

NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting
Virtual & In-Person



📍 40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
📞 Phone: (904)-279-0880
🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: FEBRUARY 6, 2025 PRELIMINARY AGENDA

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **February 6, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** This will be a hybrid meeting, virtual and in-person, at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, **Room 219** in the **Jessie Ball DuPont Center, 40 East Adams Street**, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>
Meeting ID: 874 9977 0491



NEFRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Jim Renninger, President – Clay
James Bennett, 1st Vice President - Baker
Ken Amaro, 2nd Vice President – Duval
*Darryl Register, Secretary/Treasurer – Baker
**FRCA Policy Board Members*

BAKER COUNTY

Hon. Jimmy Anderson
Hon. James Bennett
Michael Griffis
Darryl Register

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Manager, City of Macclenny
Gubernatorial Appointee

CLAY COUNTY

Hon. Betsy Condon
Hon. Jim Renninger
Steve Kennedy
Michael Bourre

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
City Manager, City of Green Cove Springs
Gubernatorial Appointee

DUVAL COUNTY

Hon. Ken Amaro
Hon. Mike Gay
Hon. Sean Lynch
Elaine Brown

Councilmember, City of Jacksonville
Councilmember, City of Jacksonville
Mayor, Town of Baldwin
Gubernatorial Appointee

FLAGLER COUNTY

Hon. Andy Dance
Hon. Charles Gambaro

County Commissioner
Councilmember, City of Palm Coast

NASSAU COUNTY

Hon. A.M. Huppmann
Hon. John Martin
Hon. Genece Minshew

County Commissioner
County Commissioner
Commissioner, City of Fernandina Beach

PUTNAM COUNTY

Hon. Larry Harvey
Hon. Leota Wilkinson

County Commissioner
County Commissioner

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Hon. Krista Joseph
Hon. Clay Murphy

County Commissioner
County Commissioner

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Curtis Hart
Derek Dixon
Douglas Conkey
Gregory Strong /
Kathryn Craver (Alt.)

Gubernatorial Appointee, FL Commerce
FL Department of Transportation
St. Johns River Water Management District
FL Department of Environmental Protection



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Northeast Florida Regional Council

BOARD of DIRECTORS

PRELIMINARY 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: 874 9977 0491

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025
10:00 a.m.

(ADDED OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN BOLD)
(*Denotes Action Required)

TAB

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – President Renninger
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – President Renninger
4. Invitation to Speak – President Renninger
- * 5. Consent Agenda
 - A. January 9, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes 1
 - B. December 2024 Financial Report 2
 - C. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report 3
 - St. Johns County Transmitted COMPAMD 2024-03
6. Other Reports/Action Items
 - A. Regional Council Budgetary Process – Ms. Starling
 - * B. FY 23/24 Audit – Zach Chalifour, James Moore & Company 4
 - C. NEFRC Fiscal Year 23-24 Closeout – Ms. Starling 5
 - D. Presentation: Military Installation Resilience – Mark McManus, NAS JAX and Naval Station Mayport CPLO 6
 - * E. RFP: Military Installation Resilience Review – Ms. Payne 7



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- F. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Ilami 8
- G. Strategic Regional Policy Plan Review, Part 2 – Ms. Payne 9
- H. EDA Funding: Post Disaster Recovery for Hurricanes Helene & Milton – Ms. Payne 10
- 7. Public Comment – LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER
- 8. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – President Renninger
- 9. Ex-Officio Members’ Reports:
 - Florida Department of Commerce
 - Florida Department of Transportation
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - St. Johns River Water Management District
- 10. Chief Executive Officer’s Report – Ms. Payne
- 11. Upcoming Events:
 - Jan. 30, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, Baker County
 - Feb. 6, 2025 – PB&F Committee & Board Meetings
 - Feb. 10, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, Duval County
 - Feb. 10, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Putnam County
 - Feb. 10, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Clay County
 - Feb. 11, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, St. Johns County
 - Feb. 12, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, Nassau County
 - Feb. 12, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Flagler County
 - **Feb. 17, 2025 – PRESIDENT’S DAY, COUNCIL CLOSED**
 - Feb. 18, 2025 – Trail Itinerary Development Workshop, St. Johns County
 - Feb. 19, 2025 – Resilient First Coast Collaborative Meeting, Duval County
 - Feb. 20, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Baker County
 - Feb. 27, 2025 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Duval County
- 12. Next Board Meeting: **March 6, 2025**
- 13. Adjournment

(*Denotes Action Required)

Agenda

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NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2025

MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors held a meeting at 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, January 9, 2025; **President Renninger** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call was conducted with the following members present, representing a quorum:

BAKER: Commissioner Bennett
Mr. Register

DUVAL: Councilmember Amaro
Mayor Brown
Mayor Lynch

CLAY: Commissioner Condon
Commissioner Renninger
Mr. Kennedy

FLAGLER: Commissioner Dance
Councilmember Gambaro

NASSAU: Commissioner Huppmann
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Minshew

PUTNAM: Commissioner Harvey (via Zoom)
Commissioner Wilkinson (via Zoom)

ST. JOHNS: Commissioner Joseph
Commissioner Murphy

EX-OFFICIO: Mr. Conkey, St Johns River Water Management District
Ms. Craver, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Mr. Dixon, Florida Department of Transportation
Mr. Hart, Florida Department of Commerce

Excused: Commissioner Anderson, Mr. Bourre, and Mr. Griffis

Absent: Councilmember Gay

Presenter: Eric Houston, Jacksonville Transportation Authority

Guests: John Nooney, Ken Storey, Sanaa Hodge, Julian Carter, Liz Peak, and other members of the public

Staff: Eric Anderson, Donna Starling, Robert Jordan, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Andrew Prokopiak, Kenajawa Woody and others

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

President Renninger welcomed new Board Members: Nassau County Commissioner Huppmann, City of Fernandina Beach Commissioner Minshew, Putnam County Commissioner Wilkinson, St. Johns County Commissioners Joseph and Murphy, and City of Palm Coast Council Member Gambaro.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

President Renninger 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

Mr. Register motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Ms. Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

Presentation: Coordinated Mobility Plan

Mr. Eric Houston, Jacksonville Transit Authority's Program Manager for Strategic and Regional Planning, provided a presentation on the 2024 Northeast Florida Coordinated Mobility Plan. A brief discussion followed.

*October 2024 Financial Report

Ms. Starling stated that for the month of October, the Council posted a net income of \$7,921. As this is the first month of the Council's fiscal year, the year-to-date is the same. A brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the October 2024 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried unanimously.

*November 2024 Financial Report

Ms. Starling stated that for the month of November, the Council posted a net loss of \$17,941 with a year-to-date loss of \$10,020. The main reason for the loss is the Council's quarterly dues. Additionally, following our move in August, there were expenses paid in November for cubicle installations, signage, and the open house. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Condon motioned to approve the November 2024 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

*Resolutions 2025-01, 02, 03, 04, and 05

Ms. Payne presented five Resolutions recognizing former Board Members Commissioner Paul Adamczyk of Putnam County, Commissioner Roy Alaimo of St. Johns County, Vice Mayor David

Sturges of Fernandina Beach, Hon. John Drew of Nassau County, and Commissioner Christian Whitehurst of St. Johns County, for consideration by the Board.

Councilmember Amaro motioned to approve Resolutions 2025-01, 02, 03, 04, and 05; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions 2025-01 Commission Adamczyk, 2025-02 Commissioner Alaimo, and 2025-03 Vice Mayor Sturges will be mailed following the meeting. Ms. Payne read and presented Resolutions 2025-04 to Mr. Drew and 2025-05 to Commissioner Whitehurst. A brief discussion followed.

*2025 Legislative Priorities

Ms. Payne provided an overview of the process utilized to obtain the Regional Legislative Policies. The priorities received were reviewed by the Legislative Policy Committee. The Committee identified the following issues for consideration by the Board: Resiliency, Housing, Infrastructure, Public Camping & Sleeping.

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the 2025 Legislative Priorities as presented; seconded by Mr. Register. Discussion followed.

