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## MEETING NOTICE

### NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on **October 23, 2025**. 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/469107149>

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

ACCESS CODE: **469 107 149**

**MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.**

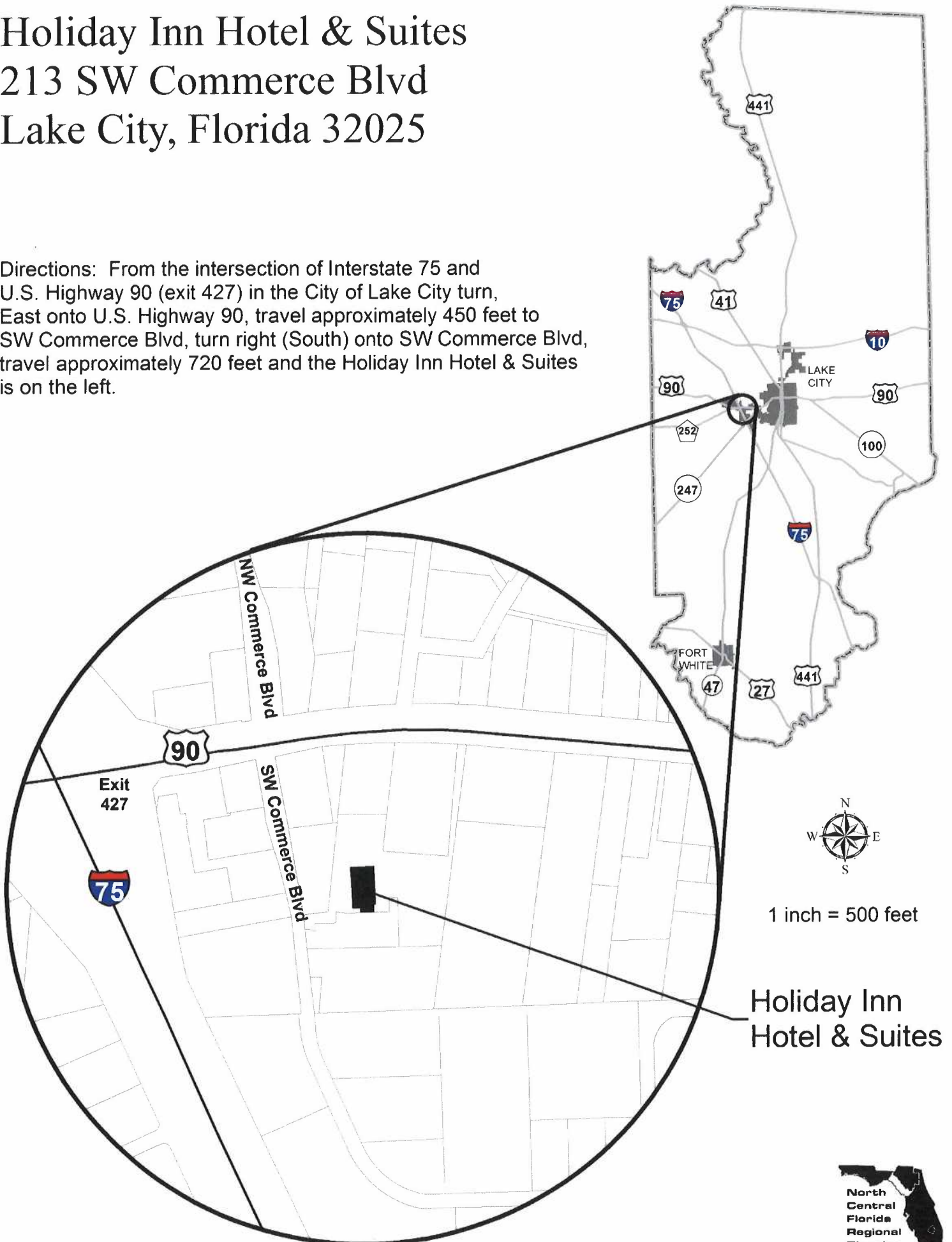
*Please email [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org) by October 22, 2025 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting **in-person** or **via communications media technology**. **THANK YOU.***

*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.



Holiday Inn  
Hotel & Suites





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## 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

October 23, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

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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.

