

NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting
Virtual & In-Person



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

Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2024

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: NEXT MEETING

The next NEFRC meetings will be held on **February 1, 2024** as follows:

Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee at 9:00 a.m.

Members: Mr. Register, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Condon, Councilmember Gay, Vice-Mayor Sturges, Commissioner Sullivan, Commissioner Harvey, Commissioner Whitehurst

Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.

Members: ALL

Affordable Housing Committee at 12:00 noon

Members: Commissioner Renninger, Commissioner Anderson, Mr. Griffis, Mr. Bourre, Mayor Lynch, Mr. Hart, Commissioner Horvath

These will be hybrid meetings at Northeast Florida Regional Council Office, 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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BOARD of DIRECTORS

A G E N D A

Zoom Link: <https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>

Zoom Dial In #: 1-786-635-1003 (or) 1-470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 816 0095 0326

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

10:00 a.m.

(ADDED OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN BOLD)

(*Denotes Action Required)

TAB

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome / Roll Call – President Whitehurst
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – President Whitehurst
4. Welcome New Member: Commissioner Andy Dance, Flagler County – President Whitehurst
5. Announcement: 2nd Vice President Selection – President Whitehurst
6. Invitation to Speak – President Whitehurst

Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to speak on any item brought before the Council. The public will be recognized during public comments. At that time, virtual attendees who would like to speak will be asked to raise their (electronic) hand and they will be recognized in the order of response.

- * 7. Consent Agenda – President Whitehurst
 - A. November 2, 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes 1
 - B. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report 2
 - Clay County Transmitted Amendment (Agricola) 23-1DRI
 - City of Green Cove Springs Adopted Amendment 23-1ESR
 - City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 23-4ESR
 - City of Jacksonville Beach Transmitted Amendment 23-1ESR
8. Other Reports/Action Items
 - A. Comprehensive Plan Items of Interest – Mr. Jordan 3
 - *B. November 2023 Financial Report – Ms. Starling 4
 - *C. Resolution 24-01: Mayor Catherine Robinson – Ms. Payne 5

*D. Resolution 24-02: Commissioner Sarah Arnold – Ms. Payne	6
E. First Coast Well Being Index Overview – Ms. Payne	7
*F. Approval of 2024 Workplan – Ms. Payne	8
G. Presentation: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – Judy Holm, Fuse Executive Fellow, City of Jacksonville Planning and Development	9
H. Presentation: St. Johns River Water Management District 2023 Water Supply Plan – Lori Burklew, Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator, SJRWMD.....	10
I. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Ilami	11
J. 2024 Regional Leadership Academy – Mr. Nolen	12
K. 2023 Regional Awards of Excellence Winners – Mr. Nolen	13
9. Public Comment – <u>LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER</u>	
10. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – President Whitehurst	
11. Ex-Officio Members’ Reports:	
• Florida Department of Commerce – Mr. Register	
• Florida Department of Transportation – Mr. Dixon	
• Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver	
• St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey	
12. Chief Executive Officer’s Report – Ms. Payne	
• New Employee Introduction: Mr. Andrew Prokopiak, Sr. Regional Resiliency Planner	
• Contracts Update	
13. Upcoming Events:	
• Jan. 9, 2024 – City of Palatka Vision Plan, Stakeholder Community Workshop	
• Jan. 15, 2024 – MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED	
• Jan. 24, 2024 – North Central Florida Healthcare Coalition Meeting	
• Jan. 25, 2024 – Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting	
• Jan. 31, 2024 – Regional Leadership Academy, Baker County	
14. Next Board Meeting:	FEBRUARY 1, 2024
	Northeast Florida Regional Council
	100 Festival Park Avenue
	Jacksonville, FL 32202
15. Adjournment	

(*Denotes Action Required)

Agenda

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NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
November 2, 2023

MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors, pursuant to Chapter 120.525, F.S., held a hybrid meeting both in-person, at 100 Festival Park Ave., Jacksonville, FL and virtually via Zoom, on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

President Whitehurst welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with the following members present and in person unless otherwise noted:

BAKER: Commissioner Bennett
Mr. Griffis
Mr. Register

CLAY: Commissioner Renninger (**via zoom**)
Mr. Bourre (**via zoom**)
Mr. Kennedy

DUVAL: Councilmember Amaro (**via zoom**)
Councilmember Gay
Mayor Lynch (**via zoom**)

FLAGLER: Commissioner Sullivan
Mayor Alfin

NASSAU: Mr. Drew (**via zoom**)
Commissioner Martin
Vice-Mayor Sturges

PUTNAM: Commissioner Harvey

ST. JOHNS: Commissioner Arnold (**via zoom**)
Commissioner Horvath
Commissioner Whitehurst

EX-OFFICIO: Mr. Dixon *for Mr. Parks*, Florida Department of Transportation
Ms. Craver *for Mr. Strong*, Department of Environmental Protection

Excused: Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Condon, and Mr. Conkey

Absent: Commissioner Adamczyk, Commissioner Arnold, Mayor Brown, Mr. Hart, and Mayor Robinson

Presenter: **Allison DeFoor**, President/CEO, North Florida Land Trust; **Ramesh Buch**, Director of Conservation and Acquisitions

Guests: Holly Coyle, Blake Nugent, Tim Hanley, Bill White, Chris Blank, and other members of the public

Staff: Eric Anderson, Joseph Cearley, Summer Jones, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Annie Sieger, Donna Starling, and other members of staff.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

President Whitehurst stated that members of the public are welcome to speak on any item before the Board and will be recognized during public comment.

*CONSENT AGENDA

President Whitehurst called for a motion on the consent agenda. Commissioner Harvey moved approval of the consent agenda; seconded by Mr. Register. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

Presentation: North Florida Land Trust

Mr. Allison DeFoor, CEO & President, and Mr. Ramesh Buch, Director of Conservation Acquisitions at the North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) provide a presentation on their work across Northeast Florida. “The North Florida Land Trust is a non-profit organization committed to protecting and preserving our region’s irreplaceable natural beauty.” The presentation highlighted: the NFLT’s Mission and Vision, the protected lands, which lands to preserve – strategic vision, land conservation tools, military readiness and base buffering, Salt Marsh-Marsh migration areas, community conservation – historically underserved and local referenda, O2O partnership protected lands, Salt Marsh & coastal resilience – Little Tiger Island, O2O – Swan Smiley Preserve, and ACUB – Rayonier Upchurch. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Bennett left the meeting.

*Qualified Vendors List for GIS Technical Services

Mr. Register stated that the Council issued a Request for Qualified Vendors for GIS Technical Services in August. Six responses were received and, from those, the review committee selected five that were qualified. When projects occur, the Council will request quotes and qualifications from the five qualified vendors. He stated that the Personnel, Budget, and Finance Committee reviewed this item and passed the motion to approve contracts with the five qualified vendors and allow staff to request quotes from them as needed for GIS Services.

Mr. Register motioned to approve contracts for the five qualified vendors and allow staff to request quotes from them as needed for GIS Services; seconded by Commissioner Harvey. Motion carried.

*Website Design Services Request for Proposal

Mr. Register stated that the Council issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for website design service. Three responses were received and ranked by the review committee, 1) CTRL + ALT Digital, 2) SGS Technologie, and 3) The Zimmerman Agency. The Personnel, Budget and Finance Committee passed a motion authorizing staff to negotiate with the top two firms, after reviewing

the process of an RFP to ensure this type of negotiation is allowed, for consideration by the Board. A brief discussion followed.

Vice-Mayor Sturges joined the meeting.

Mr. Register motioned to approve authorizing staff to negotiate with the top two firms, SGS Technologie, and CTRL + ALT Digital; seconded by Commissioner Harvey. Motion carried.

*CEO Replacement Vehicle

Mr. Register shared the circumstances involving the CEO's Council vehicle being totaled. Insurance payment was received at 56,000. Considering the process involved in replacing a vehicle on the State contract, which has since been changed and is a considerably lengthy process, The Personnel, Budget, and Finance Committee discussed this and passed a motion authorizing the CEO to seek a replacement vehicle from private dealerships for purchase in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 for Board consideration.

Mr. Register motioned to approve authorizing the CEO to seek a replacement vehicle from private dealerships for purchase in an amount not to exceed \$70,000; seconded by Commissioner Horvath. Motion carried.

*2023 NE Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Report & Resolution

Mr. Shad provided an overview of the 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy's (CEDS) Annual Report and resolution. He shared information on the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) application process and highlighted the activities conducted during 2023, such as, technical assistance with EDA and State grants; projects in support of CEDS goals for affordable housing, and eco-tourism and trails strategy; economic modeling utilizing REMI for Baker, Clay, Duval and Flagler counties as well as projects for JEA and JaxUSA; and economic resiliency, which resulted in grant to hire a post Disaster Recovery Coordinator, and develop connections between emergency management, resiliency and economic development. He stated that, as required by EDA grant, Resolution 2023-06 approves the annual report for transmittal to the US Economic Development Administration.

President Whitehurst called for a motion on the 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Report and Resolution 2023-06. Commissioner Horvath moved approval; seconded by Commissioner Harvey. Motion carried.

Program Spotlight: Local Emergency Planning Committee

Mr. Nolen provided an overview of the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Hazardous Materials activities, which included provision of training for over 350 personnel and exercise opportunities for over 100 first responders in Northeast Florida. The training and exercises included sending 57 individuals to a weeklong Florida Hazardous Materials Symposium, live anhydrous-ammonia training, two 160-hr Hazmat Technician courses for Putnam and Duval Counties, a Battery Emergency Response course for Duval County, and three days of First Arriving Unit Exercise for St. Johns County.

Community Resiliency Update

Ms. Payne provided a progress update on the contract and workplan for the Regional Resilient Entity grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Resilient Florida

program, and the Multiregional Planning and Mitigation Assessment project funded by a Community Development Block Grant from Florida Commerce. She also provided an update on the Vulnerability Assessments (VA) around the Region and those being conducted by staff in Baker and Flagler Counties, the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant that staff is working on with the City of Jacksonville, grant applications under consideration, and other ongoing resiliency work. A brief discussion followed.

Attendance Roster

The attendance roster for FY 2022/2023 was provided for the review. Members were asked to provide staff with any corrections identified by mid-November. Following any revisions, this information will be provided to the appointing authorities and the State Appointment Office.

Public Comment – None.

Local and Regional Issues Discussion

President Whitehurst – St. Johns County has hired their Interim County Administrator, Ms. Joy Andrews, for the County Administrator position.

CM Gay – The City of Jacksonville is currently revising their procurement policy. One of the amendments they are working on is regarding local preference and participation and are considering utilizing the NEFRC's footprint. They are considering including the Counties of Northeast Florida as local with the reciprocation of their including the City of Jacksonville as local by them as well.

Commissioner Sullivan – Flagler Beach is about to kick off two year projects that includes the Flagler Beach Pier replacement, the Army Corp 2.5 mile Beach Restoration near City of Flagler Beach, FDOT resurfacing along A1A near those projects, and the Margaritaville Hotel. Due to these projects, the area where A1A and Route 100 join could be closed for two to three months at a time over the two year period.

Mr. Kennedy – The City of Green Cove Springs will host the final food truck event of the season tomorrow evening and the group that opens for Lynyrd Skynyrd will be performing as a part of that final event in recognition of 50 years of Lynyrd Skynyrd to include both performers and song writers over the years also in attendance.

Mayor Alfin – The City of Palm Coast recently launched an initiative to open their comprehensive plan to every resident for input over the next 12 months to update the City on the Rise.

Commissioner Martin – 2024 is the Bicentennial for both Nassau County and the City of Fernandina Beach. The Convention & Visitors Bureau will be organizing the celebration. They are beginning a new 2050 vision process and, expanding the Tourist Development Council countywide with a referendum on the 2024 ballot for residents on the mainland. He is also up for re-election next year.

Commissioner Harvey – Putnam County is the only inland county in Florida with a port, where they build ships. They have been elected into the Florida Ports Council and developed a Port Master Plan to guide the facility. He shared information on work ongoing at the Port, including the ship building process.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORTS

Florida Department of Commerce

Mr. Register shared information he gleaned from the CareerSource's Workforce Forum that included information regarding the declining growth rate in the US since 1964. The growth rate during 2010 - 2020 was 7.4 percent compared to during the great depression at 7.3 percent. The cause can be linked to 50 years of declining birthrate in the US; Covid, reduction of legal immigration, a retiring workforce, etc. It is said that by 2034, the older generation will outnumber children in the US. He stated that additional information can be found in two publications online: The Demographic Drought, and Who's going to do the work; published by Lightcast.

Florida Department of Transportation

Mr. Dixon – Nothing to report.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Ms. Craver stated that Salt Marsh Actuaries, DEP's Northeast District staff has been working to facilitate educational training on the value of living shorelines and streamlining the permitting process. They have conducted some training this year on living shorelines for marine contractors and plan to continue these in 2024. She also stated that for any projects involving work on surface water or wetlands, she recommends holding a pre-application meeting with DEP's Northeast District Regulatory staff regarding any required permitting.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Payne introduced new staff member, Ms. Summer Jones, the new Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinator. She provided updates on ongoing programs and projects such as 1) the Opioid work in the Region; 2) Upcoming National Park Service – Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance (NPS-RTCA) program. As a result of a letter sent to the NPS seeking their planning service assistance to help us develop the regional initiative. Staff will host a fact finding tour of the Region with the NPS; 3) the Council submitted a Brownfields grant application on sites in Clay and Putnam Counties; 4) the Council will be receiving a grant on behalf of the Air National Guard in Jacksonville and if awarded, will be working with the Defense Support Task Force to help them purchase equipment.