Additionally, the Legislative Policy Committee also wanted to include a statement of ongoing support for the Black History Museum in St. Augustine. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Martin amended his motion to include a statement supporting the Black History Museum in St. Augustine; Mr. Register also amended his second. Amended motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Payne stated that once the flyer and palm cards are printed, they will be provided to each county at their BOCC meeting prior to the start of the 2025 Legislative Session. Members are encouraged to utilize these when communicating with their legislative delegates and when in Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

*NEFRC 2025 Workplan

Ms. Payne informed the Members that each calendar year she facilitates a discussion with the Board regarding a regional issue that the Council can work on. In the past, the Council has addressed issues such as affordable housing, opioid epidemic, ecotourism and trails. This year the issue being put forward for consideration is solid waste, trash and potentially recycling. Discussion followed.

Ms. Craver, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), stated that, in reference to recycling, the DEP offers assistance to local municipalities, whether it be in the form of grant funding or just assistance in developing programs for recycling. She encourages anyone interested in this assistance to feel free to contact her for that information.

Commissioner Condon motioned to approve the NEFRC 2025 Workplan; seconded by Mayor Lynch. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Resiliency Update

Mr. Prokopiak, Sr. Regional Resiliency Planner, provided an overview of resiliency projects currently being addressed by the Regional Council. He highlighted phase two of the Regional Resiliency Action Plan, local governments vulnerability assessments, and the multi-regional project. He also provided an update on recent resiliency activities, healthcare resiliency project, the Military Installation Resilience Review, and the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative. Staff is also working on a compilation of vulnerability assessments to draft a regional vulnerability assessment. Discussion followed.

Program Spotlight: Strategic Regional Policy Plan Review-Part 1

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the process involved in revising the Regional Council's Strategic Regional Policy Plan, which is done every five years. He reviewed the proposed changes, shown as strikethrough and underlined, of the first four elements. **Element 1:** Demographics and Equity. **Determination:** Delete this element – it is not a required element, and this type of data is available anywhere. **Element 2:** Community and Affordable Housing. **Determination:** This was based on the former Elevate Northeast Florida project, now sunset. We have added information about the First Coast Well-Being Index, which is the digital platform where we house data in real time. **Element 3:** Economic Development. **Determination:** This was also based on the former Elevate Northeast Florida project along with the Florida Chamber's 6 pillars. We just deleted that reference and made some very small changes to the goals and policies to clean up language. **Element 4:** Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency of the Built Environment. **Determination:** Take out Resiliency and make it its own standalone element. This will come back to the Board in April. We have taken everything related to resiliency and maintained all the emergency preparedness, related information.

Mr. Anderson indicated that this process will be repeated over the next several months with a final draft presented to the Board for adoption in June 2025. The Members were asked to provide any feedback to staff for consideration. A brief discussion followed.

Regional Leadership Academy

Mr. Nolen directed the Members' attention to the list of attendees in this year's Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) class. These participants represent different agencies, organizations, and subject matters. Ultimately, the RLA graduates become members of the Regional Community Institute; the policy think tank for the Regional Council. He stated the class will meet one day in each of the seven counties, which includes a military installation day. The class meets on the last Wednesday of each month and begins January 29th in Baker County.

2024 Regional Awards of Excellence Winners

Mr. Nolen informed the Members of the process involved in the solicitation of nominations and selection of winners. However, due to meeting conflicts in December, the Executive Committee did not meet to complete this task, and an alternate process was utilized through the President. A press release was issued announcing this year's winners. Among those is a special achievement award in conservation to former St. Johns County Commissioner Henry Dean for his work in conservation. Our regional leadership award goes to former City of St. Augustine Commissioner Roxanne Horvath. Staff look forward to acknowledging all the achievements in the ceremony to immediately follow this meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. John J. Nooney, 8356 Bascom Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32216, Re: Potential Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) public park on Pottsburg Creek. He stated it is almost two years since he addressed the NEFRC. He requested that his handout be made part of the permanent record, so the Members can all look at it later. He stated that when he came here April 6, 2023, before the elections, Joyce Morgan and Randy DeFoor were the Duval County representatives. He was here advocating for the Beth Payne Northeast Florida Regional Center for Resiliency. After the election is the resiliency stuff and stated he's in it four times. That is a port inland navigation district. Now there is new leadership on Waterways in Duval County, and he stated this was the October 18th Finance Subcommittee meeting. You have land acquisition, there are two projects. A month later, the November 14th Waterways Commission, now there are three and it is on Pottsburg Creek, 2.5 acres, category one wetlands. He shares that when you are talking about resiliency quality of life, they hit every box: JEA, JTA, and the Council on Elder Affairs. This was the October meeting, and he was on the agenda. He urges people to know their Tree Commission. He will be at that meeting on January 15th. But the thing is, you all have control of this place, hit every box you want, and then just tell the world to visit Jacksonville, not only Jacksonville, the North Florida Region. Thank you very much for listening. A copy of handout is attached.

Local and Regional Issues Discussion – Nothing to report.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORT

FloridaCommerce – Mr. Register shared an article from LinkedIn on the fastest growing jobs for 2025. Their research shows that 64% of workers feel overwhelmed by the pace of the workplace shifts that we are seeing today. He shared a few highlights from the article on the fastest growing jobs: Number one – AI Engineer; number 2 - AI consultant; number 4 - workforce development managers; number 9 – sustainability specialist; number 11 - community planners; and number 12 - AI researchers.

Florida Department of Transportation – **Mr. Dixon** stated that FDOT's 5-year tenants of work program is now online and provided directions on accessing the information via Google Search.

Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver announced that DEP will be launching their 2025 Environmental Resource Permitting Workshop series with their target audience being local municipalities, environmental consultants, and real estate agents. The first workshop is scheduled for February 19th and will then take place quarterly throughout 2025. Topics will range from the general permitting process, dock permitting requirements, shoreline stabilization permitting requirements. The goal is to focus on commonly missed items to ease the permitting process for those that are coming into our offices. If anybody is interested, details are on the DEP website. Ms. Craver stated she is a resource here for the Members, and is happy to collaborate, coordinate, and continue our working relationship.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey shared that beginning in December 2023, local governments have 18 months to comply with the statutory requirement to update their water supply facilities workplan. He noted that some 30+ communities or governments have not yet done so. The District will be reaching out to them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Payne stated she is excited to have all these new faces around the table and looks forward to meeting one-on-one with you soon.

Ms. Payne reminded the Members of the recent hiring of an attorney for the Regional Council; the Douglas Law Firm with Mr. Jeremiah Blocker as our main point of contact. She will discuss this at the next Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee meeting in February.

We look forward to some fellowship with you all downstairs. Thank you so much for being here.

Next Meeting Date: February 6, 2025

Meeting Adjourned: 11:52 a.m.

Jim Renninger
President

Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer

DRAFT

Agenda Item

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{DS}
DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: DECEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$20,254 for the month of December and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$10,233.



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Regional Council - Agencywide	Adopted Budget 24/25	December 2024	YTD	Represents 25% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
Revenues					
County Dues	\$ 694,757	57,896	173,689	25%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 416,296	19,976	59,871	14%	-11%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 182,895	21,325	66,881	37%	12%
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 14,077	1,054	1,291	9%	-16%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 80,000	8,425	27,699	35%	10%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 79,000	16,650	16,650	21%	-4%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Health	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	26,025	122,169	16%	-9%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 120,000	8,324	25,580	21%	-4%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 159,852	9,899	27,888	17%	-8%
Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)	\$ 700,000	2,759	8,367	1%	-24%
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$ 55,566	1,488	4,472	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ 150,000	-	-	0%	-25%
Florida Department of Commerce	\$ -	3,487	13,771	0%	-25%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$ 70,000	3,709	12,341	18%	-7%
Disaster Recovery Coordinator	\$ 82,513	6,183	22,253	27%	2%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 4,900	-	-	0%	-25%
Other Revenue	\$ 15,950	1,495	4,218	26%	1%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 188,698	\$ 587,139	16%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$ -	\$ (20,254)	\$ (10,233)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 168,445	\$ 576,906	16%	
Expenses					
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,848,213	120,643	402,492	22%	-3%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 1,264,351	20,816	63,896	5%	-20%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 234,425	19,218	60,994	26%	1%
General Fund Expense*	\$ 237,529	7,769	49,525	21%	-4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,584,518	\$ 168,445	\$ 576,906	16%	
Net Income (loss)	\$ -	20,254	\$ 10,233		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
 Balance Sheet
 December 2024