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**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**

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**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 - December 11, 2025**

\* See Attachment

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

**IV.A.**

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

September 25, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT  
IN PERSON

**Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne**  
Ken Cornell, Alachua County  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Thomas Demps, Taylor County  
**Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer**  
James Howell, Hamilton County  
Donald Long, City of Newberry  
Melissa McNeal, Union County  
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County  
**Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County**  
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County  
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County  
Judy Townsend, City of Madison

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(FOR QUORUM)

Ed Book, City of Gainesville  
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak  
Louie Davis, City of Waldo  
**Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper**  
James Ingle, City of Gainesville  
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

None

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County  
**Mary Alford, Alachua County**  
Wayne Bloodworth Jr., City of High Springs  
James Carter Jr., City of Lake City  
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County  
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville  
Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler  
Diane Landry, City of Perry  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County  
Desiree Mills, Levy County  
Dayna Williams, City of Alachua

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathryn Craver, Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection - Virtual  
Austin Burgess, Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission - In-Person  
David Tyler, Florida Department of  
Transportation - In-Person  
Tyler Winburn, Suwannee River  
Water Management District - In-Person

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow - Virtual

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Davis - Virtual  
John Jenkins - In-Person  
Stew Lilker - In-Person  
Paul Martin - In-Person  
Ryan Smart - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In-Person  
Lauren Yeatter - In-Person

**Executive Committee Members names are bold**

I. INVOCATION

Vice-Chair Maurice Perkins noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Kevin Parnell gave the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Perkins welcomed John Jenkins, County Manager, Dixie County; Paul Martin, Citizen, Dixie County; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer. Also, in attendance at the meeting virtually was Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council Member Louie Davis.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chair Perkins asked that the consent agenda be approved.

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

A. Minutes - August 28, 2025

B. Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services Agreement  
Fiscal Year 2025-26 - Madison County

C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Vice-Chair Perkins asked that the regular agenda be approved.

**ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Parnell, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Ryan Smart, Executive Director  
Florida Springs Council

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Ryan Smart, Executive Director, Florida Springs Council. Mr. Smart made a presentation concerning the Council's springs initiatives. Vice-Chair Perkins thanked Mr. Smart for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. New Member

Vice-Chair Perkins welcomed new Council member Donald Long, City of Newberry.

B. Resolution of Appreciation

1. Tony Mazon, City of Newberry

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Parnell, to authorize the Chair to sign a Resolution of Appreciation for former Council member Tony Mazon from the City of Newberry. The motion carried unanimously**

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Proclamation Declaring October 2025 as Community Planning Month

Mr. Koons stated that the month of October 2025 has been designated to celebrate National Community Planning Month. He noted the American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, endorse National Community Planning Month as an opportunity to highlight the contributions sound planning and plan implementation make to the quality of life in communities and the environment. Mr. Koons also stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council join in the celebration of National Community Planning Month by proclaiming October 2025 as Community Planning Month in north central Florida.

**ACTION: Commissioner Ingle made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming October 2025 as Community Planning Month in the north central Florida region, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Proclamation Declaring October 3, 2025 as Manufacturing Day

Mr. Koons stated that October 3, 2025 has been designated Manufacturing Day. He added that Manufacturing Day is an effective way to highlight the importance of manufacturing in the north central Florida region and support those manufacturing and school programs that prepare our workforce. Mr. Koons also stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council proclaim October 3, 2025 as Manufacturing Day in north central Florida.

**ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming October 3, 2025 as Manufacturing Day in the north central Florida region, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Proclamation Declaring October 20-26, 2025 as Florida City Government Week

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida League of Cities has designated the week of October 20-26, 2025 as Florida City Government Week. He stated that Florida City Government Week is part of an ongoing effort sponsored by the League to raise public awareness about services that cities perform and to educate the public about how city government works. Mr. Koons also stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council join in the recognition of city government by proclaiming the week of October 20-26, 2025 as Florida City Government Week in north central Florida.

**ACTION: Commissioner Townsend made the motion, with a second by Mayor Hope, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming October 20-26, 2025 as Florida City Government Week in the north central Florida region, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation

Vice-Chair Perkins stated that the employment contract between the Executive Director and the Council specifies that the Executive Committee shall adopt performance standards to annually review and evaluate the Executive Director. He noted the contract further specifies that the annual review and evaluation of the Executive Director shall be conducted by the Executive Committee. Vice-Chair Perkins stated the contract also specifies that at its discretion, the Executive Committee is authorized to provide a merit increase to the Executive Director on an annual basis commencing October 1st of each year.