Members were asked to complete the 'top three issues' card at their places. A reminder of the January 4th Luncheon and Awards ceremony following the Board meeting; registration information will be sent via email.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be January 4, 2024.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:52 a.m.

Christian Whitehurst
President

Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer

Agenda

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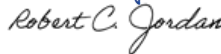
Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ROBERT JORDAN, REGIONAL PLANNER 

RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEWS

Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, Council review of transmitted and adopted amendments to local government comprehensive plans is limited to adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan. The review is also limited to extra-jurisdictional impacts inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any local government within the Region. Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, a written report with an impact evaluation should be provided to the local government and the State land planning agency (Florida Commerce) within 30 calendar days of receipt (of the amendment).

A regional map of the listed amendments is provided on the next page, and the site-specific maps are provided in the appendix herein. Upon approval of this report by the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) Board of Directors for transmittal to the State land planning agency, a copy will be provided to the respective local government.

Recommendation

Staff respectfully recommend that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the staff review report for the three transmitted amendments and concur that the adopted amendment is consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

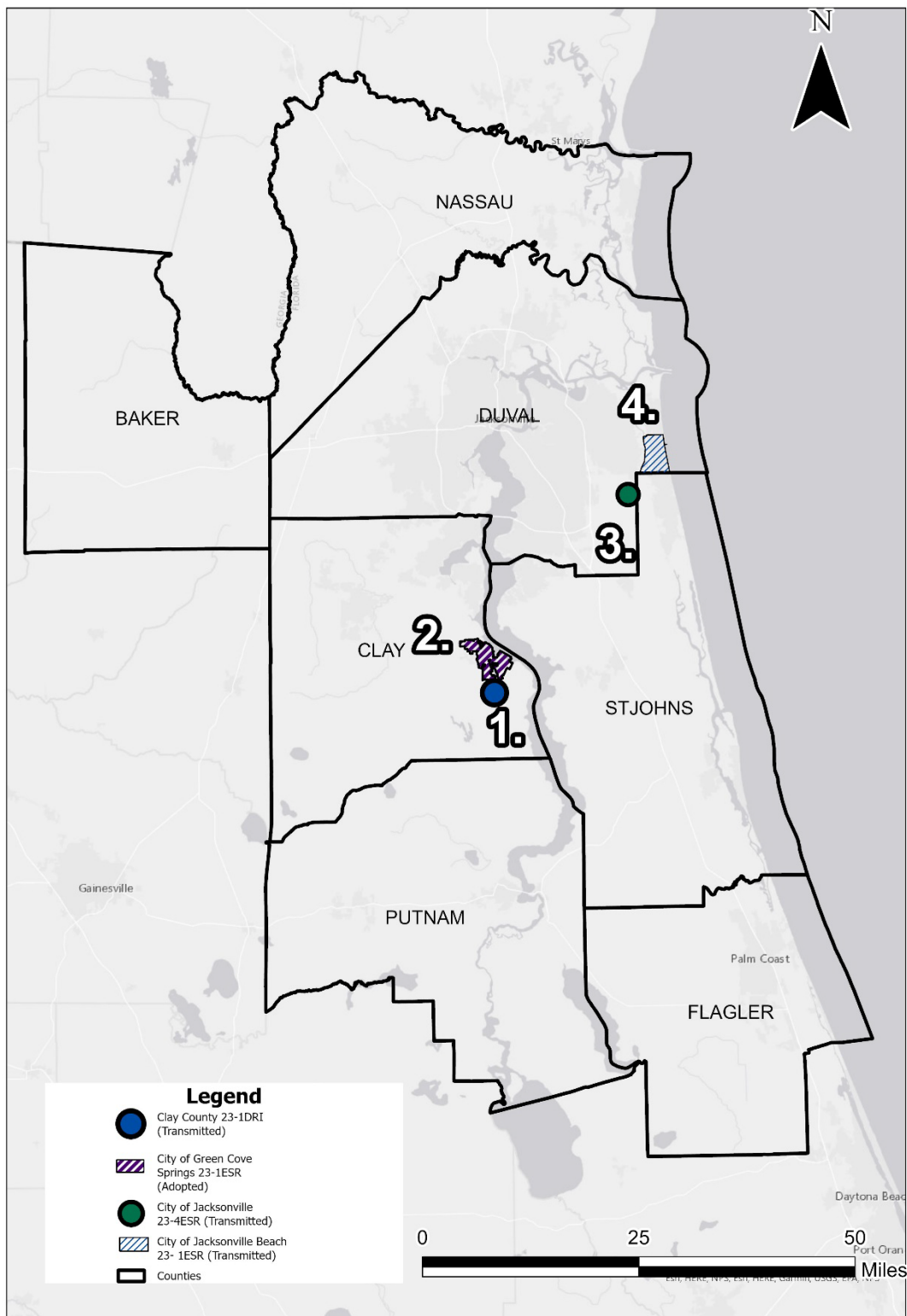
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REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

January 2024 Board Comprehensive Plan Amendments



Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Clay County 23-1DRI	1	X		Clay	1-5-2023	Agricola Development

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This application is from the current owners of the properties that make up the development known as the Agricola Property. The applicant proposes to amend the Future Land Use Map to change 2,847 of existing Agricultural land use, 217 acres of Rural Residential land use, 52 acres of Industrial land use, 28 acres of Conservation land use, and 1 acre of commercial land use, for a total of 3,145 acres, to Planned Community land use.
- **Background:** Per the 2040 Clay County Comprehensive Plan, the Planned Community land use is defined as a very large site that is under unified ownership that contains several different proposed land uses with a significant percentage being devoted to residential uses. These areas are characterized by unified planning for the project as a whole, clustering of development to preserve usable open space and other natural features, a mixture of housing types, and may include a variety of non-residential development. The development agreement provides for the phasing schedule for the project and includes the commitments to be made by the developer in exchange for project approval and the designated amounts are shown in the table below.

Proposed Land Use	Residential	Hotel	Office and Light Industrial	Education	Commercial
Phase 1	450du		30,000 sf		22,500 sf
Phase 2	800du		50,000 sf		22,500 sf
Phase 3	770du	100 rms.	70,000 sf	160,000 sf	22,500 sf
Phase 4	700du		250,000 sf	160,000 sf	22,500 sf
Phase 5	640du		270,000 sf	160,000 sf	125,000 sf
Phase 6	640du		330,000 sf	160,000 sf	125,000 sf
Total	4000du	100 rms.	1,000,000 sf	640,000 sf	340,000 sf

For more information, please see Maps 1-3 in the Appendix below.

- **Impacts:** The subject site is south of State Road 23 and west of U.S. Highway 17 are both Transportation Resources of Regional Significance. In the Development Agreement, the applicant will commit to providing access between U.S. Highway 17 and the Agricola Development to serve up to

the first 1,482 net new PM peak hour trips. The applicant will provide a reporting mechanism that monitors trip generation following the construction of the 750th Dwelling Unit or after 2035, whichever occurs first, to help determine when such a trigger is reached. The Development Agreement also includes a binding commitment to provide emergency access for Phases 1, 2, and residential portions of Phase 3 via U.S. 17. As such, Bellamy Road South would be designed so that it functions as a secondary access in an emergency and will be designed as a two-way couplet with a large median from Bellamy Road South so that in the event of an accident, one side of the road, the alternate lane, typically used for one-way traffic, could serve as a two-way access lane.

- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering the proximity of the development to the City limits for the City of Green Cove Springs and the county boundary with Putnam County, the NEFRC recommends coordination with respective planning staff. The City of Green Cove Spring’s Development Services Department was included in the transmittal of the amendment, however, the NEFRC also recommends coordination with the Putnam County Planning and Zoning Department.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Green Cove Springs 23-1ESR	2		X	Clay	1-5-2023	Ordinance 0-35-2023

- **Type:** Text Amendment
- **Issue:** This adopted amendment to the City of Green Cove Springs Comprehensive Plan includes updates to the Future Land Use Element, Transportation Element, and Capital Improvements Element. The purpose of the adopted amendment is to manage the impacts of development by enacting transportation mobility fees and to move to a more multimodal system.
- **Background:** Before the adoption of the amendment, the City managed transportation concurrency through traffic impact analyses. Development applicants generating more than 40 or more new peak-hour trips had to complete a traffic study to determine the impact of their development on area roadways and identify improvements necessary to mitigate impacts. However, traffic studies, on average, took approximately six months to complete, which can slow the process of development approval and may prove to be a hindrance to medium-sized development. To continue to manage the impacts of development and move toward a more multi-modal transportation system, the City hired Gannet Fleming to conduct a transportation mobility study to define the need for additional transportation investment, specifically multimodal; document the standards of service and rationale for additional capacity; and ensure that there is a rational nexus between the payees of the mobility fee and the beneficiaries. This would provide more fee predictability for development applicants and shorter application timelines without needing a traffic study. This adopted amendment potentially will support the City in using funds collected to improve multimodal transportation capacity by improving walking and biking facilities as well as vehicular traffic. This adopted amendment to the Comprehensive Plan addresses the policies regarding multimodal development and mobility fees to ensure that the subsequent mobility ordinance in the Land Development Regulations is compatible with the changes

in the Comprehensive Plan. Between the transmittal and adoption of this amendment, the City made a revision based on the Florida Department of Commerce’s recommendation to revise Capital Improvements Policy 8.3.1 to maintain the Level of Service (LOS) D standard for evaluation and review purposes and clarify that for new development projects, they will be governed by the mobility fee requirements.

- **Impacts:** No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering this is a text amendment, no intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Jacksonville 23-4ESR	3	X		Duval	1-5-2023	Ordinance 2023-649-E

- **Type:** Future Land Use Map and Text Amendment
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment changes approximately 11,047 acres on the Future Land Use Map from Agriculture (AGR) to Multi-Use and includes a Site-Specific text amendment to propose a new Future Land Use Element (FLUE) Policy 4.3.23 to develop a mixed-use project.
- **Background:** The approximately 11,047.38-acre subject site is undeveloped land located in the Southeast Planning District and within the boundaries of Council District 11. The site is located in southeast Jacksonville, between J. Turner Butler Boulevard and Interstate 295 abutting the Duval/St. Johns County line. The subject property is located within the Rural Development Area.

The amendment request is to change the land use of the site from AGR in the Rural Area to MU in the Suburban Area. The amended change will include a site-specific FLUE Policy 4.3.23 that is provided as Exhibit 1 in the Appendix. The MU land use category requires submittal of a non-binding preliminary development plan with the land use map amendment request and a copy is included in this report as Map 6 in the Appendix of this report.

The MU land use category is intended to accommodate large-scale development and redevelopment projects according to an approved conceptual long-term master plan. The MU land use category includes criteria based on a long-term planning strategy that results in a cohesive and compatible development pattern, the provision of adequate public facilities, utilities, and infrastructure, and the protection of environmentally sensitive land and species. Development within each MU designation shall include a mix of both residential and non-residential uses and shall incorporate multi-modal transportation concepts consistent with the goals of the Mobility Strategy Plan.

Under the MU land use category, the conceptual master plan shall, at a minimum, address the following and shall be approved by the City Council:

1. The general distribution, location, and densities or intensities of residential and non-residential development.
2. Acknowledgement that rezonings will be submitted where such uses, densities, and intensities are inconsistent with the current zoning designations before development reviews and approvals for developments within the overall site.
3. The general distribution and location of conservation areas and wetland buffers.
4. The strategy for providing centralized utilities for water and sewer service throughout the planning area, including a general phasing plan that identifies when development is anticipated to require the need for additional facilities. The Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (WSFWP) must be updated before any development phase requiring the construction of potable, treatment, and/or non-potable water supply facilities to incorporate the applicable planned facilities into the Water Supply Facility Work Plan (WSFWP).
5. Identification of the major internal transportation facilities necessary to serve future land uses through an efficient and connected network.
6. General identification of how the major internal transportation facilities will connect to the external transportation network with proposed future connections to any State facilities subject to review by the Florida Department of Transportation.
7. A basic assessment shall be conducted of the currently identified and expected roadway operating conditions of the immediately surrounding transportation network for the conceptual master plan (methodologies and assumptions used in this assessment shall be agreed upon by the Planning and Development Department, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the owner or authorized agent).
8. Coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff in the design of the conceptual master plan.
9. Requirements and limitations for submitting proposed conceptual master plan amendments through the Planning and Development Department to the City Council for review and approval.

The master plan requirement intends to provide a long-range development plan identifying the intended distribution, location, densities, and intensities of residential and non-residential development. For more information on the site, please see Maps 4 and 5 in the Appendix.