	FY 22/23	FY 23/24
	<u>December 2023</u>	<u>December 2024</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	2,254,171	2,012,370
Accounts Receivable	496,450	675,923
Pension Deferred Outflows	439,576	425,550
WJCT Security Deposit	7,400	-
Total Current Assets	<u>3,197,596</u>	<u>3,113,843</u>
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	<u>306,583</u>	<u>261,430</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>195,374</u>	<u>161,953</u>
Total Property and Equipment, net	<u>111,209</u>	<u>99,477</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>3,308,805</u></u>	<u><u>3,213,320</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	2,713	3,868
Accrued Salaries and Leave	108,609	116,164
Deferred Revenue	154,475	18,391
Pension Liability	1,087,234	1,355,550
Pension Deferred Inflows	56,671	49,234
Total Liabilities	<u><u>1,409,702</u></u>	<u><u>1,543,207</u></u>
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	<u>1,899,103</u>	<u>1,670,113</u>
Total Equity and Other Credits	<u>1,899,103</u>	<u>1,670,113</u>
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	<u><u>3,308,805</u></u>	<u><u>3,213,320</u></u>





YTD Comparison

	23/24	24/25	23/24	24/25
	Net Income (Loss)	Net Income (Loss)	Cash Balance	Cash Balance

AGENCYWIDE

October	\$ 9,014	\$ 7,921	\$ 2,430,628	\$ 2,105,273
November	\$ 28,148	\$ (10,020)	\$ 2,442,307	\$ 2,091,118
December	\$ 46,934	\$ 10,233	\$ 2,254,171	\$ 2,012,370
January	\$ 54,754		\$ 2,330,658	
February	\$ 70,318		\$ 2,188,836	
March	\$ 86,943		\$ 2,021,882	
April	\$ 79,901		\$ 2,077,251	
May	\$ 91,660		\$ 2,136,499	
June	\$ 105,330		\$ 1,780,669	
July	\$ 117,153		\$ 1,940,218	
August	\$ 120,255		\$ 1,876,280	
September	\$ 82,616		\$ 2,013,847	




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DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025
TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 
FROM: ^{DS} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
RE: DECEMBER 2024 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
December Interest	\$ 1,491	\$ 1,455
Year to Date Interest	\$ 4,014	\$ 4,177
Florida Local Government Investment Trust	<u>FY 23/24</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u>
Current Balance	\$18,592	\$19,486



Agenda

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025
TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 
FROM: ROBERT JORDAN, SENIOR 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 (SRPP). The review is also limited to extra-jurisdictional impacts that are 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 and policy texts 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 the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the St. Johns County Transmitted Amendment COMP 2024-03.

REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

February 2025 Board Review- 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
St. Johns County COMAPMD 24-03	1	X		St. Johns	2-7-2025	COMP 24-003

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment seeks to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of approximately 120 acres from Rural/Silviculture (R/S) to Rural Commercial (RC). The property is located at 8000 U.S. 1 South. A companion rezoning application will be heard concurrently at Adoption hearings for the Amendment.
- **Background:** The requested amendment proposes expanding the current equestrian activities and primitive campground to include an RV campground. According to the applicant, RV Campsites are currently limited in availability within the County. The applicant in the application explains that the site will be ideally situated near a variety of trails, parks, beaches, and areas of natural resources. Please see Maps 1-3 in the Appendix for additional information.
- **Impacts:** The proposed site fronts U.S. 1, a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. The applicant intends to expand the existing equestrian activities and primate campground to include an RV campground, providing 316 total campsites. The proposed development of campground/recreational vehicle park with 315 RV sites is estimated to generate 85 trips occurring during the weekday P.M. peak hour (4 P.M. to 6 P.M.) This calculation is based on all 316 RV sites being occupied. The St. Johns County Planning Department provided comments that the proposed development is required to pay road impact fees at the time of permitting for non-residential development. The proposed site is adjacent to Matanzas State Forest and Wildlife Management Area, a Natural Resources of Regional Significance. The Matanzas State Forest, which is managed by the Florida Forest Service, uses prescribed fires within the boundaries for the management of the forest. The Florida Forest Service has implemented a Firewise community approach for wildfire prevention statewide. The County Environmental Division recommends consideration of development planning to include Firewise USA program principles.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering that this development is close to the County boundary, NEFRC recommends coordination with the Flagler County Growth Management Department and the Town of Marineland. The Flagler County Growth Management Department was included in the transmittal of the proposed amendment.

Appendix

Exhibit 1: St. Johns County 24-03 (Location Map)

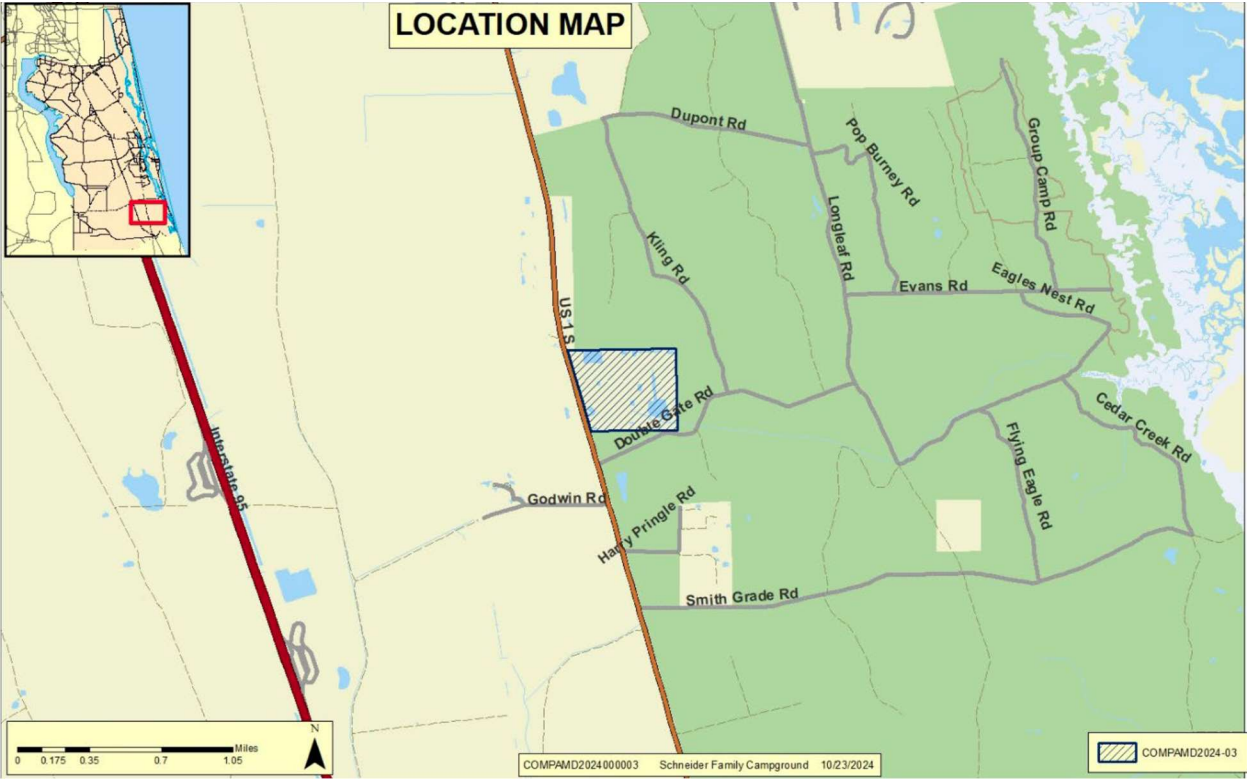


Exhibit 2: St. Johns County 24-03 (Existing Future Land Use Map)