Vice-Chair Perkins stated that the Executive Committee has adopted performance standards to review and evaluate the Executive Director and that each Committee member performed their review prior to the September 25, 2025 Executive Committee meeting. He reported that the review resulted in "above average performance" or "exceeds job requirements" for all evaluation standards, with an overall average score of 4.9 on a 5.0 scale. Vice-Chair Perkins stated that, based upon this review, the Executive Committee awarded the Executive Director a five percent merit pay adjustment. He reported that Mr. Koons requested that his merit pay increase for Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 be deferred until Fiscal Year 2027. Vice-Chair Perkins further reported that the Executive Committee approved Mr. Koons' request concerning his merit pay increase deferments.

No Council action was required on this item.

B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

Commissioner Melissa McNeal, Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met in person and virtually via communications media technology earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #92 - City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
- #93 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER)
- #94 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
- #95 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)
- #96 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)
- #97 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-4ESR)
- #99 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)

Commissioner McNeal stated with regards to these items, the Committee 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 the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local government and the Florida Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Commissioner McNeal made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #92 - City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR); Item #93 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER); Item #94 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR); Item #95 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR); Item #96 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR); Item #97 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-4ESR); and Item #99 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR). The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Kathryn Craver, Outreach/Communications Director, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Northeast District, reported that the Department is considering reestablishing the posting of water quality sampling results as part of its Watershed Information Network page on its website.

David Tyler, Rural Transportation Planning Manager, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, reported that the Department will be conducting a Tentative Work Program for Fiscal Year 2026-27 to Fiscal Year 2030-31 public hearing on October 21, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. at the District 2 Urban Area Office in Jacksonville.

Austin Burgess, Senior Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, stated that the Commission offers wildlife conservation planning services to landowners and local governments throughout the region.

Tyler Winburn, Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator, reported that the District will be posting links on its website Water Data Portal page to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection water quality sampling results and the City of Valdosta, Georgia water quality sampling results beginning September 26, 2025.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

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 August 2025 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the August 2025 report.

B. Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Report

Mr. Koons reported that Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Demps, Vice-Mayor Mortimer and he attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Tampa on August 22, 2025. He stated the Policy Board heard a presentation from Jason Lauritsen, Chief Conservation Officer, Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation. Mr. Koons noted the Policy Board accepted Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and received a financial report. Finally, he reported the Policy Board also adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26, received a legislative report and elected officers for the 2025-26 Policy Board Executive Committee.

C. 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 September 2025 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

D. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated the 2026 Legislature Session will convene on January 13, 2026 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2026. Mr. Koons reported that the legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of October 6-10, 2025
- Week of October 13-17, 2025
- Week of November 3-7, 2025
- Week of November 17-21, 2025
- Week of December 1-5, 2025
- Week of December 8-12, 2025

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Demps invited Council members to attend the Smokin' in the Pines Bar-B-Que Festival in Perry on September 26, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. and September 27, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Vice-Chair Perkins stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on October 23, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Mary C. Alford, Chair

10/23/25  
Date

# Resolution

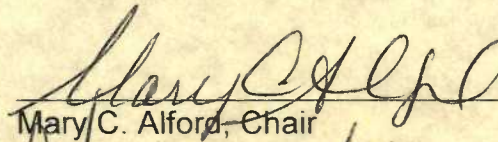
## OF APPRECIATION

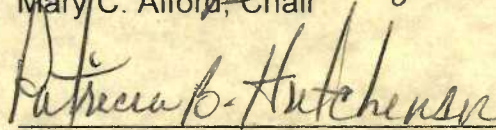
WHEREAS, Tony Mazon has been representing the City of Newberry on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since June 2024;

WHEREAS, Tony Mazon 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 Tony Mazon 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 Tony Mazon.

  
Mary C. Alford, Chair

  
Patricia B. Hutchinson, Secretary

ATTEST:

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2025.





# PROCLAMATION

## PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2025 AS COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

WHEREAS, change is constant and affects all cities, towns, suburbs, counties, rural areas, regions, and other places; and

WHEREAS, community planning and plans can help manage this change in a way that provides better choices for how people work and live; and

WHEREAS, community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in making choices that determine the future of their community; and

WHEREAS, the full benefits of planning requires public officials and citizens who understand, support, and demand excellence in planning and plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, the month of October 2025 is designated as National Community Planning Month throughout the United States of America and its territories; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Community Planning Month provides an opportunity to publicly recognize the participation and dedication of the members of planning and zoning boards and other citizen planners who have contributed their time and expertise to the improvement of the north central Florida region; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Community Planning Month provides an opportunity to publicly recognize the many valuable contributions made by professional community and regional planners in the north central Florida region and extend our heartfelt thanks for the continued commitment to public service by these professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the month of October 2025 as ***Community Planning Month*** throughout the north central Florida region in conjunction with the celebration of National Community Planning Month.

