800	2,674	13,371	
Transportation				
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	29,300	0	10,841	37%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	234,100	0	95,071	41%
Economic Development				
Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	115,000	0	80,111	70%
Economic Disaster Recovery	100,000	0	50,000	50%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	36,500	0	11,875	33%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	52,500	13,180	79,678	152%
Local Government Assistance				
General Technical Services	35,000	0	35,204	101%
City & County Planning Services	225,200	59,000	184,625	82%
Community Development Block Grant Administration	206,800	0	33,150	16%
Total Revenue	1,453,100	76,748	799,472	55%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
May 31, 2026

EXPENDITURES

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26	May 2026	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Audit	19,000	0	0	0%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	42,000	2,286	19,101	45%
Contractual Services	103,000	2,440	44,994	44%
Dues, Publications, Subscriptions & Training	42,000	268	61,113	146%
Furniture & Equipment	25,000	0	0	0%
Insurance & Bonding	38,000	0	18,040	47%
Legal Services & Public Notices	15,000	1,270	7,507	50%
Machine Rental & Maintenance	5,000	1,258	3,843	77%
Meeting Expenses	25,000	0	9,802	39%
Office Supplies	17,000	1,331	15,428	91%
Personnel	972,100	74,093	597,914	62%
Postage	5,000	278	2,575	52%
Printing	5,000	0	0	0%
Reproduction	4,000	0	1,354	34%
Telephone	3,000	2,052	3,787	126%
Travel	30,000	2,013	20,544	68%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	52,500	1,154	56,062	107%
Contingency	50,500	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	1,453,100	88,443	862,064	59%



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 - 1603 • 352 . 955 . 2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management
to Update Hazards Analyses - Fiscal Year 2026-27

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for Fiscal Year 2026-27 to update hazards analyses for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties for an amount of \$13,966.24.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the Florida Division of Emergency Management provides funding to the Council to update hazards analyses for locations that contain extremely hazardous substances that if released could cause off-site injuries.

Sites located in the following counties will be included in the hazards analyses update: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties. The amount of the agreement will be \$13,966.24.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.




Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Appoint Brooke Beck-Smith as the voting Citizen Advocate Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to the remainder of a three-year term ending June 30, 2027.**
- **Appoint Casey Ditter as the voting Local Medical Community Representative on the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to the remainder of a three-year term ending June 30, 2028.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards. It is recommended Brooke Beck-Smith be appointed the voting Citizen Advocate Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. It is recommended Casey Ditter be appointed the voting Local Medical Community Representative on the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Reappointments

RECOMMENDATION:

- Reappoint Tiffany McKenzie as the voting Community Action Agency Representative on the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to three-year terms ending June 30, 2029.
- Reappoint Albert Linden as the voting Veteran Representative on the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to a three-year term ending June 30, 2029.
- Reappoint Barbara Fischer as the voting Veteran Representative on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to three-year terms ending June 30, 2029.
- Reappoint Meagen Wakeland as the voting Community Action Agency Representative on the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to three-year terms ending June 30, 2029.
- Reappoint John Koch as the voting Elderly Representative on the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to a three-year term ending June 30, 2029.

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards. Several Board members' terms of appointment expire on June 30, 2026. The Board members listed above are willing to serve an additional three-year term of reappointment to the Boards.


If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 -1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment
Columbia Hamilton Suwannee

RECOMMENDATION:

Appoint Commissioner Everett Phillips, Columbia County Local Elected Official, Chair of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board for a one-year term ending June 30, 2027.

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing the Chair of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Chapter I. F. (1) of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Bylaws provides for the Board to annually recommend to the Council a local elected official to serve as Chair of the Board. At its May 20, 2026 meeting, the Board recommended the Council appoint Commissioner Everett Phillips, Columbia County Local Elected Official, as Chair of the Board for a one-year term ending June 30, 2027.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - James Carter Jr.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for James Carter Jr.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since November 2024 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\james carter jr res.docx

Resolution

OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, James Carter Jr. has been representing the City of Lake City on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since November 2024;

WHEREAS, James Carter Jr. has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to James Carter Jr. for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for all citizens of the region to view and recognize the accomplishments and service of James Carter Jr.

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair

Don Hale, Secretary

ATTEST:

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF JUNE 29, 2026.





Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair
SUBJECT: 2026-27 Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify 2026-27 Committee appointments as recommended by the Chair.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Council, each year the Chair makes appointments to the various committees of the Council. These appointments provide for a broad geographic representation throughout the region serving on the committees. Emphasis was also placed on the attendance record of each appointee. Therefore, I am recommending appointments to committees as per the attached list.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\chair committee appointments 26-27.docx

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2026-27
June 29, 2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, Vice-Chair
Melissa McNeal, Treasurer
Don Hale, Secretary
Mary Alford, Immediate Past Chair

CLEARINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

James Howell, Chair
Diane Landry, Vice-Chair
Melissa Hendrix
Johnny Hiers
Ricky Jernigan
Donald Long
J.P. Moore
Kevin Parnell
Jody Stephenson

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Melissa McNeal, Chair
Charles Chestnut IV, Vice-Chair
Janice Mortimer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mary Alford, Chair
Fletcher Hope Jr., Vice-Chair
Janice Mortimer

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, Chair
Ricky Jernigan, Vice-Chair
Melissa Hendrix
Johnny Hiers
Diane Landry
Donald Long
J.P. Moore
Kevin Parnell
Kenrick Thomas

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thomas Demps, Chair
Melissa Hendrix, Vice-Chair
James Howell
Ricky Jernigan
Diane Landry
Donald Long
J.P. Moore
Kevin Parnell
Jody Stephenson

REPRESENTATIVES TO
FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS
ASSOCIATION

Charles Chestnut IV
Thomas Demps
Janice Mortimer

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Landon Harrar, Chair, Levy County Economic Development
Jimmy Norris, Vice-Chair, Suwannee County Economic Development
Doug Brown, Madison County Development Council
Charles Burnett, Hamilton County Economic Development
Jennifer Daniels, Columbia County Economic Development
Jeff Hendry, North Florida Economic Development Partnership
Phyllis Marty, CareerSource North Central Florida
Aaron Portwood, Taylor County Development Authority
Amber Shepherd, Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming July 4, 2026 America 250 Day

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming July 4, 2026 America 250 Day in the north central Florida region.

BACKGROUND:

On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed by delegates to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence provides an opportunity to reflect on our shared history, celebrate the contributions of Americans, and look forward to the future we want to build together.

July 4, 2026 is America 250 Day as designated by the America 250 Commission created by Congress in 2016. Civic, cultural and historical education events will take place at the local, state and national levels to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the formation of our nation.

It is recommended that the Council adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming July 4, 2026 America 250 Day in north central Florida.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\america 250 day.docx



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING JULY 4, 2026 AS AMERICA 250 DAY

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the formation of our nation;

WHEREAS, our nation's 250th anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on our shared history, celebrate the contributions of Americans, and look forward to the future we want to build together;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has contributed proudly and significantly to the history of our region, state and nation;

WHEREAS, civic, cultural and historical education events will take place at the local, state and national levels to ensure all citizens can connect with this historic milestone;

WHEREAS, in 2016, the United States Congress established the America 250 Commission to encourage nationwide observance of this monumental semiquincentennial; and

WHEREAS, this milestone calls upon us to recognize the sacrifices made for our liberty and to reaffirm our commitment to democratic ideals, inspiring the next generation of citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims July 4, 2026 as America 250 Day throughout the north central Florida region and encourages all citizens of the north central Florida region to reflect upon our history, participate in local community events, and celebrate the enduring spirit of American Independence.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 29th day of June 2026.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Don Hale, Secretary

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair



VIII.B.

Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 -1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: James Howell, Chair
Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

I. COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:00 p.m., June 29, 2026. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting conducted both in-person and via communications media technology. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level items which require Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

1. #40 - Town of Greenville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ER)
2. #41 - City of Williston Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 26-1ER)
3. #42 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
4. #43 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-2ESR)
5. #44 - Town of Bronson Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
6. #45 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 26-1ESR)
7. #46 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)

Please be advised that the Clearinghouse Committee meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on Clearinghouse Committee Full Packet).

v:\chouse\meeting\chair reports\2026\chairreport.290626.docx

Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.



Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives.

The Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying-out the following objectives.