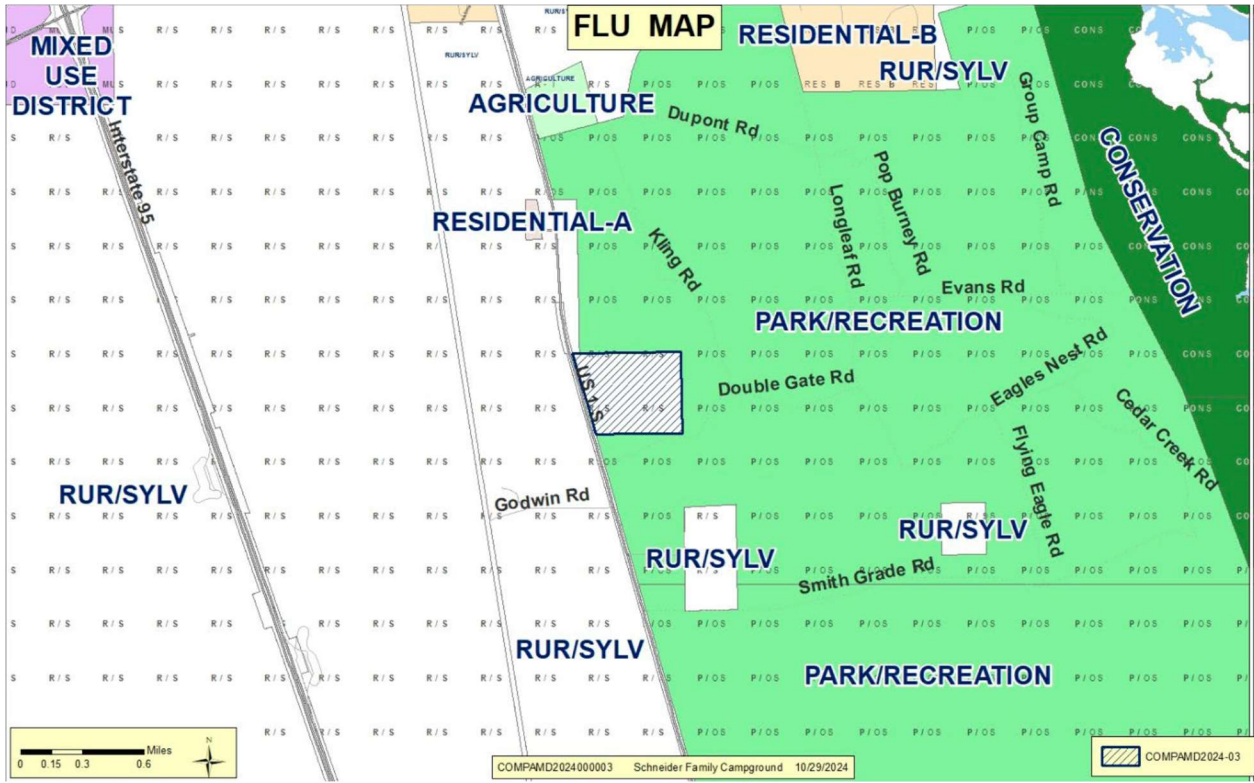
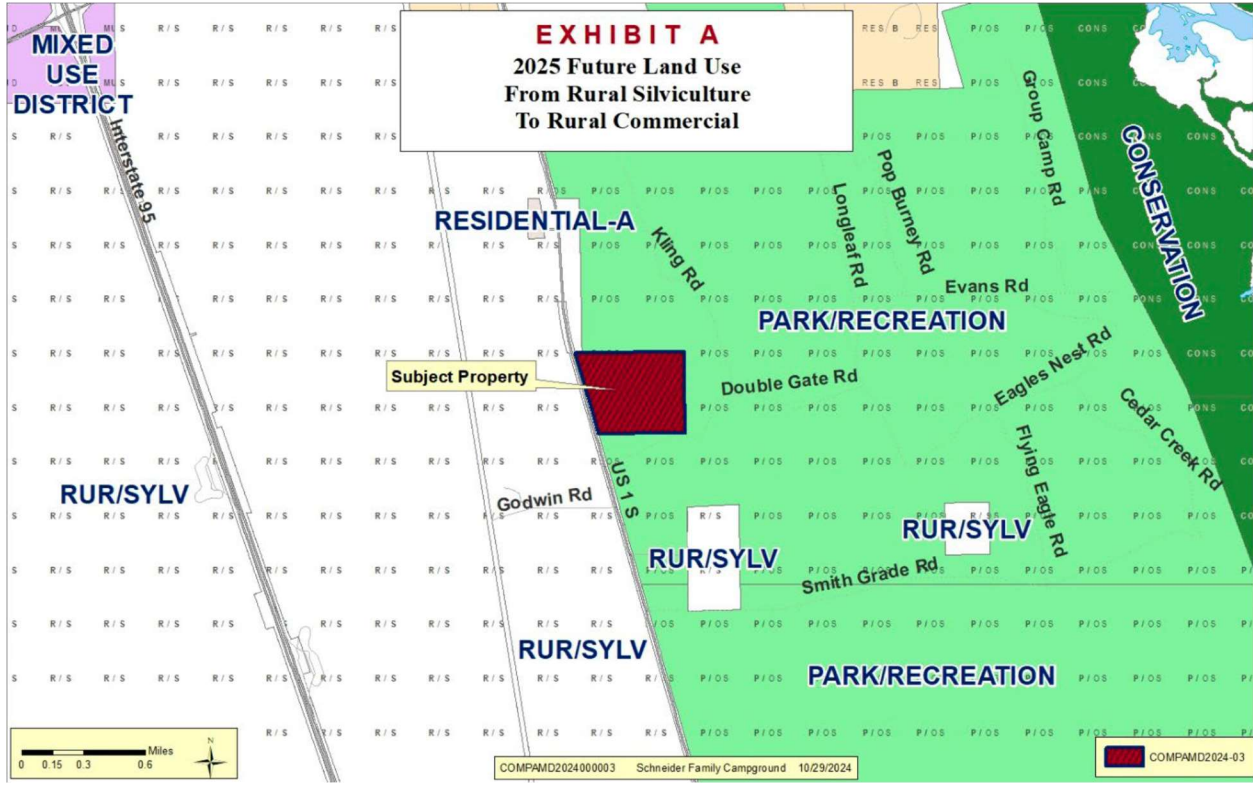


Exhibit 3: St. Johns County 24-03 (Proposed Future Land Use Map)



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BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{DS} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 AUDIT

The Fiscal Year 2023/2024 audit is currently being finalized and will be presented at the February 2025 board meeting by our auditors, James Moore and Company.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.



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DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{DS} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: NEFRC FISCAL YEAR 23/24 CLOSEOUT

Staff is currently finalizing the fiscal year 2023/2024 revenues and expenditures. A final reconciliation of budgeted and actual revenues and expenditures will be provided at the February 2025 board meeting.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: **MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE PRESENTATION**

The Community Planning and Liaison Officer for Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport will present information pertaining to resilience of these military installations. This will include background on the importance of the Navy in the Region and the criticality for local governments to support the work of the installations, and to consider the impacts of local decision-making on the military mission.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: PERSONNEL, BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE REVIEW RFP

As part of the Military Installation Resilience Review project, staff issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to provide technical services for completion of the project. The RFP was issued on December 12, 2024, with responses due by January 13, 2025.

There are five members on the selection committee:

- Ms. Beth Payne, CEO, NEFRC
- Ms. Fara Ilami, Regional Resiliency Manager, NEFRC
- Ms. Donna Starling, CFO, NEFRC
- Mr. James Richardson, Program Administrator, Environmental Protection Board, City of Jacksonville
- Chief David Motes, Fire Chief and Assistant County Administrator, Clay County

Three proposals were received. Interviews were held with each of the three vendors on Friday, January 24th. The selection committee meets on Monday, February 3rd to determine final recommendations for consideration by the Personnel, Budget and Finance Committee and ultimately, the Board of Directors.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

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, including the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, its Steering Committee, and its Subcommittees. This update will also include the following:

- Progress towards the Northeast Florida Military Installation Resilience Review,
- Status of the FY 2024-2025 Regional Resilience Entity Grant from the Florida Department of Protection's Resilient Florida Program,
- Overview of areas in the Region that have been prioritized for resilience measures,
- Announcement of a new Vulnerability Assessment project for the Town of Baldwin,
- Upcoming unique opportunities for Baker County provided by our non-profit partners and other agencies, and
- Progress on Flagler County's Compound Flooding Analysis and Adaptation Plan.