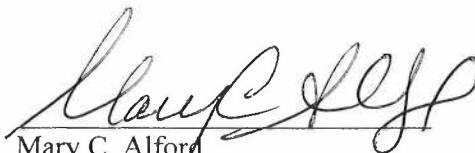
DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 25th day of September 2025.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

  
Patricia B. Hutchinson  
Secretary

  
Mary C. Alford  
Chair



# PROCLAMATION

## PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 3, 2025 AS MANUFACTURING DAY

WHEREAS, the Fabrication and Manufacturers Association International, the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Department of Commerce Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Manufacturing Institute have designated the first Friday of October as Manufacturing Day; and

WHEREAS, the goals of Manufacturing Day are to celebrate the impact manufacturing has on the north central Florida region, increase awareness about the benefits of a manufacturing career and attract students to future manufacturing jobs; and

WHEREAS, recognizing Manufacturing Day is an effective way to highlight the importance of manufacturing in our region and support those manufacturing and school programs that prepare our future workforce; and

WHEREAS, over 300 manufacturers provide jobs for over 12,000 citizens throughout the region and create products ranging from pulp and lumber products to orthopedic implant devices; and

WHEREAS, regional companies and education/workforce partners support manufacturing and manufacturing careers through increased collaboration and service to the regional manufacturing community; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing brings increased economic diversity to our region by providing high paying jobs at all skill levels and furthering the standard of living by focusing on technology, innovation and production.

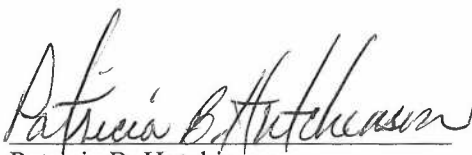
NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims October 3, 2025 as ***Manufacturing Day*** in the north central Florida region and the Council urges all citizens to discover the value manufacturing brings to our economy and encourages students and educators to learn about the possibility of manufacturing as a career.

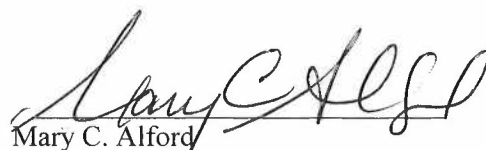
DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 25th day of September 2025.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

  
Patricia B. Hutchinson  
Secretary

  
Mary C. Alford  
Chair



# PROCLAMATION

## PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 20-26, 2025 AS FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, city government is the government closest to most citizens and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, city government is administered for and by its citizens, and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, city government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along understanding of public services and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Florida City Government Week is a very important time to recognize the important role played by city government in our lives; and

WHEREAS, this week offers important opportunity to spread the word to all citizens of Florida that they can shape and influence this branch of government which is closest to the people; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities and its member cities have joined together to teach students and other citizens about municipal government through a variety of different projects and information; and

WHEREAS, Florida City Government Week offers an important opportunity to convey to all citizens of Florida that they can shape and influence government through their civic involvement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of October 20-26, 2025 as *Florida City Government Week* throughout the north central Florida region.

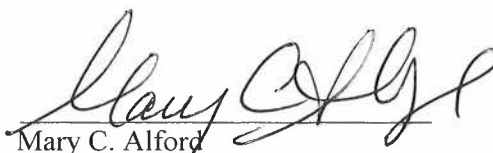
DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 25th day of September 2025.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

  
Patricia B. Hutchinson  
Secretary

  
Mary C. Alford  
Chair



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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for  
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2025-26

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for an estimated amount of \$52,324.66 in training funds, on behalf of the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, for Fiscal Year 2025-26.**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Florida Division of Emergency Management passes through funds from the United States Department of Transportation for hazardous materials training.

The Council, on behalf of the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, offers free hazardous materials response training to local government employees. This training includes basic awareness level through more advanced technician level training. The estimated amount of the agreement will be \$52,324.66 with a local in-kind match of an estimated amount of \$13,081.17.

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

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**IV.C.**

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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant Federal Fiscal Year 2023/2024  
Administrative Services Agreement - City of Madison

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Chair to sign an agreement with the City of Madison to provide Community Development Block Grant administrative technical assistance services for their Housing Rehabilitation Project for a fixed fee amount of \$140,000.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council proposes to enter into a technical assistance agreement with the City of Madison to provide assistance with the administration of their Federal Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Project. This agreement will be funded with Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The amount of the administrative technical assistance services agreement will be a fixed fee amount of \$140,000.