- Ensure regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the State of Florida, its local governments, and the citizens they serve;
- Ensure regional planning councils are consensus builders and problem solvers, and serve as conveners of the region by helping to articulate those multijurisdictional issues that need resolution;
- Encourage and promote opportunities for regional planning councils to become partners in state programs and initiatives, while promoting the unique themes of each region within the state and legislative environments;
- Monitor substantive state and federal legislative issues for the benefit of its members, and promote mutually supportive policy positions among the regional planning councils;
- Represent regional planning councils in national organizations, such as the National Association of Regional Councils, National Association of Development Organizations, and SouthEast Regional Directors Institute; and
- Foster relationships and partnerships and coordinate with state, regional, and national associations and organizations; non-profit entities; public-private partnerships; the Governor's Office; state agencies; and others, on issues of mutual interest and concern, and with whom the Association shares mutual goals and programs.

Please find attached the May 2026 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\fracamonthlyreport jun 26.docx



FRCA Monthly Report

Florida Regional Councils Association

May 2026 Activity Report

Kristin Dozie, Executive Director

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared Agenda and hosted May Executive Committee and May Executive Directors Advisory Committee (EDAC) meetings
- Monthly meeting with FRCA’s Bookkeeper and EDAC Treasurer to review March Financial Report
- Finalized FRCA rebranding and created new materials for FRCA’s conference exhibit booth, presentations, reports, and website.
- Met with FRCA Policy Board 1st Vice President Jack Mariano (Pasco County, TBRPC) to review the Annual Policy Board draft agenda and appoint the 2026 Nominating Committee
- Recruited candidates for FRCA Policy Board Officers
- Continued coordination and planning for FRCAs Summer-Annual Policy Board meeting, including presentations and speakers, annual budget, resolutions and other materials.

RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH

- Research and meetings with industry representatives to identify secure and accurate AI tools for Regional Planning Councils.
- Coordinated and hosted FRCA Partners Meeting with staff from FDEP Resiliency Florida Program and the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration
- Attended East Central Florida RPC May Board meeting and Legislative Update
- Received updates from FRCAs Legislative Consultants during and after Legislative Special Sessions
- Conducted research into current topics impacting Florida including proposed data centers and local government response to proposed projects.

SPECIAL UPDATES



We’re looking forward to the Florida Association of Counties 2026 Annual Conference!
Please stop by and visit FRCA’s Booth in the Exhibit Hall
Wednesday June 24th 8am – 7pm ● Booth #316





XI.B.

Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

The Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective of developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan.

The Scorecard reports metrics for each of the following Six Pillars.

- Talent and Supply Education;
- Innovation and Economic Development;
- Infrastructure and Growth Leadership;
- Business Climate and Competitiveness;
- Civic and Governance Systems; and
- Quality of Life and Quality Places.

Please find attached the June 2026 Scorecard.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\flchamberscorecard jun 2026.docx

Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

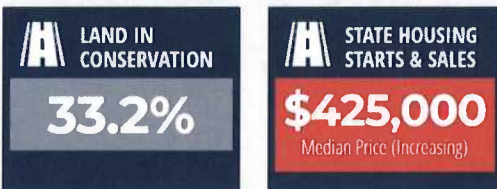
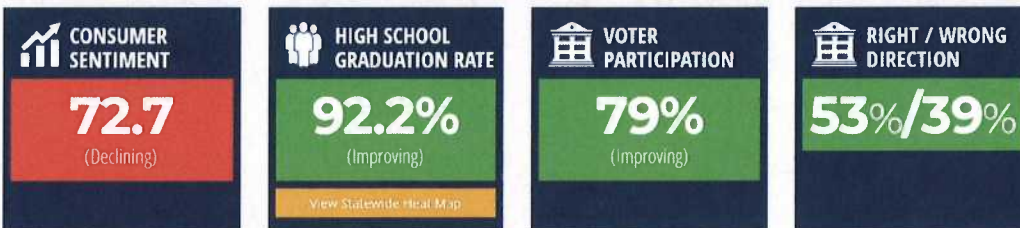
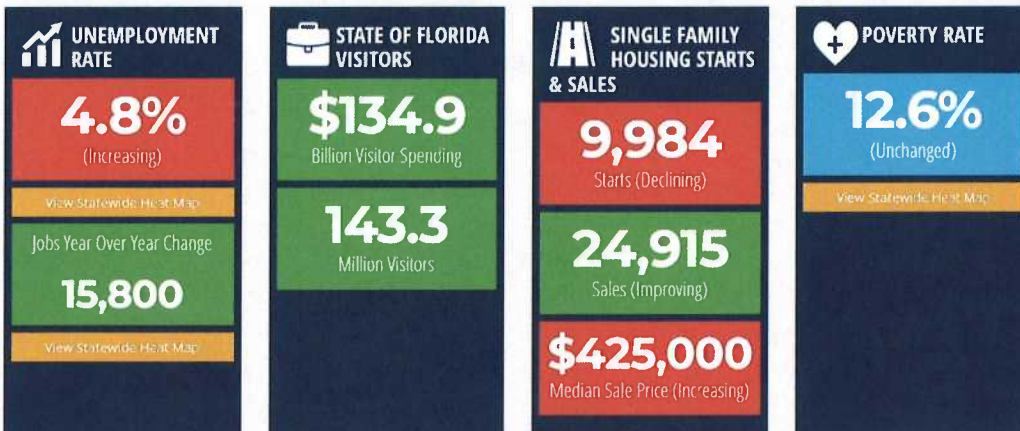
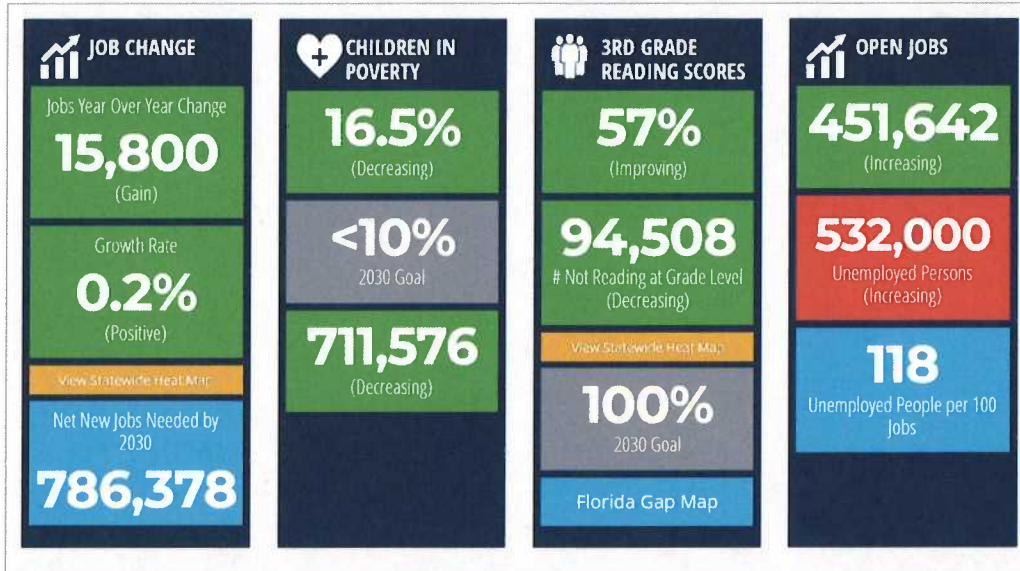
State of Florida Metrics

Click any metric to get more information! (what is this?)

FLORIDA POPULATION 06/17/2026

23,645,575

Florida FutureCast



State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information!



State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Innovation & Economic Development

Click any metric to get more information!



THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data... ▼

TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION

INNOVATION & ECON. DEVELOP.

INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP

BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS

CIVICS & GOVERNANCE

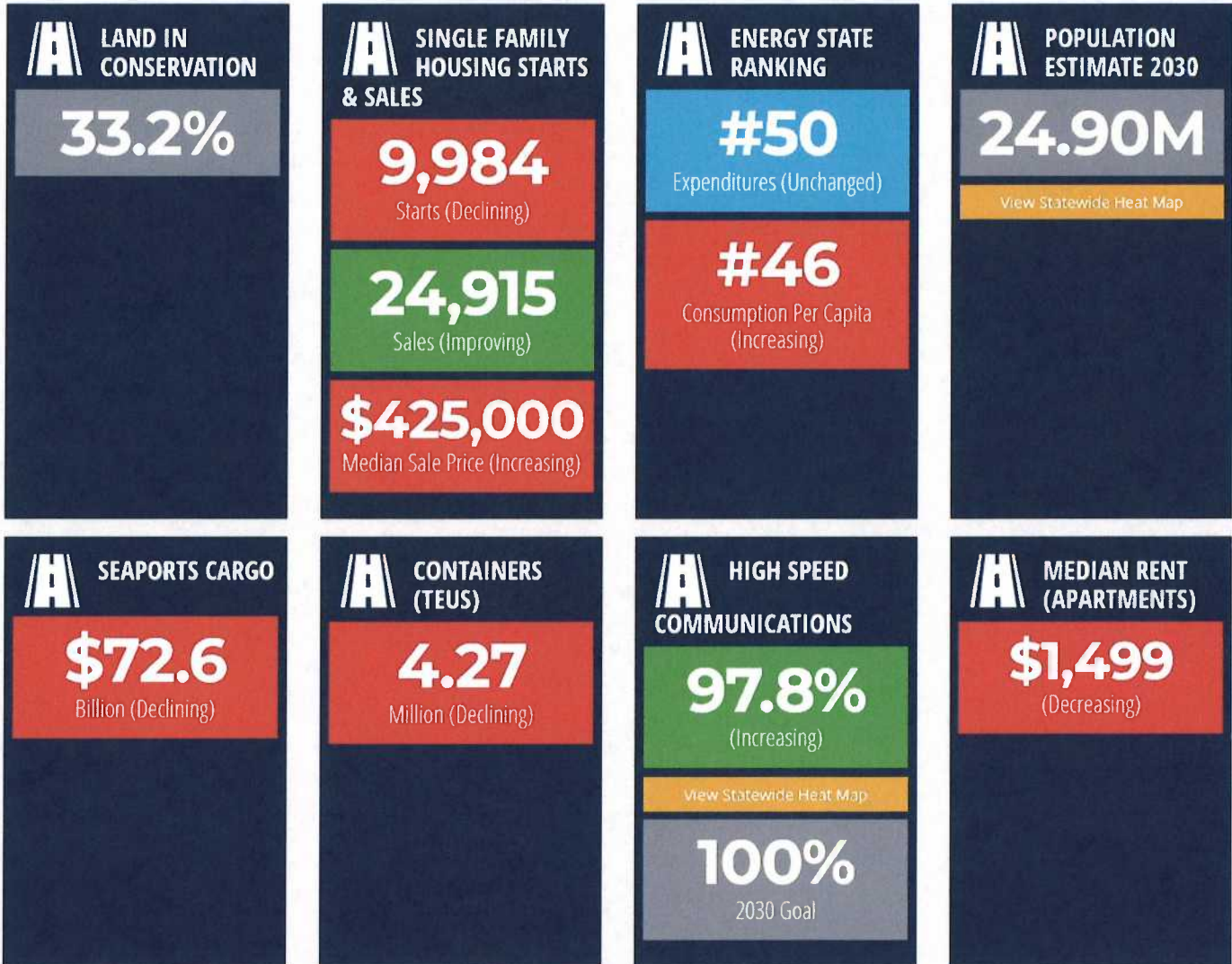
QUALITY OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!



© 2026 FLORIDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

[CONTACT US](#) [TERMS & CONDITIONS](#) [FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION](#) [PRIVACY POLICY](#)

POWERED BY THE FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION

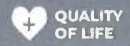


Community Development Partnership Council

THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...



State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!

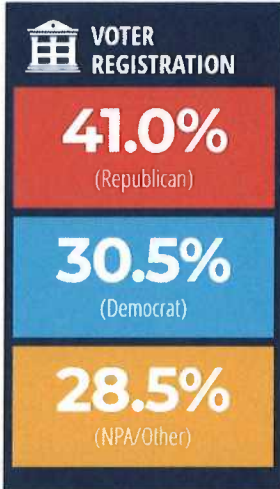


State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

Civic & Governance Systems

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!