In addition, some of the recent benefits of collaborative sharing across other organizations and other states will be highlighted.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ERIC ANDERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN – INITIAL REVIEW AND FEEDBACK PART 2

Pursuant to the State and Regional Planning Act, the Northeast Florida Regional Council maintains a Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) that addresses the five required issue areas: Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Emergency Preparedness, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, and Regional Transportation. The SRPP also contains four regional issue areas: Health, Energy, Cultivation and Demographics, and Equity.

At the November 2024 meeting, the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors approved the 2024 Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Assessment and authorized staff to begin the SRPP five-year update. As such, staff has prepared an initial draft of four (issue areas) for review and feedback.

This is meant to be an initial step to highlight changes and trends in data, validate or amend regionally significant issue areas, and provide a general state of the region. A formal draft will be returned before the Board at the June 5, 2025 meeting.

The drafts show track changes, with red deletions and blue additions. Draft maps have been included but will be updated for formal adoption.

- **Energy** - The State Statute does not require this element; staff recommend deleting it.
- **Health** - The State Statute does not require this element; staff recommend deleting it.
- **Natural Resources of Regional Significance**
- **Regional Transportation**

The Cultivation and Resilience Elements will be brought before the Board for review in April.

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Energy



Energy

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ENERGY TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Energy Element includes information about energy use, available energy sources and recommendations to help Northeast Florida become more energy independent. Energy independence is vitally important for national security and economic stability because of our reliance on fuel imported from other nations and sources of energy that have become increasingly scarce and costly to obtain. Ways to achieve energy independence include: conserving energy; using energy efficiently; utilizing renewable and alternative energy sources; and utilizing local resources. It should be noted that there are objectives with no policies in this element. This is the case when it is not yet clear what role NEFRC will have in the implementation of the objective.

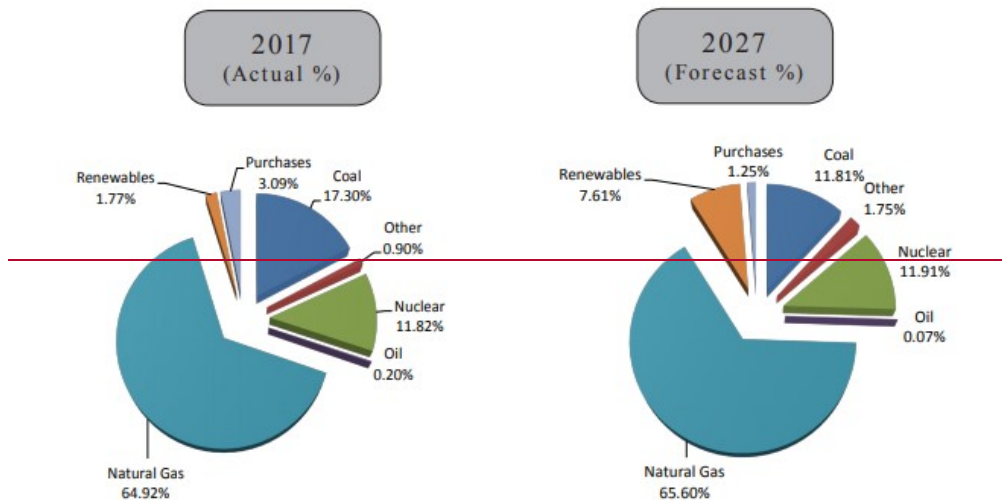
ENERGY IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

The State of Florida has its concerns and responsibilities toward energy, which stems from the following facts:

- a. Florida's energy usage is in part for transportation and electric power generation
- b. Florida depends on petroleum, ranking fourth in all states
- c. Florida is one of the nation's largest net fossil fuel consumers

As shown in the chart in Figure 1, the main source of energy in Florida is currently natural gas. Natural gas will continue to be Florida's main source of energy in the future.

Figure 1: Florida Energy Consumption Estimates 2017



Source: FRCC 2018 Regional Load & Resource Plan

Energy resources and infrastructure are critical to Northeast Florida’s ability to expand, diversify, and compete economically. This energy document is divided into two sections. The first discussion relates to power and electric generation. The second discussion relates to transportation energy.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: POWER ALTERNATIVES AND RESILIENCY

The following discussion provides an overview of energy sources being utilized throughout the region. The energy sources included are electricity and natural gas. These may be considered traditional energy sources. Later discussion relate to other sources including nuclear power and renewable energy.

Electricity

There are nine providers of electricity within Northeast Florida. They are:

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – JEA is the eighth largest municipally-owned electric utility in the United States in terms of number of customers. JEA’s electric service area covers all of Duval County and portions of Clay and St. Johns Counties. JEA’s service area covers approximately 900 square miles and serves more than 420,000 electric customers. JEA operates five coal-fired power plants in the Northeast Florida Region.

Florida Power & Light (FPL) – FPL is an investor-owned electric utility company that services portions of Northeast Florida. FPL is the largest electric utility in Florida and

serves approximately 4.5 million customers in Florida. Florida Power and Light operates a steam generation plant in Putnam and St. Johns Counties.

Clay Electric Cooperative—The Clay Electric Cooperative covers most of Clay and Putnam Counties, the southern half of Baker County, and a southwestern portion of Duval County.

Beaches Energy Services—Beaches Energy powers more than 35,000 customers throughout Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra, and Palm Valley. The utility has a non-generating power plant at Jacksonville Beach.

Seminole Electric—Seminole Member Cooperative includes Clay Electric Cooperative. The Seminole Generation Station (SGS) Units 1 and 2 are 650 MW coal fired units located five miles north of Palatka in Putnam County. SGS Unit 3 is a 750 MW coal-fired electrical generating unit located near Units 1 and 2.

Duke Energy Florida—Serves the southwestern portion of Flagler County. Progress Energy merged with Duke Energy in July 2012. The new Duke Energy is the largest regulated utility in the U.S., with approximately seven million customers across six states.

Florida Public Utilities—Florida Public Utilities (FPU) provides natural gas, propane and electric service to homes and businesses throughout Florida. In Northeast Florida, FPU covers the eastern half of Nassau County.

Green Cove Springs Electric Utility—The City of Green Cove Springs began providing electric power to its citizens and the surrounding community in 1907. Now over 100 years later, the Public Power Utility continues to provide service to the City of Green Cove Springs and a surrounding customer base in Clay County. The utility has a non-generating power plant in Green Cove Springs.

Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC)—The Okefenoke REMC covers the western half of Nassau County and the northern half of Baker County. REMC is an electric cooperative powering more than 35,000 residential consumer member, commercial and industrial accounts in southeast Georgia and northeast Florida

Investor-Owned Electric Utilities

Figure 2 depicts the number of customers served by Florida Power and Light, Duke Energy Florida, and Florida Public Utilities Corporation. These are the three investor owned utilities that operate in the Northeast Florida Region. The numbers included in the table account for customers in the entire service area of the utility corporation, not just in Northeast Florida. Investor-owned utilities are those that generate power and sell. Municipals and cooperatives are non-generating companies that purchase power.