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

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**IV.D.**

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Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program -  
Community Transportation Coordinator Selection for  
Columbia Hamilton and Suwannee Counties

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the use of the non-competitive selection process to designate the Community Transportation Coordinator for the Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee multi-county service area.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged requires that the designated official planning agencies recommend a Community Transportation Coordinator at the end of each contract period.

Suwannee Valley Transit Authority is the designated Community Transportation Coordinator for the Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee multi-county service area. Suwannee Valley Transit Authority's Memorandum of Agreement will expire June 30, 2026. According to Section 287.057(3) (e)12, Florida Statutes, the Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, may choose to recommend a governmental entity, such as the Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, as the Community Transportation Coordinator without using a competitive selection process.

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

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## IV.E.

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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program -  
Community Transportation Coordinator Designations for  
Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Recommend the use of the competitive request for proposals process to designate the Community Transportation Coordinators for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties;**
- **Authorize the Executive Director to appoint a Technical Review Committee of Council employees; and**
- **Authorize the Technical Review Committee to review, assign points and establish a numerical rank order for the proposals and make recommendations to the Council concerning the designation of the Community Transportation Coordinators for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged requires that the designated official planning agencies use the competitive request for proposals process to recommend the designation of non-governmental community transportation coordinators at the end of each contract period.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. is the designated Community Transportation Coordinator for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s Memorandums of Agreement will expire June 30, 2026. Therefore, the Council must use a competitive request for proposal process to recommend the Community Transportation Coordinators for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties.

The Council will accept proposals from qualified agencies or firms for the award of a contract to coordinate transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged in Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties. The selected contractors will be the designated community transportation coordinator under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program, as authorized by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, and more fully described in Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code.

A Technical Review Committee will be appointed by the Executive Director. The Technical Review Committee will be comprised of Council employees. Each Technical Review Committee member will assign points to the proposals. A numerical rank order will be established by the Technical Review Committee for all proposals received by the Council.

The proposals and rankings by the Technical Review Committee will be provided to the Dixie, Gilchrist and Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards for review. The Boards may provide non-binding comments concerning the proposals to the Council.

The Council will review the recommendations of the Technical Review Committee and any comments provided by the Dixie, Gilchrist and Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards and forward recommendations to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged concerning the designation of the community transportation coordinators including any terms of designation. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged will make the final designations.

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



## IV.F.

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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

**Appoint Brittany Howerton, Center Manager, Career Source Levy County, the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

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 Brittany Howerton, Center Manager, Career Source Levy County, be appointed the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

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

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## VII.B.1.

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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Larry Trowbridge.**

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Larry Trowbridge served as the Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 2021.

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

Attachment

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Larry Trowbridge has served as the Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 2021; and*

*WHEREAS, Larry Trowbridge ably discharged the duties of the Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy 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 Larry Trowbridge for dedicated service rendered to the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Levy 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 Larry Trowbridge.*

---

*Mary C. Alford, Chair*

**ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

October 23, 2025

*Date*





## VII.D.

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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Mary C. Alford, Chair  
SUBJECT: Committee Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

**Ratify the appointment of Commissioner Donald Long to the Program Committee.**

BACKGROUND:

Due to a vacancy on the Program Committee, an appointment to this committee needs to be made at this time.

I am recommending the appointment of Commissioner Donald Long to the Program Committee.

Jurisdictional balance and geographic balance were considered in making this appointment.



# Certificate of Service

has been awarded to

## Lynn Franson

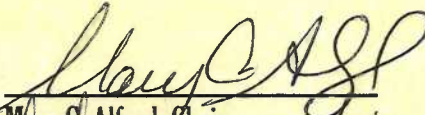
as an expression of appreciation for 35 years of dedicated service as an employee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
from August 20, 1990, to August 20, 2025.

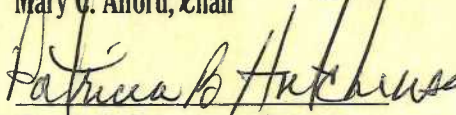
# 35

Years

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

Given this 23rd day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.

  
Mary C. Alford, Chair

  
Patricia B. Hutchinson, Secretary







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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Mary C. Alford, Chair  
SUBJECT: Committee Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

**Ratify the appointment of Commissioner Donald Long to the Program Committee.**

BACKGROUND:

Due to a vacancy on the Program Committee, an appointment to this committee needs to be made at this time.

I am recommending the appointment of Commissioner Donald Long to the Program Committee.

Jurisdictional balance and geographic balance were considered in making this appointment.