- **Impacts:**

The subject site is 11,047.38 acres and is accessible from San Pablo Road S., a minor arterial facility and a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. The proposed land use amendment is located within the Rural Development Area and Mobility Zone 1. The applicant proposes to change the existing land use from Agriculture (AGR) to Multi-Use (MU) with a Site-specific policy (SSP) 4.3.23. The difference in daily trips for the proposed land use amendment will result in 121,353 net new daily trips when compared to the existing land use. The City's Transportation Planning Division recommends ongoing coordinating efforts with the City of Jacksonville Traffic Engineer and FDOT to address projected increased traffic.

A small portion of the northeastern corner of the site is located within the 500-foot Height and Hazard Zone for the Craig Municipal Airport, a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. Zoning will limit development to a maximum height of 500 feet unless approved by the Jacksonville Aviation Authority or the Federal Aviation Administration. Uses located within the Height and Hazard Zone must not create or increase the potential for such hazards as electronic interference, light glare, bird strike hazards, or other potential hazards to the safe navigation of aircraft.

- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:**

Considering the size of the proposed development and proximity to St. Johns County, Staff recommends that the City collaborate with the St. Johns County Growth Management Department through the development of the subject site.

Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Jacksonville Beach 23-1ESR	4	X		Duval	1-5-2023	Resolution No. 2162-2023

- **Type:** Text Amendment

- **Issue:** This amendment to the Jacksonville Beach Comprehensive Plan adds a Marina Mixed Use Future Land Use Category to the Future Land Use Element.

- **Background:** The City Planning and Development Department has initiated an application for a text amendment to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan to add a new future land use category. In an effort to support the redevelopment of the beach’s only marina, including the reconstruction and realignment of Second Avenue North, the Planning and Development Department is sponsoring this Comprehensive Plan text amendment and related policies. The Marina Mixed-Use (MMU) future land use category is being created to support the marina’s mix of water-dependent and water-related uses that support the one public access marina that supports the residents and visitors of Jacksonville Beach and Duval County.

The Planning and Development Department is proposing four new policies that will be added to the Future Land Use Element if approved. These policies would address the purpose of the new land use category and the general uses permitted in the land use category, the incorporation of residential uses, the location of the uses and impacts on natural habitat, and the provision of public access. Proposed policies are attached in Exhibit 2 within the Appendix for review.

Note: A public comment was received but pertained to a local issue outside of our criteria.

- **Impacts:** No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.

- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering this is a text amendment, no intergovernmental coordination is recommended.

Forde, Sheron

From: Valerie Britt <valeriebritt76@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 8:38 AM
To: Forde, Sheron
Cc: Payne, Elizabeth; Hon. Christian Whitehurst; Valerie Britt
Subject: COMMENT TO BOARD- For January Meeting
Attachments: regional.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

CITIZEN COMMENT ON JAX BEACH'S TRANSMITTAL
PROPOSING MULTI-FAMILY IN A NEW MARINA MIXED USE CATEGORY

Dear NEFRC Board Members:

Happy New Year!

Unlike some of the other regional councils, your meeting agenda was noted not to include a specific public comment item first under the consent part of your agenda, for allowing public comment on any consent item before voting.

Therefore, I am submitting a written public comment here for your Board's consideration prior to your vote on the Jax Beach text amendment creating a new Plan category.

NEFRC's stated Goal is for a resilient and safe region that is prepared for a coordinated and effective response to all hazards in emergencies.

As to the policies of Jax Beach's transmitted text amendment before the Board, consider the Question of consistency with the City's Comprehensive Plan Goal CM 3:

By its text to allow for ***multifamily development at 15 units/acre*** to be applied at the marina, marsh, & Jacksonville jurisdictional line, is Jax Beach's adding a new land use Plan Category of "**Marina Mixed-Use**" to the Jacksonville Beach Comprehensive Plan consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan policy that requires in CM goal 3 that

*"the vulnerability of the people and property of Jacksonville Beach to coastal hazards such as hurricane damage and coastal flooding **shall be minimized.**"*

According to the policies proposed,* in what specific way does including ***multifamily at 15 units/acre*** in a new marina category ***minimize*** the vulnerability of the people and property of Jacksonville Beach to coastal hazards? Or does it risk increasing vulnerability?

The Jacksonville Beach "marina" exists at the ICW at the jurisdictional line of Jax Beach with City of Jacksonville, at a major regional evacuation route, identified in the City's sea rise studies as a most vulnerable area, and includes a Jacksonville CIP project and Jax Beach properties-- it is a multi-jurisdictional issue.

*The transmittal text includes:

LU1.5.15Uses allowed in the Marina Mixed Use Category (MMU) include....multi-family residential....

Policy 1.5.16 Multi-family development may also be allowed within the Marina Mixed-Use category.

Policy 1.5.16 For MMU designated parcels, residential densities of up to 15 units per acre are permissible.

Also for consideration is that Jax Beach's Comprehensive Plan discourages new marina sites *unless the existing marina is fully utilized*; yet, in conflict, the text amendment category's provision for allowing multifamily in the marina mix precludes fully utilizing the marina for water related & water dependent ("**marina**") uses. [Northeast FL CED Vision: Region will become the top destination for opportunity & investments, make it the highest performing economy in the nation by capitalizing on its diversity.]

Thank you for your consideration of the multi-jurisdictional & regional issues associated with the text transmittal that creates a new Plan Category pursuant to FS 163.3184 that allows for multifamily at the ICW.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Britt

Mailing Address: PO Box 49209, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32240-9209

Residence Street Address: 506 15th Ave N, Jacksonville Beach, FL

Attachment: Additional Comments

cc Elizabeth Payne, Executive Director

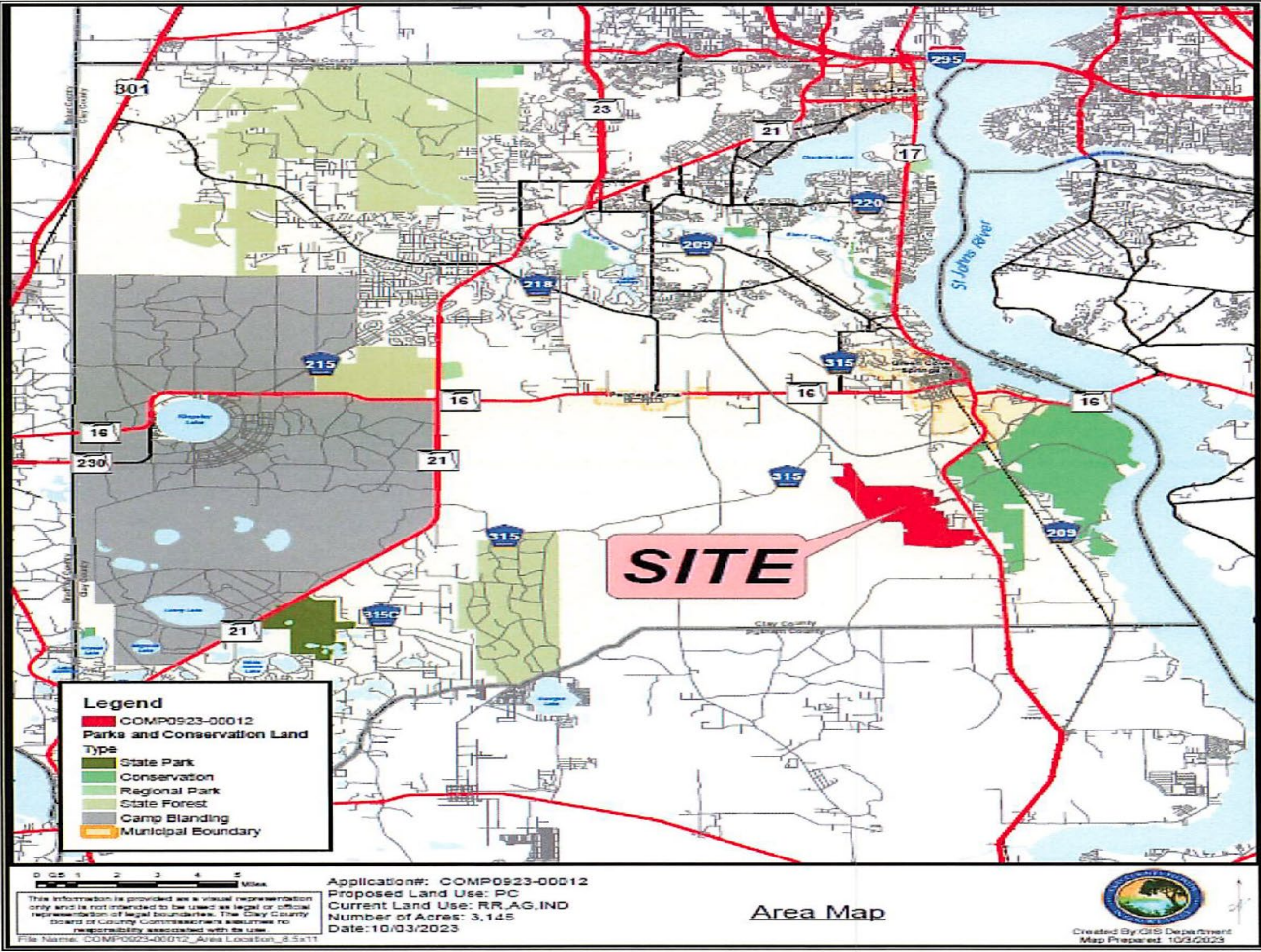
Hon. Christian Whitehurst, President

Valerie S. Britt

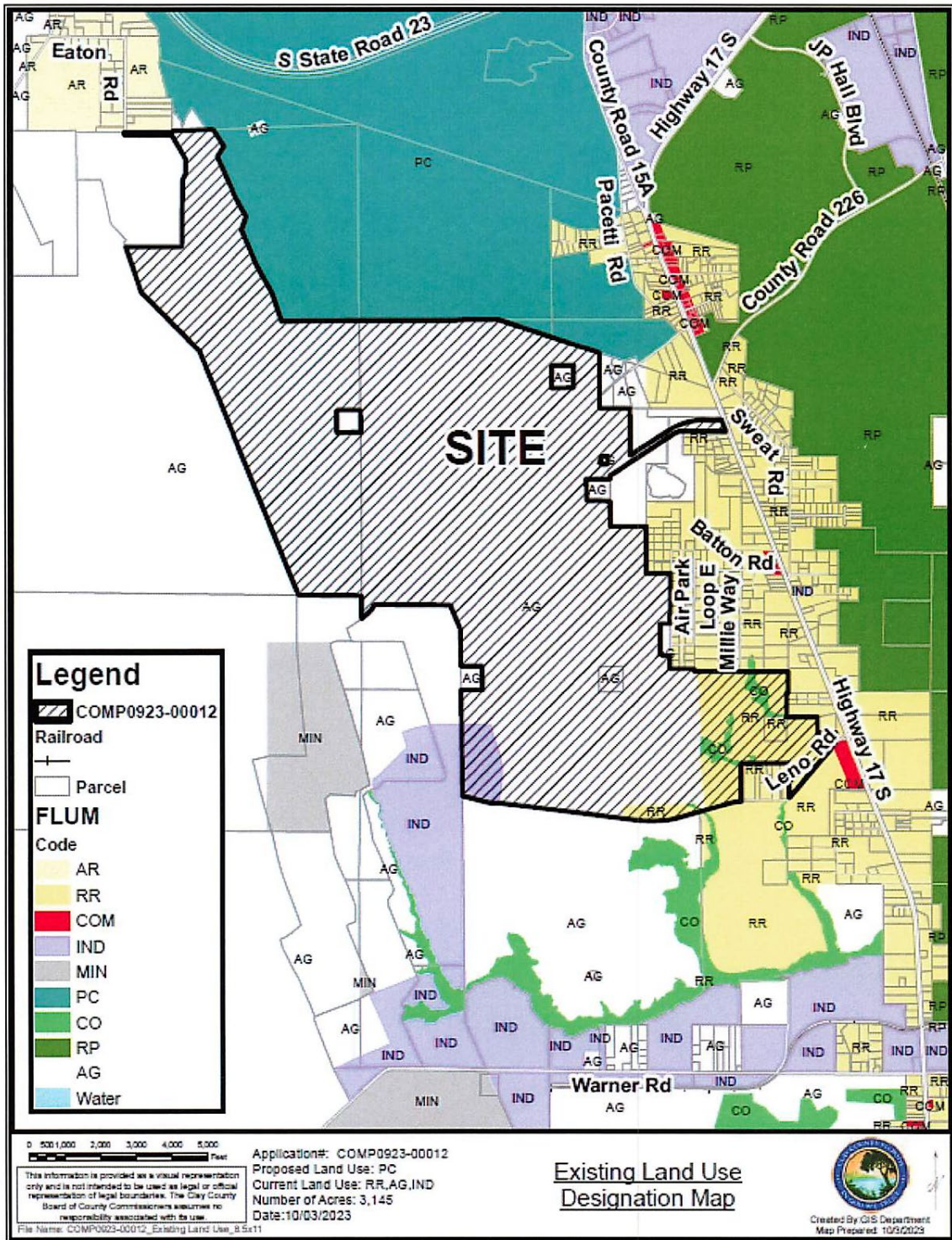
Appendix

Map 1: Clay County 23-1DRI (Location Map)