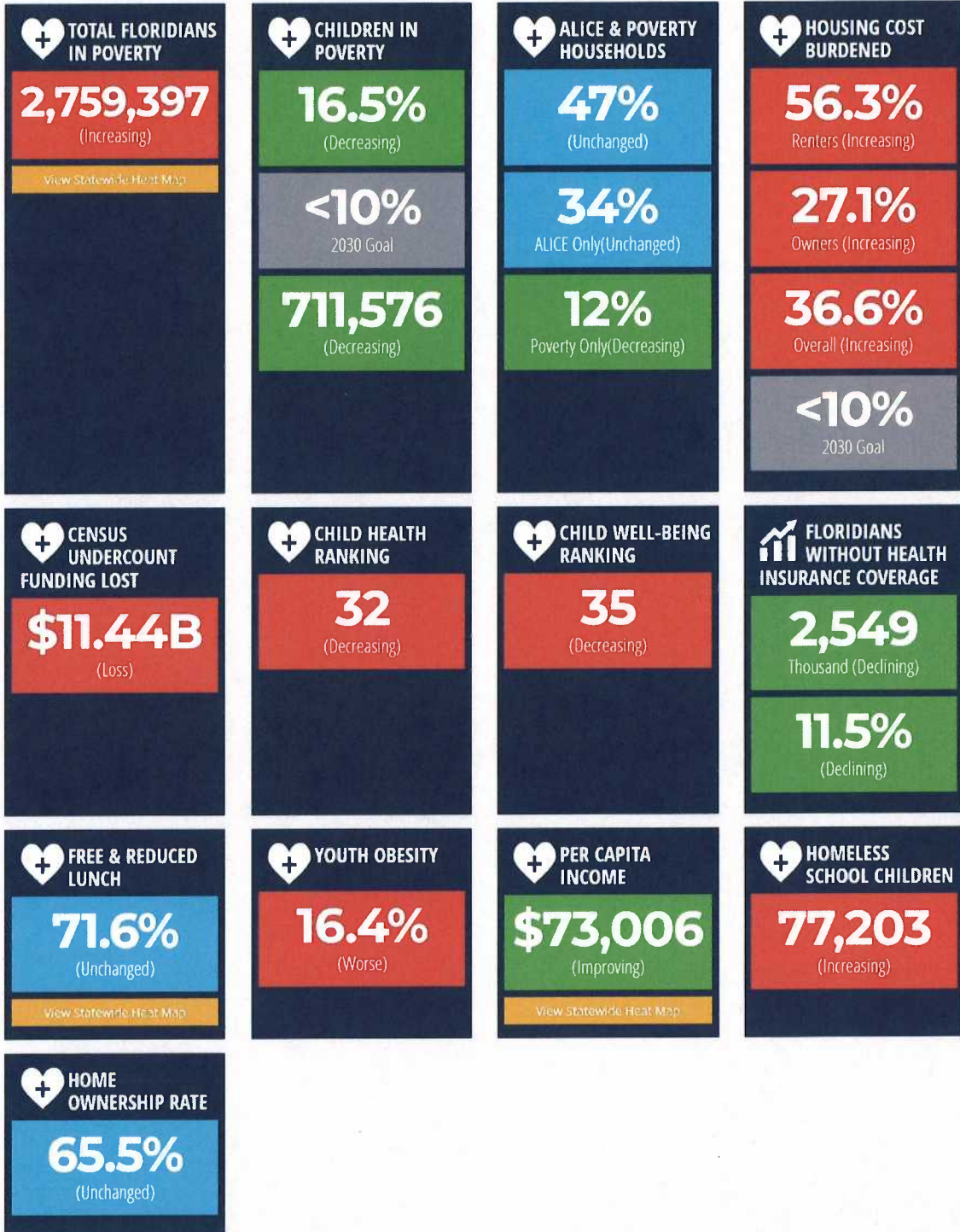


State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Quality of Life and Quality Places

Click any metric to get more information!





Serving Alachua
Bradford • Columbia
Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton
Lafayette • Levy • Madison
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 -1603 • 352 .955 .2200

June 22, 2026

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Financial Disclosure Report Filing

All members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year.

The financial disclosure forms filed electronically by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfill this requirement. Gubernatorial members must file a financial disclosure form electronically with the Florida Commission on Ethics via the Commission's online portal to fulfill this requirement.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