Figure 2: Investor-Owned Utility Customers

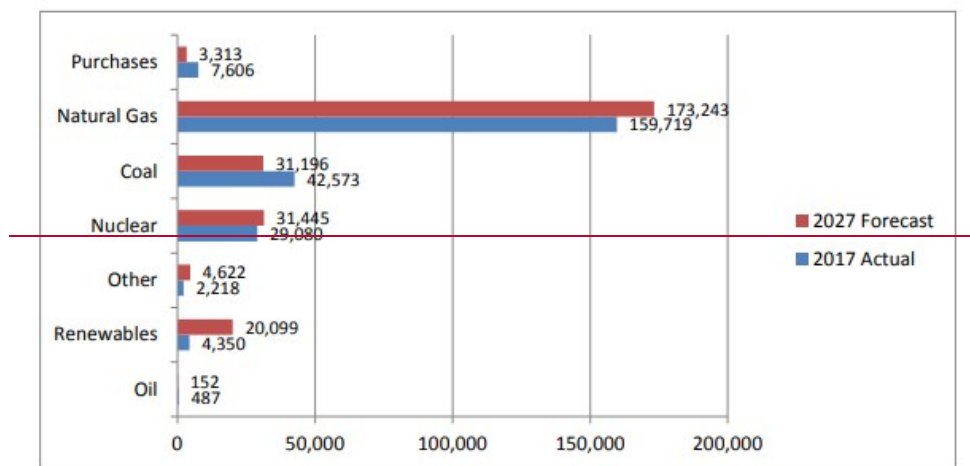
UTILITY	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	OTHER	TOTAL
Florida Power & Light Co.	4,338,224	547,908	11,654	4,085	4,901,871
Duke Energy Florida	1,677,197	179,206	2,135	27,029	1,885,567
Florida Public Utilities Co.	24,575	4,409	2	3,006	31,992

Source: Facts and Figures of the Florida Utility Industry, Florida Public Service Commission, 2019

Natural Gas

Northeast Florida utilities get a portion of power from natural gas. The region is dependent on two natural gas distribution systems, the Florida Gas Transmission Pipeline, which traverses Clay, Duval, and Nassau Counties, and the Southern Natural Gas Pipeline, which traverses Baker and Nassau Counties. A municipal and a gas district are located in Putnam County. The Peoples Gas System is an investor-owned company in Nassau, Duval, and Clay Counties. Much of the natural gas supplied to this Region come from the Gulf Coast states. The natural gas pipelines in this Region are energy resources of Regional significance. Natural gas will continue to be an important energy resource for Florida.

Figure 3: State of Florida - Energy Sources



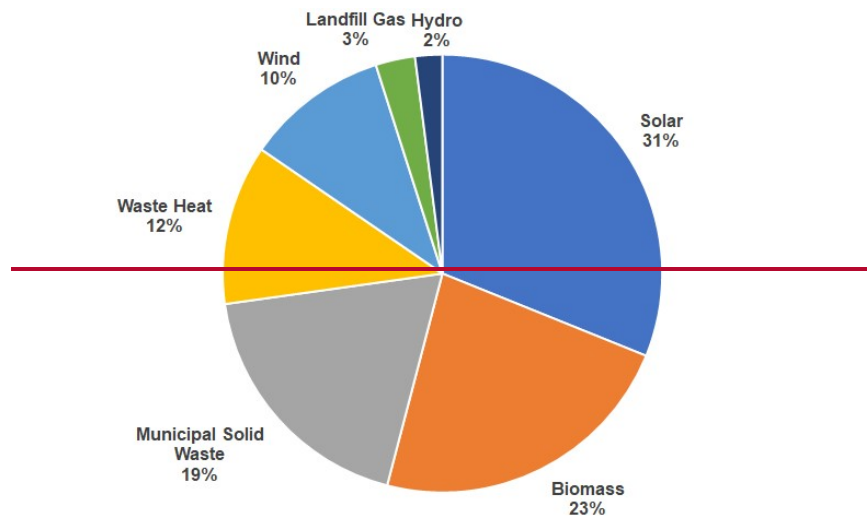
FRCC 2018 Regional Load & Resource Plan

Other Sources of Energy

This section provides an overview of solar, wind, biomass, biofuel, and other renewable energy sources available to utilities in Northeast Florida. While there are other providers and distributors of energy to the Region, JEA and Seminole Electric are the only producers of electricity in this Region. Therefore, when applicable, the following section focuses on

these two utility generators and their programs related to alternative sources. Seminole Electric does not have any alternative fuel sources in this Region.

Figure 4: Renewable Energy Sources in Florida



Source: FPSC's Review of 2018 Ten-Year Site Plans for Florida's Electric Utilities, November 2018

Based on the trends for electric energy sources for Northeast Florida it can be stated that the Region is not diverse in fuel sources and has a disproportionate dependency on coal to generate the Region's electricity. The Region is in its early stages of alternative fuel source development.

There are several alternative energy sources being utilized in Northeast Florida:

Solar – Solar photovoltaic (PV) may be high in price initially and require large installations but there are no fuel costs and the carbon emissions are generally non-existent. A utility must consider the costs and benefits. Recent years have seen increased development of solar generating facilities in Northeast Florida. JEA purchased a power agreement with Jacksonville Solar, LLC to provide energy from a 15.0 MW DC-rated solar farm. JEA expanded universal solar by contracting with eight new solar installations, increasing installed solar by 350 percent, and launched the JEA SolarSmart program that allows customers to choose to have up to 100 percent of their power come from solar. JEA was also recognized by T&D World for leadership in integrating intermittent renewable energy resources without compromising power quality and reliability. JEA also has one of the largest solar PV systems in the Southeast at the Jacksonville International Airport. In addition, JEA has provided incentives for over 400 solar domestic hot water systems. Florida Power & Light is close to completion of a solar generating facility in Baker County, with two more proposed as of August, 2020.

Landfill—This energy source is predominantly methane collected from landfills. JEA owns three internal combustion engine generators that are fueled by the methane gas produced by the landfill. JEA also receives landfill gas from the Northside landfill, which is fed to the Northside Generating Station and is used to generate power at Northside Unit 3.

Wind—JEA purchases 10MW of wind capacity from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and in turn the NPPD buys back the energy at specified on/off peak charges. JEA and other utilities receive federal environmental credits associated with green projects.

Biomass—Biomass is material collected from wood processing, forestry, urban wood waste, agricultural waste, and other plant and biological sources. JEA continues to conduct research and evaluate the feasibility of this energy source.

Nuclear—In March 2008, JEA approved the policy of pursuing nuclear energy partnerships with the goal of providing ten (10%) percent of JEA's power from nuclear sources. In June 2008, JEA entered into a purchase power agreement with the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) for a portion of MEAG's entitlement to the Vogtle Units 3 and 4, new nuclear units proposed to be constructed at the existing Plant Vogtle located in Burke County, Georgia.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: MOTOR FUEL ALTERNATIVES AND RESILIENCY

The following discussion provides an overview of energy sources being utilized throughout the region for transportation related needs. The energy sources included in the following discussion are petroleum, gasoline, natural gas, biofuels and electric vehicles.

Introduction and Overview

Affordable transportation of people and goods is vital to economic health. When the price of oil rises, the U.S. suffers as costs for transportation, food, and other goods increase. Because 95% of the country's transportation is powered by oil, few options are available when prices jump, causing the nation's welfare to be dependent upon the whims of the global oil market. Supply disruptions, or even the threat of disruption in the Middle East or elsewhere can cause price shifts that cost consumers and industries billions of dollars.

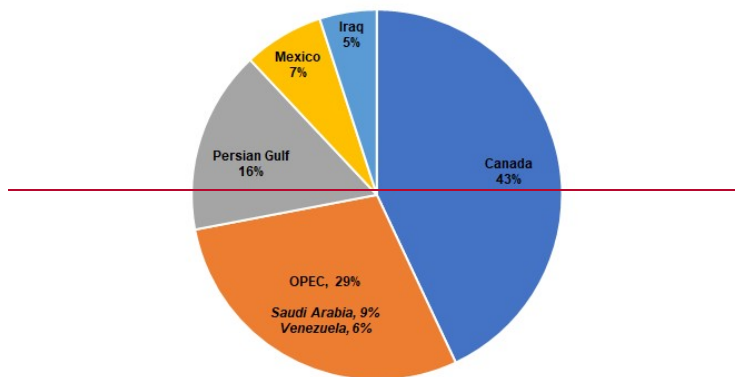
The North Florida Clean Cities Coalition is working to bring more viable alternative fuels and energy-efficient vehicles to this Region. This non-profit organization serves business, government, and non-profit agencies in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns

Counties. The Coalition advocates using alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies to achieve a triad of missions: reduce dependence on imported petroleum, develop Regional economic opportunities, and improve air quality.

Petroleum

Petroleum provides nearly forty (40%) percent of total U.S. energy demand and the transportation sector uses seventy (70%) percent of all petroleum in the U.S.