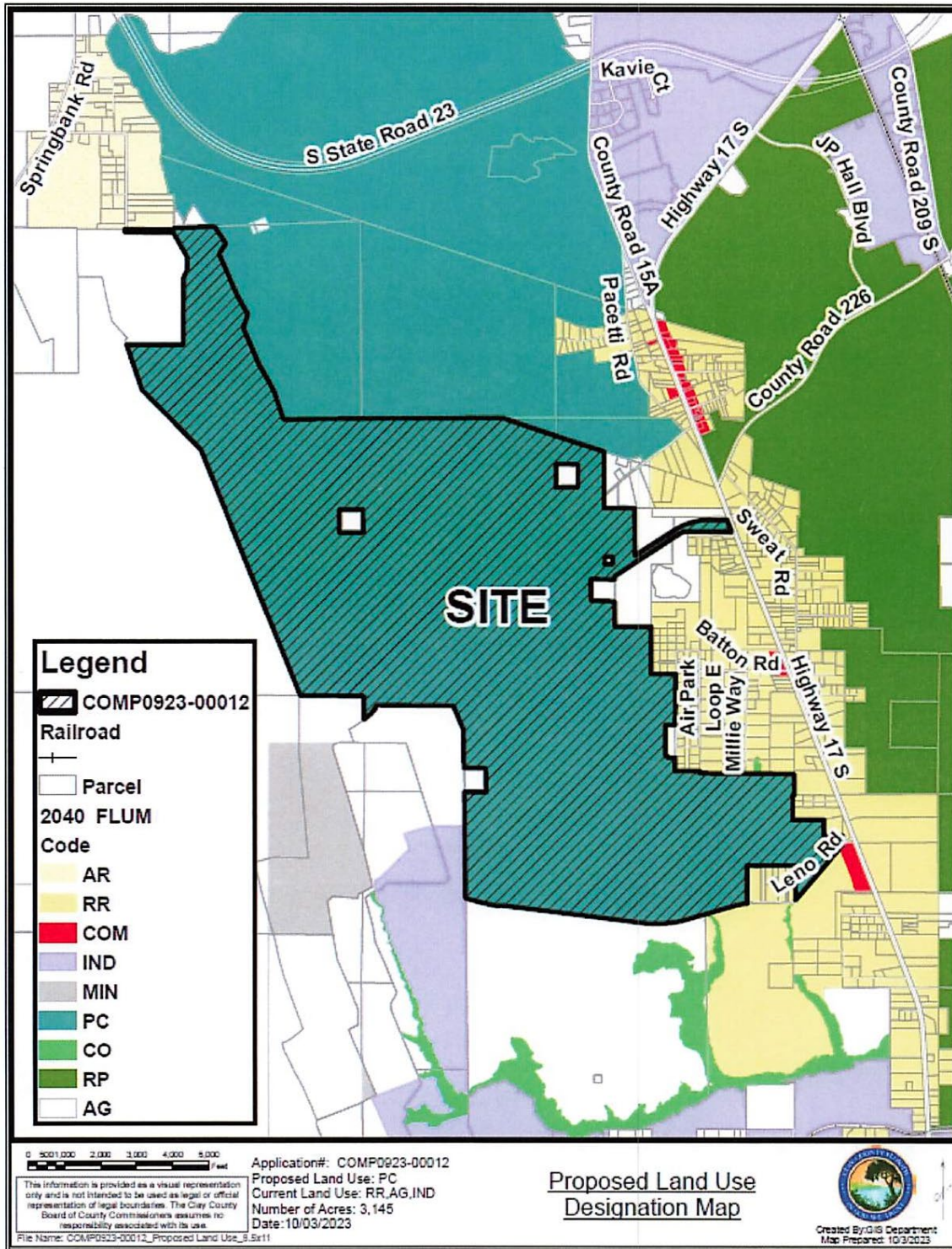
Figure 1 – General Location



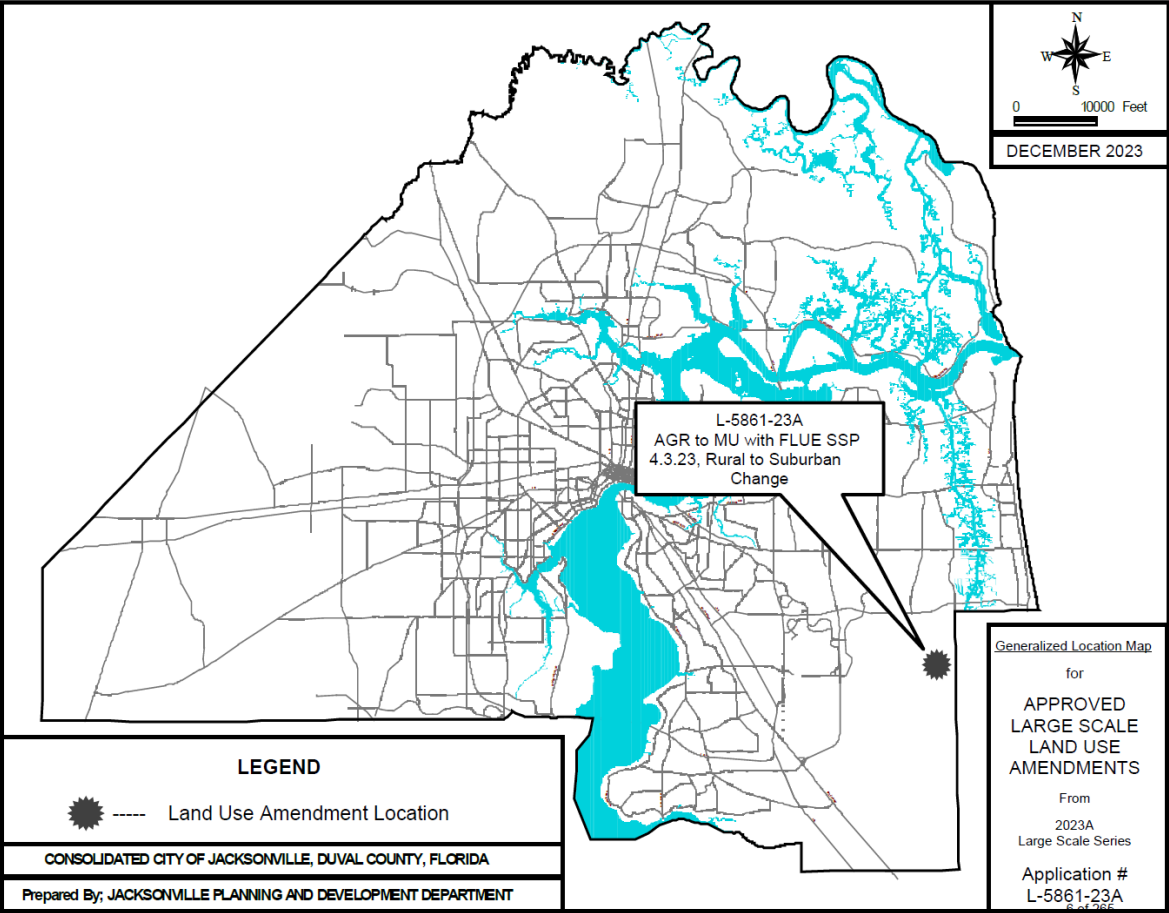
Map 2: Clay County 23-1DRI (Existing Future Land Use)



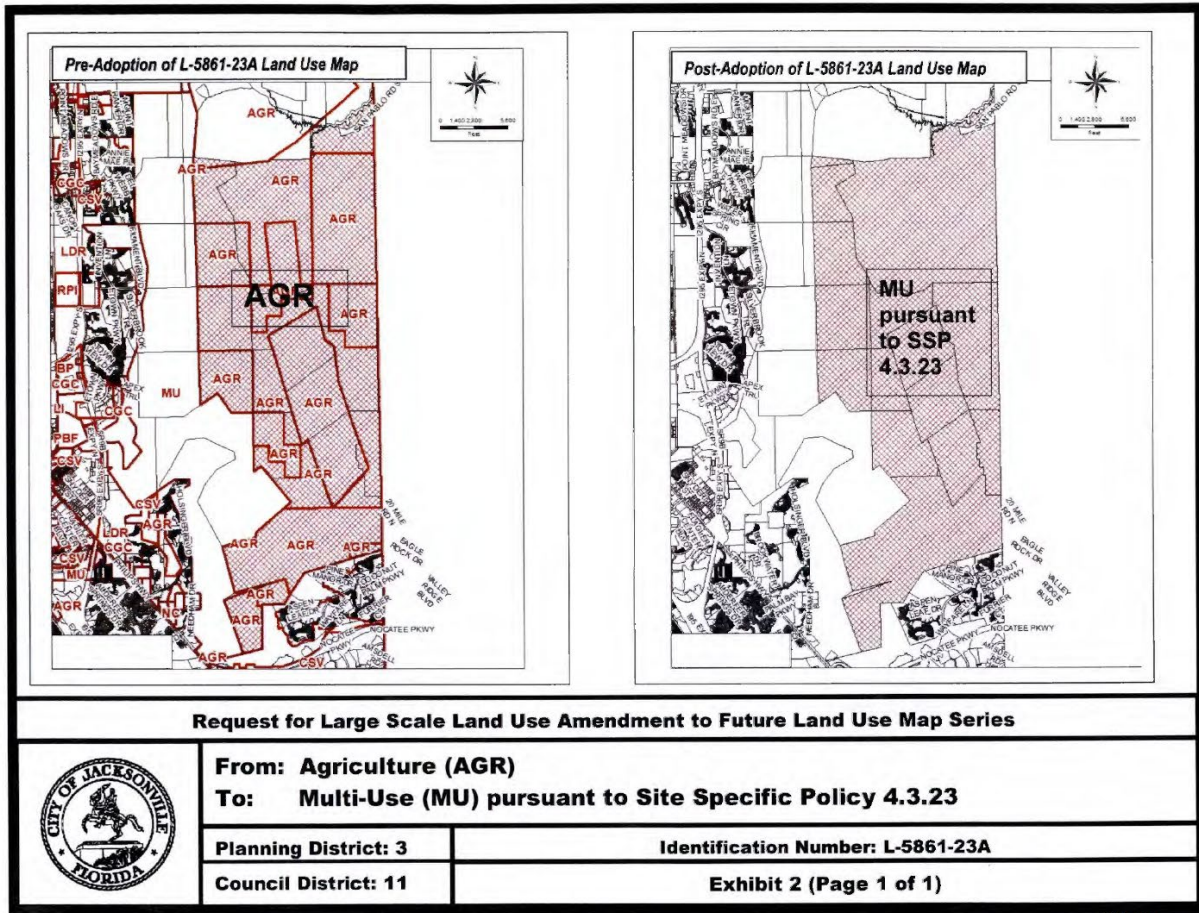
Map 3: Clay County 23-1DRI (Proposed Future Land Use)



Map 4: City of Jacksonville 2023-649-E (Subject Site)



Map 5: City of Jacksonville 2023-649-E (Current and Proposed Future Land Use Map)



Map 6: City of Jacksonville 2023-649-E (Non-Binding Preliminary Development Map)

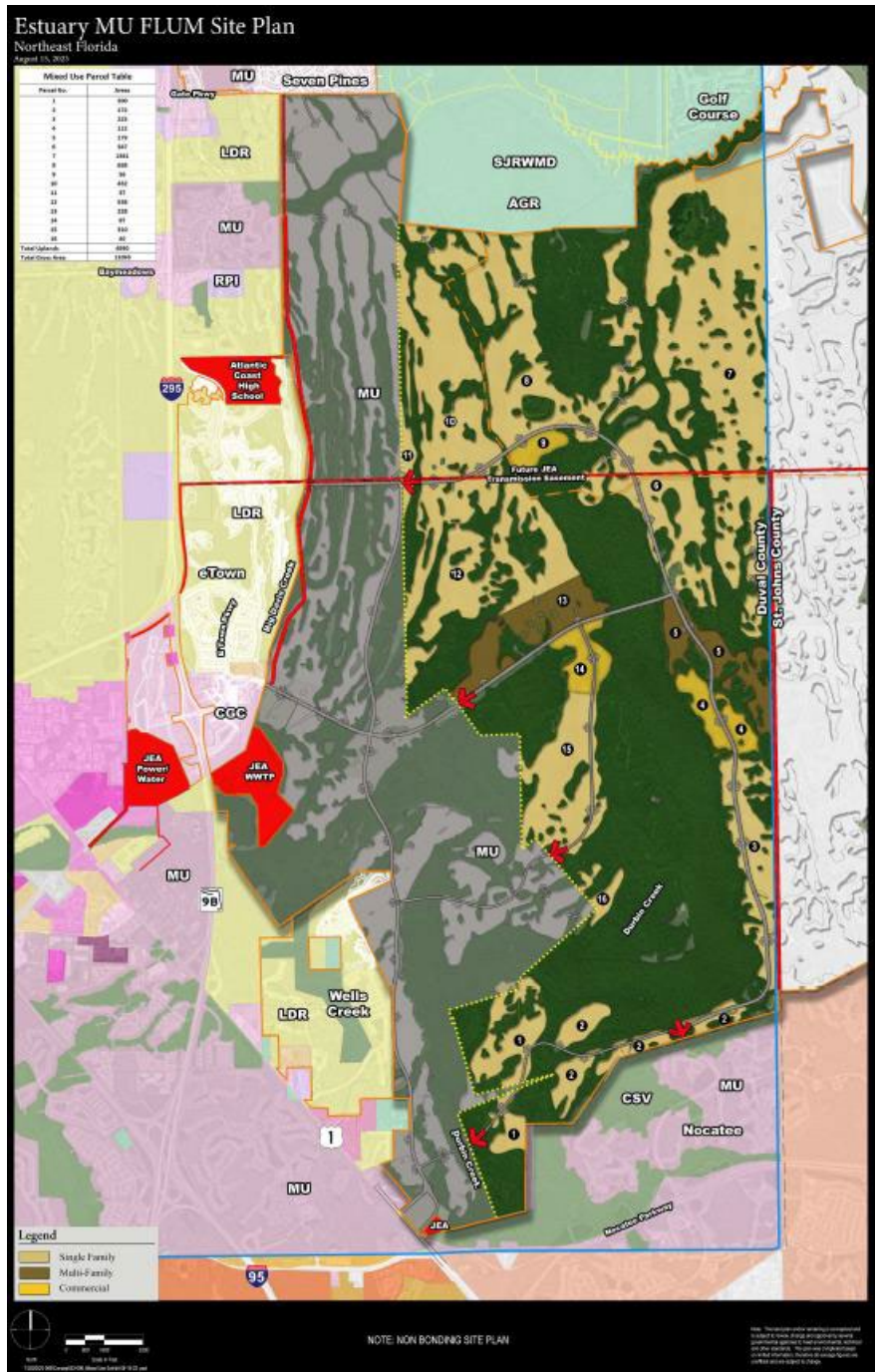


Exhibit 1: City of Jacksonville 23-4ESR (Proposed FLUE Policy 4.3.23)