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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Recognizing 100th Anniversary of the Town of Yankeetown

RECOMMENDATION:

**Adopt the attached resolution recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Town of Yankeetown.**

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Town of Yankeetown, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

The Town of Yankeetown was incorporated in 1925. In 1923, Indiana lawyer and politician Armanis F. Knotts settled the community of Knotts Village later renamed Yankeetown.

In 1925, the historic Izzak Walton Lodge was built as a lodge for visiting fisherman. In 1961, the movie Follow That Dream featuring Elvis Presley was filmed in the Town of Yankeetown.

The Withlacoochee River follows along the northern boundary of the Town of Yankeetown. The present day economy of the Town of Yankeetown is based upon commercial and sport fishing.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TOWN OF YANKEETOWN

WHEREAS, in 1923, Indiana lawyer and politician Armanis F. Knotts settled the community of Knotts Village later renamed Yankeetown; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Yankeetown, was incorporated in 1925; and

WHEREAS, in 1925, the historic Izzak Walton Lodge was built as a lodge for visiting fisherman; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, the movie Follow That Dream featuring Elvis Presley was filmed in the Town of Yankeetown; and

WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee River follows along the northern boundary of the Town of Yankeetown; and

WHEREAS, the present day economy of the Town of Yankeetown is based upon commercial and sport fishing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Town of Yankeetown on its 100th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford, Chair





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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Recognizing 125th Anniversary of the Town of Jennings

RECOMMENDATION:

**Adopt the attached resolution recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Town of Jennings.**

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Town of Jennings, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

The Town of Jennings was incorporated in 1900. In 1835, George Jennings arrived from Georgia and settled in the area. The Town of Jennings is named after early settler George Jennings.

The economy of the Town of Jennings was based upon agriculture and the turpentine industry. Dead River at Jennings Bluff showcases the karst topography of the area. Today, the economy of the Town of Jennings is based upon agriculture and natural resources.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TOWN OF JENNINGS

WHEREAS, in 1835, George Jennings arrived from Georgia and settled in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jennings, was incorporated in 1900; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jennings was named after early settler George Jennings; and

WHEREAS, the economy of the Town of Jennings was based upon agriculture and the turpentine industry; and

WHEREAS, Dead River at Jennings Bluff showcases the karst topography of the area; and

WHEREAS, today, the economy of the Town of Jennings is based upon agriculture and natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Town of Jennings on its 125th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford, Chair





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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Recognizing 175th Anniversary of the City of Archer

RECOMMENDATION:

**Adopt the attached resolution recognizing the 175th Anniversary of the City of Archer.**

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Archer, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

The City of Archer was incorporated in 1850. The settlement was originally named Deer Hammock and later Darden's Hammock. The City of Archer was named after James T. Archer, Florida's first Secretary of State.

The Florida Railroad, connecting the east and west coasts of Florida from Fernandina on the east to Cedar Key on the west arrived in the City of Archer in the 1850s. The railroad played an important role in the economy of the City of Archer.

Grammy Award winner and Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame member Bo Diddley called the City of Archer home for many years. The City of Archer annually hosts Art at the Archer Depot Festival in honor of United States Senator David Levy Yulee.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE CITY OF ARCHER

WHEREAS, the settlement was originally named Deer Hammock and later Darden's Hammock; and

WHEREAS, the City of Archer, was incorporated in 1850; and

WHEREAS, the City of Archer was named after James T. Archer, Florida's first Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Railroad, connecting the east and west coasts of Florida from Fernandina on the east to Cedar Key on the west arrived in the City of Archer in the 1850s; and

WHEREAS, the railroad played an important role in the economy of the City of Archer; and

WHEREAS, Grammy Award winner and Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame member Bo Diddley called the City of Archer home for many years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Archer annually hosts Art at the Archer Depot Festival in honor of United States Senator David Levy Yulee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the City of Archer on its 175th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford, Chair





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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melissa McNeal, 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., October 23, 2025. 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 item which requires 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 - City of Jasper Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)

***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\2025\chairreport.231025.docx

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promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.





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

October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2024-25 Amended Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Finance Committee to review and approve on behalf of the Council the Fiscal Year 2024-25 amended budget within 60 days following the end of the fiscal year as recommended by the Finance Committee.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council takes action during each year to accept work under contracts and additional grants which were not anticipated when the original budget was prepared. In addition, because the Council adopts the budget 16 months prior to fiscal year end, generally a number of conditions change which cause the expenditure levels to vary from the original figures.