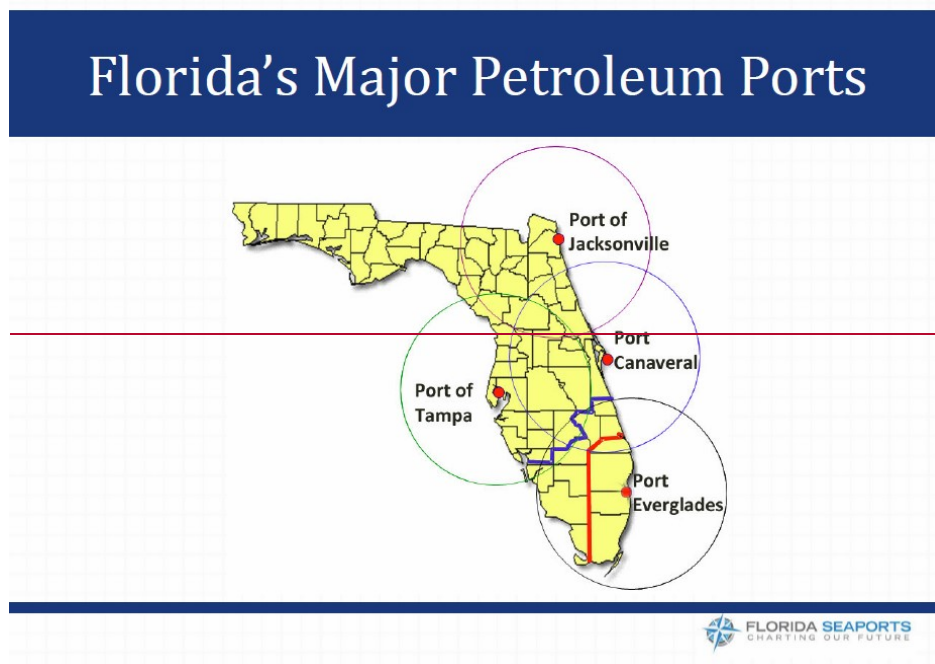
Figure 5: Sources of US Oil Imports 2018



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, October 2018

The United States imports a large amount of the oil it consumes. The U.S. imports forty-three percent (43%) of its oil from Canada and twenty-nine percent (29%) from OPEC. The U.S. Government Accountability Office reports that oil production will likely peak by 2040.

The State of Florida has four (4) major petroleum ports that are identified in Figure 6 below. The Port of Jacksonville is one of Florida’s major petroleum ports.

Figure 6: Florida's Major Petroleum Ports

Source: Florida's Seaports

Other Sources of Motor Fuels

Natural Gas—Natural gas is an attractive transportation fuel because it burns cleaner than other fossil fuels. Natural gas vehicles produce up to thirty (30%) percent less greenhouse gas emissions than comparable gas or diesel vehicles. According to the American Public Transit Association, alternative fuels powered more than half of all U.S. transit buses in 2018. Between 2008-2018, the share of conventional diesel buses dropped from 70% to 42%. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, natural gas powers more than 175,000 vehicles in the United States and roughly 23 million vehicles worldwide. Domestic natural gas production is predicted to grow in the coming decades, reducing the need for natural gas imports. Shale gas is expected to be the largest source of natural gas in the future, accounting for nearly fifty (50%) percent of total U.S. natural gas production in 2035, compared to 16 percent in 2009. Depending on vehicle size and type, natural gas vehicles can provide better fuel efficiency, lower operating costs, and reduced emissions compared to conventional fuels. They emit fewer harmful greenhouse gas pollutants (i.e. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gasses).

Biofuels—Biofuels are projected to become a larger portion of the nation's fuel supply in the coming years. Biofuels can be produced from plants, algae, agricultural waste, food waste, municipal solid waste, and other sources. Ethanol and biodiesel are the two most

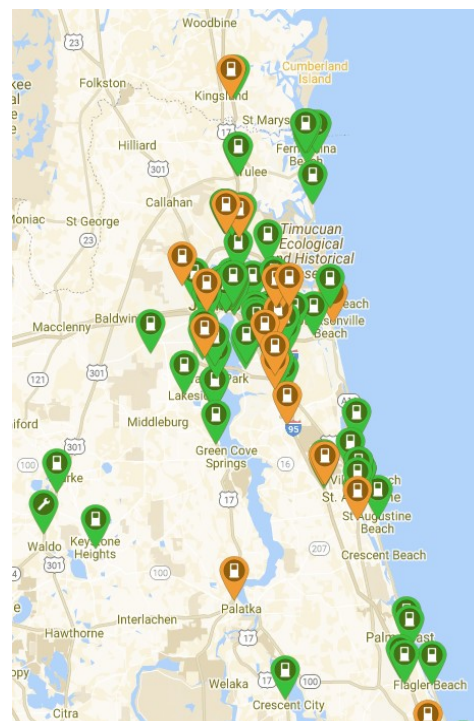
common types of biofuel produced in the U.S. In this Region, St. Johns County has a biodiesel fuel program. Residents can bring used cooking grease to five collection points to be recycled into biodiesel fuel. At the Federal level, the policy is to look into ethanol. However, this Region does not produce any ethanol as a fuel source.

Electric Vehicles – Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming more popular nationally due to incentives, advanced motor and battery technologies, higher gasoline prices, and environmental concerns. Electricity prices fluctuate far less than oil prices, so increased reliance on electricity for transportation could help make transportation costs more predictable and reduce the negative economic effects of oil price fluctuations. Electric vehicles themselves have zero emissions, although generating the electricity to power the vehicle may produce emissions. Depending on where the EV is charged, its power will come from a varying mix of coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewable energy. The dominant source of electrical generation in Northeast Florida is dependent on coal. Electric or hybrid vehicles are charged with charging units that can be installed at home, the workplace, or in public areas. Electric vehicle charging stations have become increasingly more visible throughout the region over the past decade. In 2014, there were only eight public charging stations in the region. Since that time, there has been a significant increase in public charging stations located throughout Northeast Florida. Figure 7 depicts the number of public charging stations located in various locations across north and central Florida.

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

The Energy Resources of Regional Significance map shows the natural gas pipelines, the major electric transmission lines as defined by 403.522 F.S., and the power generation plants in the Northeast Florida Region. There are two pipelines, the Southern Natural Gas and the Florida Gas Transmission pipeline. There are six power plants, five JEA plants, all in Duval County and one Seminole Electric Plant in Putnam County. Pipelines, distribution facilities, power generation sites, and major transmission