In accordance with Ordinance 2023-649, which designates an 11,047.38-acre MU land use category on the Future Land Use Map, the owner or authorized agent shall develop a conceptual long-term master plan addressing the entire 11,047.38-acre site. The conceptual master plan shall be subject to review and approval by the City Council prior to the submittal of land development reviews and approvals. Development within the site shall be consistent with the conceptual master plan, and development shall not be permitted until a conceptual master plan is approved by the City Council.

The permitted uses include a variety of single-family and multi-family residential, and neighborhood and regional commercial centers. More specifically, uses consistent with the following land use categories are permitted: Low Density Residential (LDR), Medium Density Residential (MDR), Residential-Professional-Institutional (RPI), Community/General Commercial (CGC), Recreation and Open Space (ROS) and Conservation (CSV), all consistent with the Multi-Use Land Use Category.

The following specific densities and intensities are permitted consistent with the Multi-Use Land Use Category: Single-Family Residential (DU) 8,636 Multi-Family Residential (DU) 4,884 Commercial/Office Uses (GSF) 1,707,500 Development shall be limited to the lesser of either the entitlements listed in this policy, or the entitlements adopted into the approved master plan. The conceptual master plan may include a land use conversion process that allows for the modification of the above densities and intensities, provided a conversion/exchange table is submitted to and approved by the Planning and Development Department.

Single-Family Residential (DU) 8,636

Multi-Family Residential (DU) 4,884

Commercial/Office Uses (GSF) 1,707,500

Development shall be limited to the lesser of either the entitlements listed in this policy or the entitlements adopted into the approved master plan. The conceptual master plan may include a land use conversion process that allows for the modification of the above densities and intensities, provided a conversion/exchange table is submitted to and approved by the Planning and Development Department.

Exhibit 2: City of Jacksonville Beach 23-1ESR (Proposed Policies)

Policy LU 1.5.15

MARINA MIXED-USE (MMU)

The Marina Mixed-Use land use category is intended to provide for a mix of water-dependent and water related uses that support the one public access marina that serves the residents of Duval County and is accessible in Jacksonville Beach .

The Marina Mixed-Use (MMU) land use category is created to provide an appropriate location for both recreational and commercial boat storage, water access, and water related commercial uses located on the Intracoastal Waterway. Uses allowed in the Marina Mixed-Use land use category include dry boat slips, wet boat slips, boat ramps, restaurants, offices, personal and business services, light manufacturing, water transportation retail sales, boat repair, storage/warehousing, ancillary marina uses, public and private parks, hotels, and townhouses and multiple-family residential and related accessory uses. This category permits supporting marina based commercial retail and services.

Policy 1.5.16

Multi-family development may also be allowed within the Marina Mixed-Use land use category. Land development regulations shall include standards for minimum setbacks and buffer zones between different types of land uses allowed in this category, as well as locational criteria for such uses. For MMU designated parcels, residential densities of up to 15 units per acres are permissible.

Policy LU 1.5.17

Expanded and new water -dependent and water related mixed uses should be located in areas with the least impact on the natural habitat and wild life and shall comply with Policy LU 1.4.11.

Policy LU 1.5.18

Existing marinas should preserve a public access walkway and public access boat launch and public parking.

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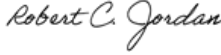
Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ROBERT JORDAN, REGIONAL PLANNER 

RE: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Northeast Florida Regional Council reviews large-scale comprehensive plan amendments concerning adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, as well as extra-jurisdictional impacts inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any local government within the Region. Additionally, the review allows Board members to review the potential impact of large-scale amendments to adjacent jurisdictions. Based on staff's recent reviews, there are two large-scale amendments that will be highlighted to illustrate the development potential for over 14,000 acres within our Region.

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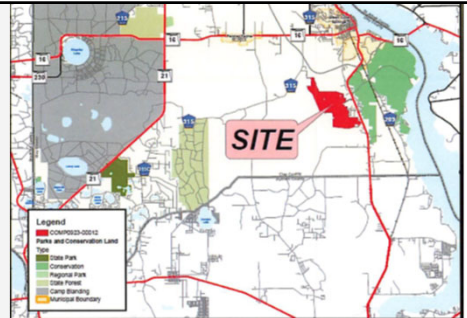
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Comprehensive Plan Items of Interest

Clay County 23-1DRI Transmitted
City of Jacksonville 23-4ESR Transmitted

Clay County 23-1DRI Transmitted

The applicant proposes to change the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for 3,145 acres.



The current land use on the subject site:

- 2,847 acres of Agricultural
- 217 acres of Rural Residential
- 52 acres of Industrial
- 28 acres of Conservation
- 1 acre of Commercial

The proposed land use district is a Planned Community, which is defined as a large area under unified ownership that contains a variety of proposed land uses with a significant percentage being devoted to residential uses.

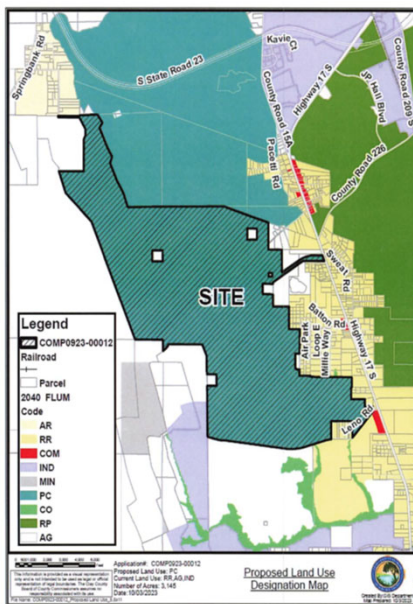
The densities and intensities permitted within the areas shown as Planned Community shall be as stated in the development agreement. The respective development agreement provides a phasing schedule that is illustrated on the next slide.

Clay County 23-1DRI Transmitted Proposed Land Use by Phase

Phases	Residential	Hotel	Office/ Light Industrial	Education	Commercial
Phase 1	450 dwelling units		30,000 square feet		22,500 square feet
Phase 2	800 dwelling units		50,000 square feet		22,500 square feet
Phase 3	770 dwelling units	100 rooms	70,000 square feet	160,000 square feet	22,500 square feet
Phase 4	700 dwelling units		250,000 square feet	160,000 square feet	22,500 square feet
Phase 5	640 dwelling units		270,000 square feet	160,000 square feet	125,000 square feet
Phase 6	640 dwelling units		330,00 square feet	160,000 square feet	125,000 square feet
Total	4,000 dwelling units	100 rooms	1,000,000 square feet	640,000 square feet	340,000 square feet

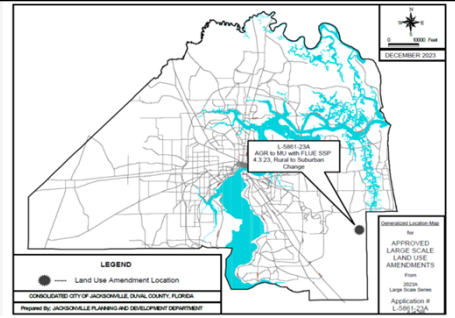
Clay County 23-1DRI Transmitted

The proposed Future Land Use Map.



City of Jacksonville 23-4 Transmitted

The applicant proposes to change the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for 11,047 acres.



The current land use on the subject site is Agricultural and the proposed land use is Multi-Use with a proposed site-specific text amendment guiding the development on the site.

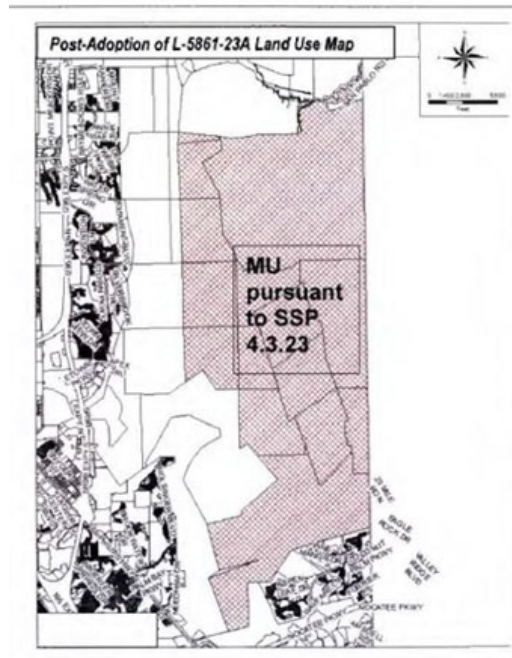
The Multi-Use land use category is intended to accommodate large-scale development and redevelopment projects according to an approved conceptual long-term master plan.

The densities and intensities permitted by the Proposed Future Land Use Element Policy 4.3.23 include;

- a. 8,636 Dwelling Units for Single-Family Residential
- b. 4,884 Dwelling Units for Multi-Family Units.
- c. 1,707,500 Square Feet for Commercial and Office Uses

City of Jacksonville 23-4ESR Transmitted

The proposed Future Land Use Map.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *DS*

RE: NOVEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$19,134 for the month of November and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$28,148.

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Regional Council - Agencywide	Adopted Budget 23/24	November 2023	YTD	Represents 17% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
Revenues					
County Dues	\$ 694,757	57,896	115,793	17%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 236,300	29,357	40,880	17%	0%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 186,329	11,774	22,644	12%	-5%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$ 70,000	5,301	11,232	16%	-1%
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 13,849	2,210	3,025	22%	5%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 77,000	9,213	18,804	24%	7%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 75,878	-	-	0%	-17%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	28,492	58,549	8%	-9%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 250,000	20,082	38,398	15%	-2%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 106,000	2,153	6,655	6%	-11%
Florida Hospital Association	\$ 132,879	-	-	0%	-17%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ -	17,771	32,278	0%	-17%
Disaster Recovery Coordinator	\$ 87,000	5,846	14,548	17%	0%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 4,200	-	-	0%	-17%
Other Revenue	\$ 13,350	1,513	59,841	448%	431%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,701,254	\$ 191,609	\$ 422,646	16%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$ 100,466	\$ (19,134)	\$ (28,148)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,801,720	\$ 172,475	\$ 394,499	14%	
Expenses					
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,675,438	119,490	266,508	16%	-1%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 791,707	23,530	26,864	3%	-14%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 201,295	18,688	35,757	18%	1%
General Fund Expense*	\$ 133,280	10,768	65,370	49%	32%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,801,720	\$ 172,475	\$ 394,499	14%	
Net Income (loss)	\$ (100,466)	19,134	\$ 28,148		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
 Balance Sheet
 November 2023

	FY 22/23	FY 23/24
	<u>November 2022</u>	<u>November 2023</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	2,548,733	2,442,307
Accounts Receivable	303,054	393,428
Pension Liability-Deferred Outflows	334,226	439,576
WJCT Security Deposit	7,400	7,400
Total Current Assets	<u>3,193,413</u>	<u>3,282,711</u>
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	<u>277,765</u>	<u>306,039</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>176,503</u>	<u>194,210</u>
Total Property and Equipment, net	<u>101,262</u>	<u>111,828</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>3,294,675</u></u>	<u><u>3,394,539</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	28,202	12,792
Accrued Salaries and Leave	104,084	104,065
Deferred Revenue	343,474	253,461
Pension Liability	428,190	1,087,234
Pension Liability-Deferred Inflows	566,417	56,671
Total Liabilities	<u><u>1,470,366</u></u>	<u><u>1,514,223</u></u>
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	<u>1,824,308</u>	<u>1,880,317</u>
Total Equity and Other Credits	<u>1,824,308</u>	<u>1,880,317</u>
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	<u><u>3,294,675</u></u>	<u><u>3,394,539</u></u>