To amend the budget, by taking into account both the contractual changes made during the year and variations in expenditure levels, the Council annually considers a fiscal year-end amendment. Consistent with that practice, staff will propose budget changes for the current year budget. This will include both increases and decreases in revenue for various program areas with associated changes in Direct and Indirect expenses.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Council authorize the Finance Committee to review and approve on behalf of the Council the Fiscal Year 2024-25 amended budget within 60 days following the end of the fiscal year.

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

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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director   
SUBJECT: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee - Annual Strategy Review

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Adopt Resolution No. 2025-19 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027 as recommended by the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee.**

#### BACKGROUND

The Council has been designated by the U. S. Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District since 1978. As such, the Council is responsible for developing and adopting a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to analyze the regional economy and serve as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies by attracting private investment that creates jobs. The strategy must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process developed by a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee representing both the public and private sector, and must set forth the goals and objectives necessary to solve the economic development problems of the region.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee appointed by the Council includes representatives of the private sector, public officials and workforce development boards. The Committee is responsible for the development of the strategy and recommendation of the strategy to the Council for adoption.

Based upon the recommendation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, the Council adopted the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in September 2022. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee met virtually on October 16, 2025 to review activities conducted during the past year to support the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The Committee does not recommend any amendments to the Strategy at this time and recommends that the Council adopt attached Resolution No. 2025-19 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2024-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL CONCERNING THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2023-2027; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration an economic development district; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to prepare, adopt and maintain a comprehensive economic development strategy to guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of their region; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive economic development strategy qualifies the region and local governments located within the region for federal assistance under Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Act programs; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to annually review their comprehensive economic development strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby affirms that its annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027, dated September 2022, did not result in any amendments to the Strategy being adopted by the Council; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that all resolutions or portions of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that this resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford, Chair





**XI.A.**

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

October 16, 2025

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 September 2025 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

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

Attachment

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promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.



## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: September 2025

### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared agenda and coordinated FRCAs September EDAC Meeting
- Worked with FRCA's Bookkeeper to close out FY24-25
- Administrative work to review FY24-25 meetings, events, workgroups, etc. and plan for FY25-26 and prepared an administrative calendar for new fiscal year.
- Planning and scheduling for FRCA Partners Meeting
- Worked on FRCAs website, communications plan and fall newsletters.

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Coordinated and hosted RPC meeting with EDA to discuss the FY25 Disaster Supplemental.
- Coordinated and hosted RPC meeting with Jamie Royal, Joint Administrative Procedures Committee to discuss implementation of SB108
- Meeting with RPC Communications Workgroup
- Met with Florida Chamber Foundation to discuss 2030 Blueprint Goals and Progress and working with FRCA and other partners to update goals.
- Followed up with contacts made at Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities Annual Conferences and other FRCA-RPC partners.



On behalf of FRCA's Policy Board members and the Executive Directors Advisory Committee, we want to thank **Pinellas County Commissioner Rene Flowers** for welcoming us to the Tampa Bay RPC and **Jason Lauritsen, Chief Conservation Officer for the Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation** for his presentation at our Summer Policy Board and Annual Meeting.





**XI.B.**

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

October 16, 2025

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 October 2025 Scorecard.

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

Attachment

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by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,  
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.



# 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

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

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 10/10/2025

**23,277,284**



### JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**98,200**  
(Gain)

Growth Rate

**1.0%**  
(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by  
2030

**1.31M**



### CHILDREN IN POVERTY

**16.9%**  
(Decreasing)

**<10%**  
2030 Goal

**714,768**  
(Decreasing)



### 3RD GRADE READING SCORES

**57%**  
(Improving)

**94,508**  
# Not Reading at Grade Level  
(Decreasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

**100%**  
2030 Goal

Florida Gap Map



### OPEN JOBS

**459,038**  
(Increasing)

**424,000**  
Unemployed Persons  
(Increasing)

**93**

Unemployed People per 100  
jobs



### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

**3.8%**  
(Increasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**98,200**

View Statewide Heat Map



### STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS

**\$131.0**  
Billion Visitor Spending

**142.9**  
Million Visitors



### SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING STARTS & SALES

**8,996**  
Starts (Declining)

**21,798**  
Sales (Declining)

**\$410,000**  
Median Sale Price  
(Unchanged)



### POVERTY RATE

**12.6%**  
(Better)

View Statewide Heat Map



### CONSUMER SENTIMENT

**78.7**  
(Declining)



### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

**89.7%**  
(Improving)

View Statewide Heat Map



### VOTER PARTICIPATION

**79%**  
(Improving)



### RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

**53%/39%**



### LAND IN CONSERVATION

**27.9%**



### STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

**\$410,000**  
Median Price (Unchanged)







## 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's new?)

### Innovation & Economic Development

State of Florida FutureCast

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

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



LAND IN  
CONSERVATION

27.9%



SINGLE FAMILY  
HOUSING STARTS  
& SALES

8,996

Starts (Declining)