YTD Comparison

	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
	Net Income (Loss)	Net Income (Loss)	Cash Balance	Cash Balance

AGENCYWIDE

October	\$ 3,147	\$ 9,014	\$ 2,480,421	\$ 2,430,628
November	\$ 10,292	\$ 28,148	\$ 2,548,733	\$ 2,442,307
December	\$ 21,445		\$ 2,427,805	
January	\$ 29,526		\$ 2,516,530	
February	\$ 44,710		\$ 2,488,934	
March	\$ 65,477		\$ 2,237,393	
April	\$ 82,390		\$ 2,354,111	
May	\$ 60,665		\$ 2,200,457	
June	\$ 75,043		\$ 1,807,496	
July	\$ 86,500		\$ 2,227,862	
August	\$ 98,379		\$ 2,360,077	
September	\$ 82,101		\$ 2,548,733	



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023
TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*
FROM: ^{DS} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
RE: NOVEMBER 2023 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest

	<u>FY 22/23</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u>
November Interest	\$ 9	\$ 1,323
Year to Date Interest	\$ 18	\$ 2,733

Florida Local Government Investment Trust

	<u>FY 22/23</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u>
Current Balance	\$17,597	\$18,382

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Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2024-01

Honoring

Honorable Catherine Robinson

WHEREAS, the Honorable Catherine Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bunnell, was appointed in August of 2008 by the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners to serve as a Municipal representative of Flagler County on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Robinson served as the 1st and 2nd Vice President and the President of the Northeast Florida Regional Council; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Robinson also served as Chair and Vice Chair on the Executive Committee, Vice Chair of the Personnel, Budget and Finance Policy Committee, a member of the Planning and Growth Management Policy Committee, the Affordable Housing Committee, and as an alternate on the Ad-Hoc Regional Leadership Awards Selection Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Robinson has served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, her leadership, friendship, and all her efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida will be missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Mayor Robinson for her efforts and contributions during her tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for her service.

Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a meeting assembled in the City of Jacksonville, on the fourth day of January, 2024.

Christian Whitehurst

President

Elizabeth Payne

CEO

Agenda Item

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Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2024-02

Honoring

The Honorable Sarah Arnold

WHEREAS, the Honorable Sarah Arnold, County Commissioner, was appointed in November, 2022, by the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners to serve as a representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Arnold served as a member of the Legislative Policy Committee to develop the 2024 Northeast Florida Legislative Priorities; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Arnold served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, her efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida is greatly appreciated and will be missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Commissioner Arnold for her efforts and contributions during her tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for her service.

Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting assembled in the City of Jacksonville, on the fourth day of January, 2024.

Christian Whitehurst

President

Elizabeth Payne

CEO

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: FIRST COAST WELL BEING INDEX

An overview of the Northeast Florida Regional Council's regional data indicators dashboard – the First Coast Well Being Index – will be provided to the Board, in advance of its release at the Awards Luncheon. This has been a multi-year effort, built off of First Coast Vision and created in collaboration with the Regional Community Institute. Regional partners took part in determining data indicators and the story the data tells about the Region. Partners include JaxUSA Partnership, United Way of Northeast Florida, North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, Urban Land Institute, CareerSource Northeast Florida, and the Northeast Florida Health Planning Council. This work included a partnership with Smart North Florida, who created the dashboard.

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: ERIC ANDERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EA*

RE: 2024 WORKPLAN

Staff will give an update on the activities associated with the agency's 2023 Trails and Ecotourism Workplan and will request to continue this work in 2024.

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2024 Workplan Trails & Ecotourism Continued

January 2024



2023 Accomplishments

1. Met with lead agencies and organizations involved in trails and tourism. Garnered support and gained awareness of activities.
2. Developed a project steering committee and conducted regular meetings.
3. Peer-reviewed available data regarding the economic and health benefits of recreational activities.
4. Collected available GIS data and developed a regional map highlighting current overland, blue trails, and amenities near the trails.
5. Completed an inventory of federal and state programs directly supporting trail development.
6. Reviewed criteria for the FDEP Trail Town Program.
7. Last three months: DOI & NPS-RTCA collaboration and Northeast Florida site visit

Original Project Schedule

		Task											
Inventory and Current Programs	• NEFRC Board Approval/Update	x	x	x	x	x	x						
	• Project Kickoff (Steering Cmte Setup)		x										
	• Steering Committee Meetings			x		x							
	• Collect Economic Impact Data			x	x								
	• Inventory Existing Resources (Research/GIS)			x	x	x	x						
	• Inventory of Existing Programs, Studies, & Legislation			x	x	x	x						
	• Checklist to Official Designations												
	• Highlight Successful Places												
	Opportunities	• What is Planned and Programmed?											
• Future Considerations - Short Term Initiatives and Long-Term Investments													
• Regional Marketing Approach													
• Funding Opportunities & NEFRC Support													
• Draft and Final Report Development													

2024 – More Work to Complete

- **Develop consensus on future trail locations that integrate overland and blue trails**
 - Wayfinding – standardized signage and historical, cultural, and heritage considerations
- **Develop a GIS database and accompanying storyboards the region can use to promote recreational opportunities to local citizens and visitors**
- **Advance the concept of a regional brand for trails across our region**
 - Promote recreational activities to citizens and visitors
 - Develop Pre-canned Itineraries (1/2-day, full day, multi-day)
 - Bartram Trail and other historic trails?
- **Trail Town or River Town Designations through FDEP**
 - Rivertown Program for St. Johns River Communities

Implementation Strategy – 3 Phases

1) **Await NPS-RTCA's response to their proposed 2024 Florida Workplan**

- This will help us to plan coordination efforts on direct projects identified in their Florida scope of work. NEFRC acts as the primary lead, with support from NPS-RTCA.

2) **Conduct regional meetings to address and develop consensus on:**

- Standardized or Common Wayfinding/Signage
- Promotion of Recreational Opportunities (branding)
- Trail Town/River Town Designations
- Consensus on Regional Trails – Linkages and Destinations
- GIS Mapping and Storyboard Creation
- Identify and Apply for Regional Grants to Support Planning and Implementation in NE Florida

3) **Begin work on local projects identified on the regional field trip**

- Leverage NEFRC resources and relationships to support, plan, and implement projects at the local level.

2024 Workplan Trails & Ecotourism Questions?

January 2024



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: PRESENTATION: CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT

Ms. Judy Holm, FUSE Executive Fellow for the City of Jacksonville, will provide an overview of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This grant was awarded to the City of Jacksonville and is being implemented for the Jacksonville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties. This is a multi-year grant, with multiple deliverables over the course of the grant, including a greenhouse gas inventory, climate action plan and others.

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Overview

- Jacksonville MSA
- EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Background
- Climate Action Plan (CAP) Scope
- Key Dates
- Community Engagement
- Meet the Team

What is the Jacksonville MSA?



Background

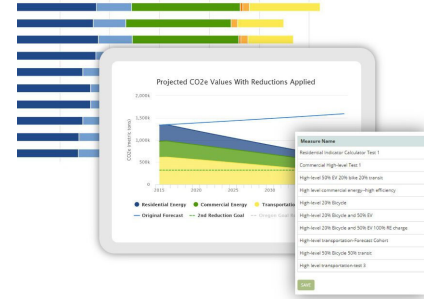
EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant: \$4.3 billion total funding across the USA

- [CPRG planning grant \(\\$1M\)](#): Oct 2023
- [CPRG implementation grant](#) (multiple tiers: \$2M-\$550M): Oct 2024



CPRG CAP Scope

- GHG Inventory
- Community Outreach and Public Engagement
- GHG Reduction Measures: projects, programs, policy
 - Short term and long term GHG emission reductions and co-benefits (eg 2025 - 2030; 2030- 2050)
 - LIDAC (Low Income and Disadvantaged Community) lens
 - Develop workforce planning strategy
 - Identify additional funding opportunities
 - Identify implementation authority
 - QA/QC



KEY SECTORS



Key Dates

- Dec 2023 – Mar 1: online meetings, targeted outreach; discussion of stakeholder priorities and concerns
- Jan 8: stakeholder project submission deadline
- Jan 1- Feb 1: baseline GHG inventory and CPRG reduction measures finalized
- Feb 1: PCAP report available for public comment
- Mar 1: PCAP deadline
- Apr 1: Implementation Grant deadline
- 2024 – Jul 1 2025: Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) development and deadline

Community Engagement Plan

- COJ web page: Jan 2024
- Community Survey: identifying priorities and concerns
- Toolkit for MSAs
- Press Release Templates
- Event Plan Checklist



Ashantae Green
Sustainability Manager, COJ
Grantee Approver

James Richardson
Environmental Protection Board Program Administrator, COJ
Grantee Approver

Judy Holm
Fuse Fellow, COJ
Task Leader, Review of Authority

Fara Ilami, MS, PMP
Resiliency Manager, Northeast Florida Regional Council
County Liaison

Andrew Prokopiak
Northeast Florida Regional Council
County Liaison

Amanda Polematidis, PE, CxA
Associate PM, Hanson Professional Services
PM, program + production

Carlye Jones
Owner, Acuity Design Group
Task Leader, Community Engagement

Erin Deady, PA
Founder, Erin Deady Law
Quality Assurance Manager

Meet the Team



Burns Bradford, PE
PM, financial

Wade Conlan, PE, CxA, BCxP, LEED AP
Task Leader, GHG reduction measures

Mathew Coalson, EI, LEED AP
Task Leader, GHG benchmarking

Bill Bradford, PE
Principal

Steve Alm, PE
Principal

Meet the Team

Thank you!

Judy Holm

jholm@coj.net // 917.589.0247

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/judyholm/>

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Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ERIC ANDERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: **PRESENTATION: NORTH FLORIDA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN (2023)**

Staff at the St. Johns River Water Management District will give a presentation on the newly adopted 2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan.

Beginning in 2020, the SJRWMD worked with stakeholders to update the 2017 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan (2015-2035). This work was conducted to meet the requirements of Section 373.709 of the Florida Statutes, which requires the District to reevaluate their determinations concerning the need for a water supply plan at least every five years.

The 2023 Water Supply Plan assesses the area's current and projected water needs and the potential impacts of groundwater withdrawals on natural systems and identifies sufficient project options to sustain water resources and related natural systems through the planning horizon (2045). The 2023 Plan (2020–2045) was developed through a collaborative process among the Water Management Districts, local governments, public supply utilities, environmental advocates, and other stakeholders.

Presenter:

Lori Burklew
Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator
St. Johns River Water Management District
407-659-4813

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2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan

Lori Burklew

Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator
Bureau of Water Supply Planning



St. Johns River
Water Management District

2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

Technical Methods

- November 2021 (4-week review)
- Datasets revised January-June 2022
- Second review January-June 2022
- Datasets finalized July 2022

Constraints Assessment

- November 2022 (6-week review)

Project Solicitation

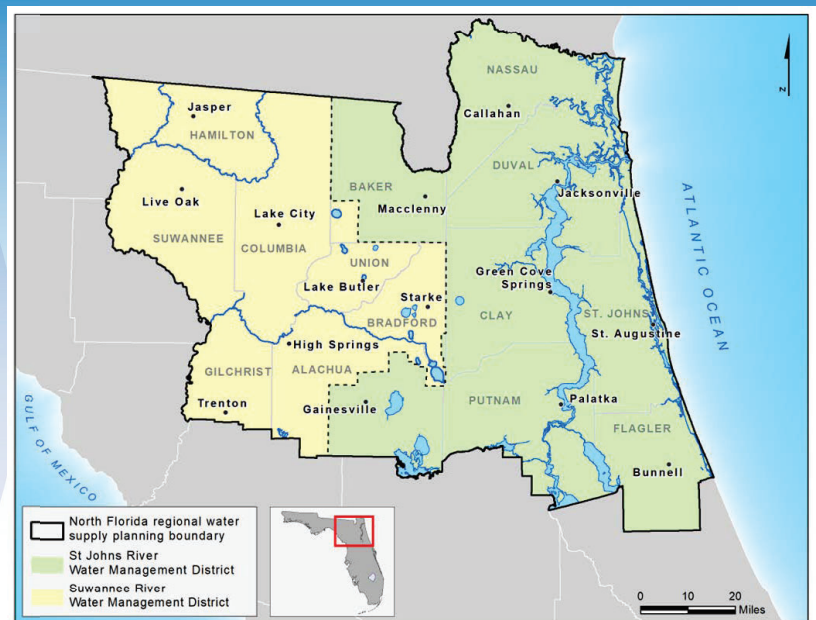
- February-April 2023

Draft 2023 NFRWSP Workshop

- September 2023 (3-week review)

2023 NFRWSP Approval

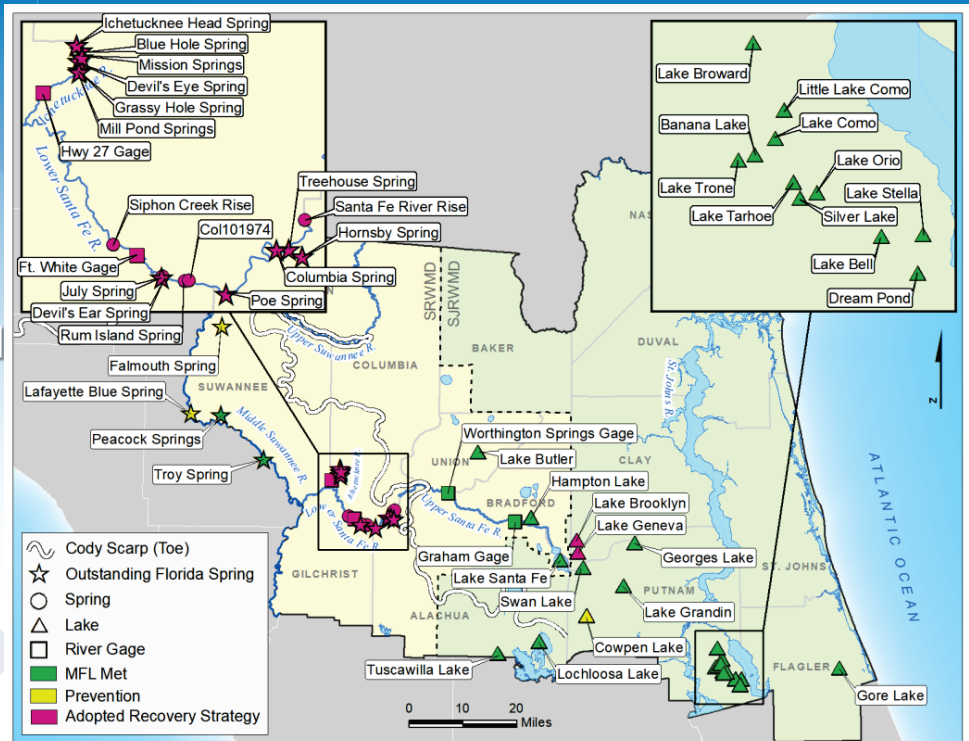
- Dec 12, 2023, SJRWMD and SRWMD Governing Board Meetings



St. Johns River
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Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) Systems in the Partnership Area



St. Johns River
Water Management District

Conclusions

- Projected 135 mgd increase in groundwater demand from 2015 to 2045
- Future demand **cannot be met with traditional sources** without potential impacts to water resources
- The NFRWSP identifies 160 mgd of **project options**, at a total cost of \$2.3 B to meet future water demands while sustaining water resources and related natural systems
- Potential funding options – District, state, federal and private



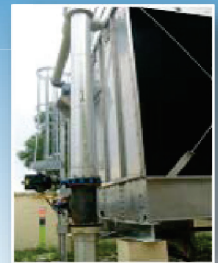
St. Johns River
Water Management District

Regional Water Supply Plan Implementation

- Districts notify **public water supply** entities with projects in the plan
 - PWS entity must submit annual project progress reports
- **Local governments** must amend their Comprehensive Plans to include updated Water Supply Facilities Work Plans
 - Work Plans must demonstrate sufficient water supply for at least the next 10 years
- **Districts** continue work with partners to develop projects



Water Supply Development 52 projects, 92.4 mgd, \$1.1 B

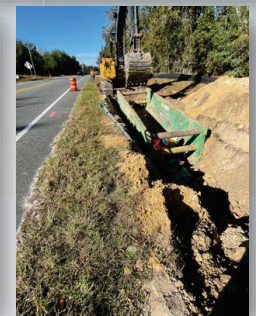


Water Resource Development

23 projects, 51.2 mgd, \$1.2 B



Black Creek Water Resource Development Project



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Water Conservation

24 projects, 16.8 mgd, \$57.5 M

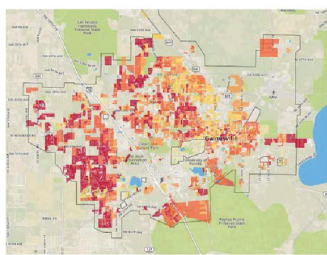
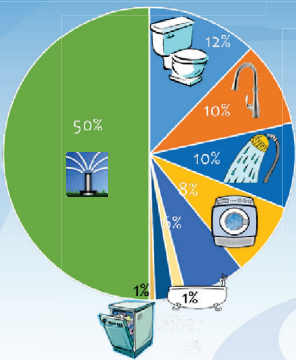


Figure 2. Water consumption in the Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) service territory. Color coding shows how some subdivisions use more water than others. Darker colors mean a higher water use.

Credit: UF/IFAS H₂O SAV



St. Johns River
Water Management District

FY 2024-25 Cost-share Program Timeline

- January 5, 2024: Program announcement
- February 16, 2024: Applications due by 5 p.m.
- March 15, 2024: Staff completes scoring and develops project ranking list
- May 14, 2024: Project ranking list is presented to Governing Board for approval
- May 17, 2024: Approved project ranking list is submitted to the FDEP for funding consideration.



St. Johns River
Water Management District

Questions?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lori Burklew/Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator/407-659-4813

Doug Conkey/Intergovernmental Coordinator/904-730-6287

Bill White/Intergovernmental Coordinator/386-326-2875

Steve Fitzgibbons/Intergovernmental Planner/386-312-2369

Deirdre Irwin/Water Conservation Coordinator/386-329-4341

Derek Busby/Cost-Share Project Manager/386-329-4459



St. Johns River
Water Management District

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Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE UPDATE

Staff will provide an update on community resilience efforts being facilitated across Northeast Florida. This update will cover highlights from resiliency gatherings around the state and how lessons learned may apply to the joint effort by the NEFRC with the Resilient First Coast Collaborative to develop a Regional Resiliency Action Plan. The update will also include recent progress on several projects, including:

- Regional Resilient Entity grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Resilient Florida program
- Multiregional Planning and Mitigation Assessment project funded by a Community Development Block Grant from Florida Commerce
- Healthcare Resiliency project funded by a Community Development Block Grant from Florida Commerce
- Flagler County Vulnerability Assessment, Compound Flooding Analysis, and Adaptation Plan
- Baker County Vulnerability Assessment
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant that the NEFRC is working on with the City of Jacksonville

The update will also include the announcement of a newly awarded grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the status of grant applications now under consideration, and other ongoing resiliency work.

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REGIONAL COUNCIL



Community Resiliency Update

NORTHEAST FLORIDA 2023-24 DEVELOPMENTS

Resiliency Meetings: Lessons Learned



Florida Resilience Conference

- Use a balanced approach to “selling” living shorelines
- Greenhouse gas inventories are not “one and done”
- Benefit-cost analysis tools available

East Central Florida Regional Resiliency Collaborative Leadership Summit

- Financing risk management – need to understand insurance industry
- Priority-based budgeting – reallocate 10% or more of your budget
- Business case for resilience

Potential partnership between NEFRC and East Central Florida RPC for combined Summit for next year

Resilient First Coast



Full Collaborative meeting held Nov 29

- Guest speakers
 - Anne Coglianese, COJ – Resilient Jacksonville Strategy
 - Craig Wells, Freese and Nichols – Funding for Resilience
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant update – COJ
- Regional Resiliency Action Plan update

Next Steering Committee meeting Jan 31

- Committee reports
- Review Regional Resiliency Action Plan Goals and Objectives for inclusion in first draft

Regional Resilience Entity Grant



- 1-year grant for the following components (due June 2024):
 - \$75,000 for Regional Resiliency Action Plan: Phase 1
 - \$200,000 for Coordination of Vulnerability Assessments: Phase 2
 - Investigate ways to standardize methodologies for compound flooding
 - Help communities with VAs develop implementation grant applications
 - VA Technical Assistance and Knowledge Building
 - \$65,000 for validation of region's critical facilities
- Work underway on all tasks by NEFRC resiliency staff in conjunction with Resilient First Coast committees and working groups
- RFP for consultant assistance to be available this month

CDBG Multiregional Grant



Silver Jackets Project

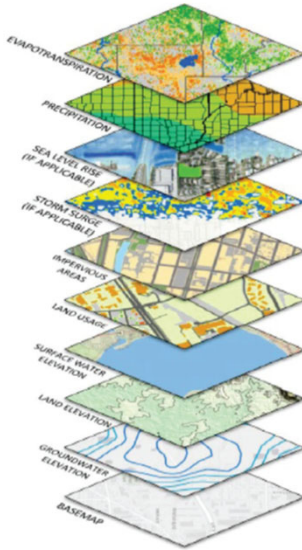


Beaches to Bioswales: Nature's Toolbox for Resilience

Discover the landscape of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in Florida and how to implement these features to increase resilience.

Florida Silver Jackets Team, 2023

Local Government Assistance



- Flagler County
 - Consultant nearing completion of exposure analysis
 - Contract finalized to complete additional work: compound flooding analysis, outreach, and adaptation plan
- Baker County
 - Deliverable 1 (data collection) completed and submitted to FDEP
 - Work on Deliverable 2 (exposure analysis) to begin soon

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



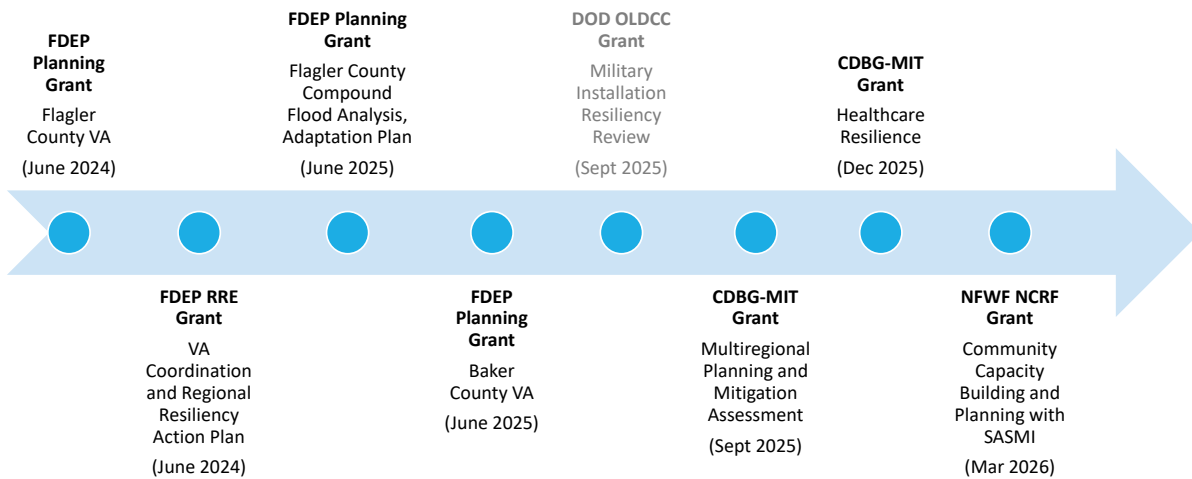
- City of Jacksonville serving as lead
- NEFRC is facilitating coordination throughout the region via a new Resilient First Coast working group
 - First meeting is Jan 5, 2024
 - Future meetings will include QA/QC of greenhouse gas community inventory and Priority Climate Action Plan draft review, plus other tasks to support the project

Grants



- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) National Coastal Resilience Fund
 - NEFRC partnered with South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative on \$1.5 million grant application (\$100k for NEFRC work)
 - **Project was selected for award in December 2023**
- Military Installation Resilience Review
 - NEFRC is working with Department of Defense to secure a grant to include Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport, Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, and Camp Blanding Joint Training Center
- Northeast Florida Sentinel Landscape
 - North Florida Land Trust to submit full proposal for a Sentinel Landscape designation by Jan 18, 2024. NEFRC is a partner on the project.

Funded NEFRC Resiliency Projects Timeline (Completion Due Dates)



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: TYLER NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR *TN*

RE: 2024 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CLASS

The 2024 Regional Leadership Academy class has been set, with the first day of class to be held in Baker County on January 31, 2024. Staff will provide highlights of the coming year's curriculum – with a new class added – and the list of participants.

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2024 Regional Leadership Academy

Tyler Nolen, Special Projects Coordinator

Tentative Curriculum

- January 31st in Baker County
 - February 28th in Putnam County
 - March 27th in Flagler County
 - April 24th in Nassau County
 - May 29th in St. Johns County
 - *June 26th at NAS JAX*
 - July 31st in Clay County
 - August 28th in Duval County
- 

2024 Participants

Name	County	Affiliation
Andy Dance	Flagler	Flagler County BOCC
Casey Cheap	Putnam (Palatka)	City of Palatka
Colin Moore	Duval (Neptune Beach)	City of Neptune Beach
Derek Hembree	Clay	Clay Electric, Inc
Holly Albanese	Flagler	Flagler County BOCC
Jamie Lynn Lankenau	Duval	Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
Jessica Finch	Putnam (Welaka)	Town of Welaka
Kelly Wilson	St. Johns	St. Johns County Emergency Management
Les Sims		Armstrong Roofing, Inc
Meagan Perkins		Hart Resources, LLC
Melissa Terbruggen		CareerSource NEFL
Melissa Wissel	St. Johns (St. Augustine)	City of St. Augustine
Natalia Smith	Duval	Jacksonville University
Rebekah Cooper	Duval	Jacksonville University
Shanell Davis-Bryan		SBS&D Consulting Services, LLC.