21,798

Sales (Declining)

\$410,000

Median Sale Price  
(Unchanged)



ENERGY  
RANKING

#50

Expenditures (Unchanged)

#45

Consumption (Decreasing)



POPULATION  
ESTIMATE 2030

25.68M

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)



SEAPORTS CARGO

\$72.6

Billion (Declining)



CONTAINERS  
(TEUS)

4.31

Million (Unchanged)



HIGH SPEED  
COMMUNICATIONS

96.3%

(Unchanged)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

100%

2030 Goal



MEDIAN RENT  
(APARTMENTS)

\$1,522

(Increasing)

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Community Development  
Partnership Council

# THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

## METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

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TALENT SUPPLY  
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INNOVATION &  
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GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &  
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVICS &  
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY  
OF LIFE

## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!



INFLATION RATE

**2.9%**

National (Increasing)

**2.6%**

Southern Region (Increasing)



CONSUMER  
SENTIMENT

**78.7**

(Declining)



CEO RANK

**2nd**

(Unchanged)



STATE LEGAL  
CLIMATE RANKING

**46th**

(Unchanged)

**Top 12**

2030 Goal



BUSINESS TAX  
CLIMATE

**4th**

**#1**

2030 Goal



OPEN JOBS

**459,038**

(Increasing)

**424,000**

Unemployed Persons  
(Increasing)

**93**

Unemployed People per 100  
Jobs



STATE RANKING  
FOR AUTOMOBILE  
INSURANCE  
AFFORDABILITY

**#50**



HOMEOWNERS'  
INSURANCE  
AFFORDABILITY

Homeowners' Insurance  
Affordability data is available  
at the county level.

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

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**Community Development  
Partnership Council**



## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Civic & Governance Systems

Click any metric to get more information!



#### VOTER REGISTRATION

**39.5%**

(Republican)

**31.4%**

(Democrat)

**29.0%**

(NPA/Other)



#### VOTER PARTICIPATION

**79%**

(Improving)



#### RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

**53%/39%**



#### INMATE POPULATION

**104,129**



#### DEPENDENCY RATIO

2015

**56.5%**

2030 Estimate

**70%**



#### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

**252.1**

Thousand (State)

**740.2**

Thousand (Local)



#### VOLUNTEERISM

**20.4%**

of Floridians Volunteer

**47th**

Florida's Rank

**Top 12**

2030 Goal



#### STATE DEBT OUTSTANDING

**\$15.4**

Billion



#### CITIZENS INSURANCE EXPOSURE POLICIES

**\$290.0**

Billion Exposure

**771,916**

Policies





## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

### Civic & Governance Systems

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



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INSURANCE  
EXPOSURE POLICIES

**\$290.0**

Billion Exposure

**771,916**

Policies





**XI.C.**

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Lafayette • Levy • Madison  
Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

The 2026 regular Legislature Session will convene on January 13, 2026 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2026. The legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of October 6-10, 2025
- Week of October 13-17, 2025
- Week of November 3-7, 2025
- Week of November 17-21, 2025
- Week of December 1-5, 2025
- Week of December 8-12, 2025

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

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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.





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---

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October 16, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Regional Joint Mitigation Resiliency Project

The FloridaCommerce has awarded a \$1.499 million Rebuild Florida Community Development Block Grant General Planning Support Program grant to the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council to complete a Regional Joint Mitigation Resiliency Project.

The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council has entered into interagency agreements with the regional planning councils that have counties that were declared federal disaster areas as a result of Hurricane Irma to assist in completing the project. These regional planning councils include Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Northeast Florida Regional Council, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

The regional planning councils are engaging in cross collaboration to provide a seamless network of community partners setting forth a single consistent methodology for vulnerability, risk analysis and assessments with reduced focus on county boundaries in order to identify potential multi-jurisdictional or multi-county solutions. The project will fill an identified gap in resilience efforts by focusing on the impacts of flooding hazards to the inland counties in Florida.

The scope of work includes the following activities.

- Future Extreme Rainfall Modeling;
- Mitigation Needs Assessment, Template and Mitigation Priority Areas and Project List;
- Small Area Mitigation Plans;
- Regional Resilience Exposure Tool;
- Interactive Best Practice Application; and
- Stakeholder Engagement.

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

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