Thank You

If there are any last-minute nominations, please let me know

Tyler Nolen
(904) 715-0423
tnolen@nefrc.org

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DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: TYLER NOLEN, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNER *TN*

RE: 2023 REGIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

The 2023 award winners will be honored at the 20th Annual Elected Officials Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, to be held immediately following the January 4th Board Meeting in WJCT'S Studio A. The list of winners and brief summary are provided for your information.

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2023 AWARD WINNERS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Tiny Home Development Program - Nassau County

Mobile Homes and Recreational Vehicle Parks are routinely utilized to assist in meeting the demands of affordable and workforce housing. Within the unincorporated limits of Nassau County there are 25 mobile homes and/or RV parks with the capacity to accommodate 365 spaces. Many of these parks are aging and the mobile homes are dilapidated, creating pockets of blight throughout the community. The Tiny Home Development Program will allow existing mobile home parks, travel trailer parks, and RV Parks to redevelop as affordable communities and will allow lands owned or managed by local government entities to provide diversified housing options. The amendments will also create an incentive for developers to redevelop blighted areas in order to provide long-term affordability.

CULTURE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OR ADAPTIVE REUSE

First Baptist Church Institutional Rehabilitation City of St. Augustine Community Redevelopment Agency - St. Johns

The Lincolnville Community Redevelopment Area (LCRA) was established in 2013 in an effort to address challenges related to the improvement of physical conditions, economically depressed corridors, and residential stabilization. In 2017, the Community Redevelopment Plan was amended. This amendment identified three elements of focus; “preserve African American heritage and retain long-term residents”, “preserve Lincolnville’s historic character”, and “conduct neighborhood improvements”. Focus groups recommended establishing the LCRA Institutional Rehabilitation Grant Program, which would both preserve the African American Heritage in Lincolnville and assist in retaining long-term residents, as many of the Lincolnville residents are connected to the established institutions in the area. This program also met the City’s overall goal of preserving historic structures.

In 2020, at the height of the global pandemic, First Baptist Church rehabilitation efforts would begin, making it the inaugural Institutional Rehabilitation Grant Program Project. Funded completely by the LCRA revenues, the \$1.2 million dollar project included structural stabilization, stained glass window restoration, mechanical and electrical upgrades, HVAC installation and weatherization, restroom facility restoration, interior and exterior painting, flood protections and the installation of an ADA compliant elevator. The elevator is housed in a structural addition, that seamlessly flows with the historic elements of the church’s facade. Staff worked diligently with the City’s Historic Preservation Officer to ensure that the addition did not compromise the integrity of the church’s historic features.

The CRA has received over \$1M in grant funds from the African American Cultural and Historic Grant fund to complete additional historic institutional rehabilitation projects.

2023 AWARD WINNERS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Port Putnam - Putnam

Since the cancellation of the Florida Cross Barge Canal project, the barge port in Palatka laid mostly dormant. With the construction of the First Coast Expressway and the resulting raising of the Shands Bridge, officials saw the opportunity of turning an inert structure into a regional intermodal cargo hub benefiting the local economy. In working with Federal, State and local partners, Putnam County staff has successfully:

- Had the US Army Corps of Engineers to determine the feasibility to dredge an access channel from the port to the St John's River Federal Navigable Waterway,
- Obtained a Port Infrastructure Development grant from MARAD,
- Had the state legislature statutorily name Port Putnam as a member of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council,
- Been elected into the Florida Ports Council, and
- Developed a Port Master Plan to guide the facility towards a fully functional regional intermodal cargo hub.

The combination of all those factors will provide a foundation for Putnam County to seek funding for necessary infrastructure rebuilds to bring the Port up to today's standards and open for business. This will offer local manufacturers to not only the opportunity to bid on bigger and greater projects but to also expand their current markets and reduce their aggregate materials import costs. Which, in turn, will lead to the creation of good paying jobs at their facilities, thus increasing the local money supply resulting in an income boost for local entrepreneurs and retailers.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Follow The Water: UF/IFAS - Baker, Duval & Nassau Extension Offices

The Suwannee River basin is one of the least developed watersheds in Florida and the Suwannee River is the largest undammed river in the Southeastern US. However, watersheds, including the Suwannee River watershed, and their water resources are threatened by increased urbanization and consumption. Therefore, every Floridian has a role to play in conserving water resources to ensure Florida's economic success. Similarly, environmental behavior research has shown that as an individual's connectedness to water increases, they are more likely to adopt water conservation practices (Warner et al., 2020 and Warner & Diaz, 2021). Therefore, extension agents in Florida's Northeast Extension District (including Nassau, Baker, and Duval counties) created the Follow the Water (FTW) program. FTW is a four-day educational tour that, "follows a drop of water from southern Georgia to the Gulf of Mexico," to increase participants' watershed knowledge and connectedness to water.

2023 AWARD WINNERS

FTW has been offered six times since 2020 with 58 participants completing the training, including alumni events. The program provides approximately 32 hours of education per person (a \$1600/person); a \$92,000 value since 2020. Participant surveys showed a sustained increase in connectedness to water, and after one year, 13 of the 14 respondents reported changes in environmental-related behaviors, including one participant who began a career in water resource communication. Collectively, participants reported sharing FTW information with 2,209 individuals. The team plans on providing training opportunities to other extension agents in Florida and Georgia, so they may develop similar programs, including for the St Mary's River watershed.

HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

AdventHealth Palm Coast Parkway Full Scale Exercise - Flagler

Before the grand opening of the new AdventHealth Palm Coast Parkway Hospital, a team from AdventHealth, Flagler County Fire Rescue, Flagler County Sheriff's Office, Palm Coast Fire Department, Bunnell Police Department, and Flagler County Emergency Management designed and implemented a multi-agency full-scale exercise. Part 1 of the exercise focused on an active shooter event at the hospital and the necessary actions to neutralize the active shooter, secure the facility, and triage, treat, and transport the victims. Part 2 of the event was done as a workshop in order to help emergency management, and related partners, work through the process of establishing a family reunification center for similar type events. The team worked tirelessly for over 9 months to design and ultimately implement the exercise which took place on July 12, 2023. Even following the exercise the team continued working to develop a after-action report that highlighted both strengths and areas for future growth.

PLANNING AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

City of Green Cove Springs Community Redevelopment Area - Clay

The City of Green Cove Springs has coordinated a multi-year planning effort into establishing a CRA. This planning process includes putting together a Finding of Necessity determination regarding the existence of blight within a defined section of the city. Following, staff put together a Redevelopment Plan identifies the CRA's redevelopment objectives. They include:

- Objective 1: Create a multimodal, pedestrian friendly transportation system.
- Objective 2: Create a vibrant Downtown area with a mixed-use, development pattern.
- Objective 3: Increase the Downtown Parking Supply
- Objective 4: Incorporate housing revitalization through housing maintenance programs and rehabilitation services.
- Objective 5: Establish a creative, equitable, efficient and practical funding and financing mechanism to properly implement this Plan.
- Objective 6: Ensure the Redevelopment Area is safe and clean over the life of the CRA.

2023 AWARD WINNERS

- Objective 7: The city may plan, design, and deliver additional infrastructure improvements or services within the Redevelopment Area, if deemed those improvements enhance the quality or attractiveness of the Redevelopment Area especially with regard to public amenities.
- Objective 8: Preserve the Historic Facilities within the CRA
- Objective 9: Provide support, including funding for construction and operation of facilities for Parks and public spaces that will draw visitors to the CRA district while simultaneously building a sense of “Place” in the Downtown Area.
- Objective 10: Redevelopment Administration

PUBLIC SAFETY

Jacksonville Aviation Authority's 2023 Triennial Aviation Disaster Exercise - Duval

The Jacksonville International Airport serves as the major passenger airport for our region. The FAA requires a full-scale exercise every 36 months to maintain the certification. This full-scale exercise requires a simulated emergency, as it would in an actual aircraft disaster, for airports holding a Class 1 Airport Operating Certificate, to ensure that all personnel having duties and responsibilities under the plan are familiar with assignments and are properly trained. While this exercise is only implemented every 36 months, it has grown in complexity and added a lot of realism over the last 4 triennial exercises (9 years). Planning for this exercise began on March 22, 2023, with partners from throughout the community, and was successfully implemented on November 8, 2023.

What makes this exercise unique is that JAA staff has taken the exercise beyond the normal expectation of responding to an airline crash. They have begun to exercise the initial recovery phase which tends to be the most complicated and most likely to be in the news (for the wrong reasons). This was done through the implementation of a Family Assistance Center (FAC). The FAC is where family members can gather to receive information about their loved one, as well as resources to help them navigate the disaster. The airlines, JAA, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and JAXPAWS partnered on this effort.

Lastly, this year's exercise had a layer of realism unlike other major exercises. Moulage artists used exquisite skills to make our 80 volunteer actors look like they had injuries commensurate with being in an airline crash, and the actors played their parts perfectly from being victims of an airline crash or being a concerned family member trying to access the family assistance center.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Minute with the Mayor: Fernandina Beach - Nassau

The City of Fernandina Beach has a permanent population of just over 13,000 residents. As traditional methods of communication have become increasingly expensive and requiring longer lead times, the City has sought creative ways to provide its population with current news updates.

2023 AWARD WINNERS

Residents were consistently requesting advance information from the City on upcoming events and projects.

In February 2023, Fernandina Beach's Mayor Bradley Bean along with Mary Hamburg, Digital Communications Specialist launched the "Minute with the Mayor" series. This strategy allows the city to quickly communicate project updates, recent Commission decisions, partner organization coordination efforts and discuss upcoming events. Its timeliness in providing information is its greatest strength. This approach enabled the City to proactively address potential concerns residents may voice by offering information ahead of issues. The series proved effective at giving citizens information about emergency orders and preparedness advice during and following natural disasters. The series has covered topics such as hurricane preparedness, tree giveaways, recycling events, the annual shrimp festival, new trails, recreation department programming, conservation efforts, and much more! This series serves to increase confidence in City operations and has been effective at communicating complex changes. By exclusively relying on our trusted and dependable Mayor Bean, staff time, and easy-to-find technology, the approach has proven to be an extremely successful community outreach strategy leading to an enhanced quality of life. Demonstrating its success is simple, the Minute with the Mayor series has resulted in 30 shorts (nearly one per week) with the number of views averaging 860+.

RESILIENCY

Resilient Jacksonville - City of Jacksonville

Chief Resilience Officer, Anne Coglianesse, began the development of the City's first long-term resiliency strategy in 2021, which led to the completion and adoption of the plan in 2023.

Resilient Jacksonville (RJ) looks to the future of the City of Jacksonville over the next 50 years, providing a roadmap for adapting to a changing climate, accommodating a growing population, guiding new urban development, and planning for uncertain shocks and stressors. RJ builds on many recent efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Matthew and Irma and leverages local expertise with science-based assessments to identify specific, implementable actions and prioritize investments that will strengthen the city's resilience.

Coordinated working groups, comprised of subject matter experts, were tapped to help identify 45 Actions and 90 Sub-Actions organized by the scales at which the actions are intended to be implemented—Systems, Sites, and People. Under each scale, Actions were further organized across 11 Adaptation Approaches.

RJ established eight types of development conditions, providing a framework for targeted and scalable resilience actions, tailored to the different characteristics and vulnerabilities of Jacksonville's communities. These Development Types include: Downtown, Historic Walkable Neighborhoods, Post-War Suburbs, Contemporary Suburbs, Rural Mosaic, Coastal Communities,

2023 AWARD WINNERS

Protected Lands, and Industrial Riverfront. Place-Based Strategies were identified within each Development Type, determining the extent of each type, its defining characteristics, its unique risk profile (e.g., flood and extreme heat vulnerability), and opportunities to enhance resilience through shared adaptation approaches and actions. Collectively, the Strategy’s recommendations provide a framework for scaling the implementation of resilience actions citywide.

TRANSPORTATION

Flagler Greenways Pedestrian Bridge - Flagler

The bridge, along with its associated trails and sidewalks that round out the project, link the Lehigh Trail, Old Kings Road sidewalk, conservation lands in Graham Swamp, and the Flagler County owned property known as Bulow “Parcel D,” which has potential for future trails.

There are many benefits to the community, especially giving pedestrians and bicyclists a safe way to cross a major, high-speed, four-lane thoroughfare. The ramps on and off the bridge are ADA compliant.

It also provides a means for users to take in often inaccessible areas of nature and experience our fabulous, huge, old-growth oaks, and wetland vegetation that they may otherwise never see.

The project includes a 1.6 mile paved “shared-use” path – 12 feet in width – that goes through the Graham Swamp Conservation Area from just south of State Road 100 to the Lehigh Trail. There is an 8-foot-wide concrete sidewalk along the south side of State Road 100 that connects with the existing sidewalk along Old Kings Road. The crowning feature is an enclosed pedestrian bridge spanning the four-lane divided highway that provides a critical connection to serve pedestrians and bicyclists now and in the future.

The process for the project – that spent years on the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Alternative Priorities ranking list – began in 2018 when the Board of County Commissioners approved the design phase.

The costs – largely funded through Federal and State grants, and not local tax dollars, are: Design/Permitting \$1,478,161.30; Post Design \$51,381.66; Engineer of Record Construction, Engineering, and Inspection (CEI) \$980,878.12; and, Construction \$9,858,121.65