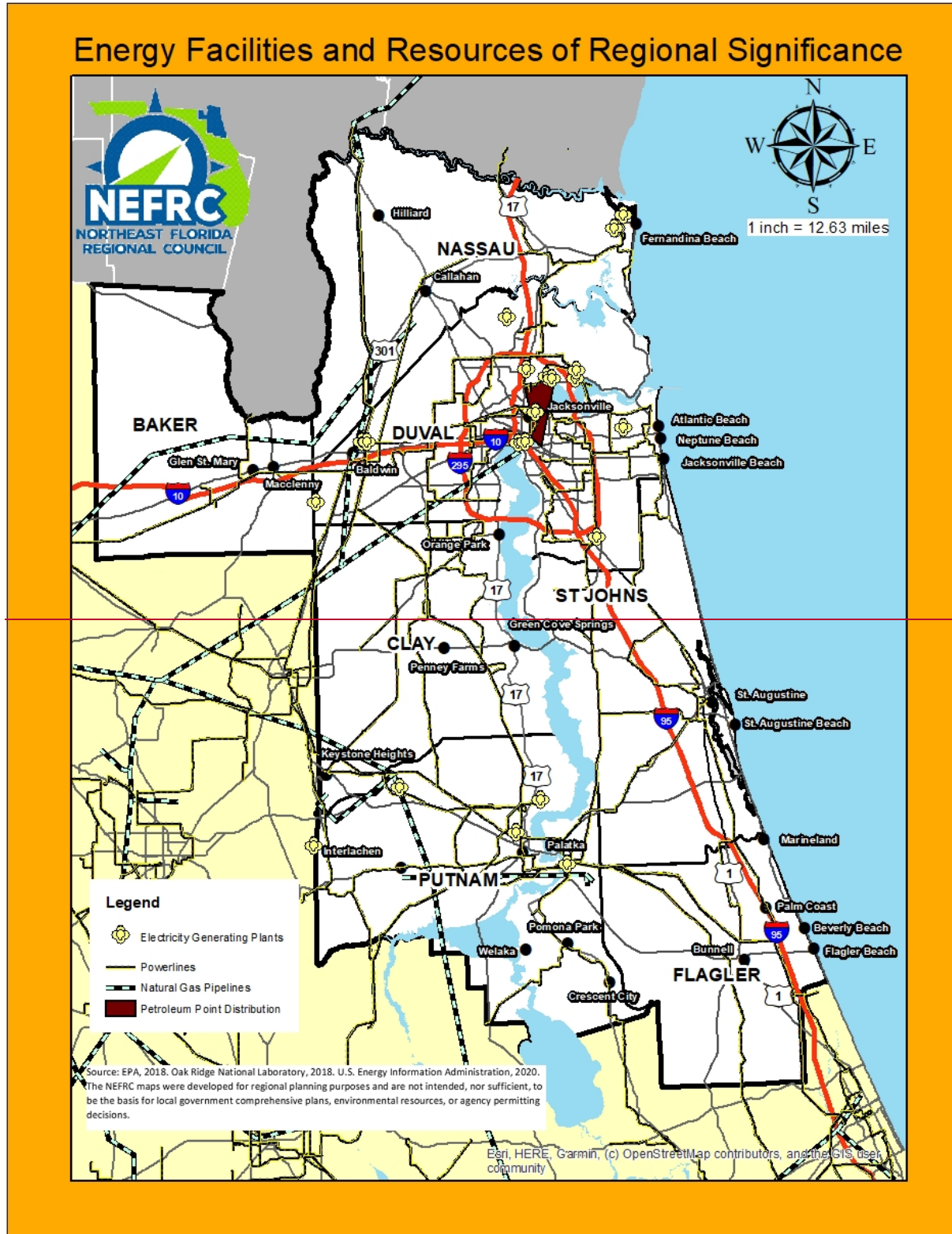
Figure 17: Number of Public Charging Stations



Source: plugshare.com

~~lines are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.~~

Resources of Regional Significance: Energy Facilities And Resources



GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: A region that is flexible, innovative and takes full advantage of the diversity of potential energy sources, especially local sources. We will not wait for federal or state guidance or mandates to act if action can benefit the region. We acknowledge that, as a region vulnerable to natural disasters, resiliency and redundancy in energy, both in motor fuel and power, can set us apart from regions that choose not to address these issues that can be of large impact to business and residents.

Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership

OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT CAPITALIZES ON ITS REGIONAL STRENGTHS, WHERE ENERGY IS RELIABLE, AVAILABLE, AND ABUNDANT

OBJECTIVE: A FOCUS ON WHAT WORKS FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA TODAY, WITH STRATEGIES THAT ARE FREQUENTLY RE-EXAMINED TO ADDRESS CHANGE

OBJECTIVE: REDUCED DEPENDENCY ON FOREIGN OIL

OBJECTIVE: PRIORITIZED AND INCENTIVIZED ENERGY INVESTMENTS

OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT USES A DIVERSITY OF ENERGY SOURCES, INCLUDING RENEWABLES

Policies

Policy 1: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(11)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 2: NEFRC considers impacts to resources of regional significance and extra jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally

~~acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.~~

~~**Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)**~~

ENERGY MEASURES

Northeast Florida Greenhouse Gas *GHG) Emissions 2017 (Metric Tons)

LOCATION	VEHICLES	NATURAL GAS	ELECTRICITY	TOTAL GHG EMISSIONS
Jacksonville, Duval County	5,879,770	869,755	5,107,309	11,856,834
Fernandina Beach, Nassau County	94,730	66,420	140,971	302,121
Palatka, Putnam County	48,504	42,495	203,411	294,410
St. Augustine, St. Johns County	78,824	817	116,828	196,469
Bunnell, Flagler County	33,707	328	26,778	60,813
Green Cove Springs, Clay County	25,544	1,334	31,270	58,148
Macclenny, Baker County	16,609	310	37,246	54,165

Source: <https://www.eere.energy.gov/sled/>

Electricity Sales to Customers

UTILITY PROVIDER	MEGAWATTS
Green Cove Springs (Clay)	108,398
Beaches Energy Services	690,398
JEA (Clay, Duval, St. Johns)	12,325,781
Clay Electric (Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Putnam)	3,316,392
Okefenokee (Baker, Nassau)	167,127
*Florida Power and Light	110,053,141
*Florida Public Utilities	634,763
*Duke Energy Florida	39,144,651

Source: Florida Public Service Commission, 2018 Statistics of the Florida Electric Utility Industry

***Includes customers outside of Northeast Florida**

~~2018 Northeast Florida Power Generation Site Fuel Sources~~

JEA

<i>Fuel Source</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>Natural Gas</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Coal</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>Purchases</i>	<i>18%</i>
<i>Petroleum Coke</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>Oil</i>	<i>0%</i>

Source: 2018 JEA Annual Report

~~SEMINOLE ELECTRIC | UNITS 1 & 2 IN PUTNAM COUNTY~~

<i>Fuel Source</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>Bituminous Coal and Petroleum Coke</i>	<i>100%</i>

Source: Seminole Ten Year Site Plan

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Regional Health



Regional Health

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Food Deserts in Northeast Florida.....5

REGIONAL HEALTH TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

This chapter was originally developed with input from the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida Inc., and the many partners who helped us understand health issues as we developed First Coast Vision. **It should be noted that there are objectives with no policies in this element. This is the case when it is not yet clear what role NEFRC will have in the implementation of the objective.**

According to the World Health Organization, health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Globally, the paradigm shift in public health from sickness and disease towards wellness and prevention is prompting increased cross-sector integrated strategies. Four primary areas of prevention include building healthy and safe communities; expanding quality preventive services in both clinical and community settings; empowering people to make healthy choices; and eliminating health disparities.

Healthy People 2020, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies, provides structure and guidance for achieving better population health by the year 2020. This framework offers specific, important areas of emphasis where action is needed in the United States to attain better health outcomes. The four over-arching goals of the framework are:

- Attain high quality, longer lives free of preventable disease, disability, injury, and premature death;
- Achieve health equity, eliminate disparities, and improve the health of all groups;
- Create social and physical environments that promote good health for all; and
- Promote quality of life, healthy development, and healthy behaviors across all life stages.

A renewed emphasis on the relationships between economic, social, and political factors and health and mental well-being status is transforming local leaders' perspectives on identifying the most leveraged loci of change in health improvement. Health behaviors are determined from, and influenced by, a multitude of factors that are personal (i.e., biological, psychological); organizational and environmental (i.e., both social and physical); and policy and programs. Social justice challenges in poor communities and rural areas exacerbate the potential impacts of these factors. Significant and dynamic interconnections that exist among these various levels of health determinants will most likely influence effective

interventions when health determinants are addressed at all levels. Healthy People 2020 identifies the following as the key social determinants of health:

- Economic Stability;
- Education;
- Social and Community Context;
- Access to Health Care; and
- Neighborhood and Built Environment.

REGIONAL HEALTH CHALLENGES¹

As a nation, we are learning that growing a healthy community is a lifelong process—one that requires our constant nurturing and vigilance. Healthy communities result from healthy choices and environments that support shared responsibility. In addition, everyone has a role to play in building a healthier, more vibrant community. The emphasis in public health toward prevention elevates the importance of two focus areas that directly impact healthy communities: an effective health system that fosters both quality coordinated health care services and environmental conditions that support and promote healthy and safe lifestyles and behavior.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has integrated healthy community design as a core function supporting their overall mission, which is to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health through cross sector collaborations. Healthy community design can improve people's health by:

- Increasing physical activity;
- Reducing injury;
- Increasing access to healthy food;
- Improving air and water quality;
- Minimizing the effects of climate change;
- Decreasing mental health stresses;
- Strengthening the social fabric of a community; and
- Providing fair access to livelihood, education, and resources.

¹ Sources: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/> and <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx>

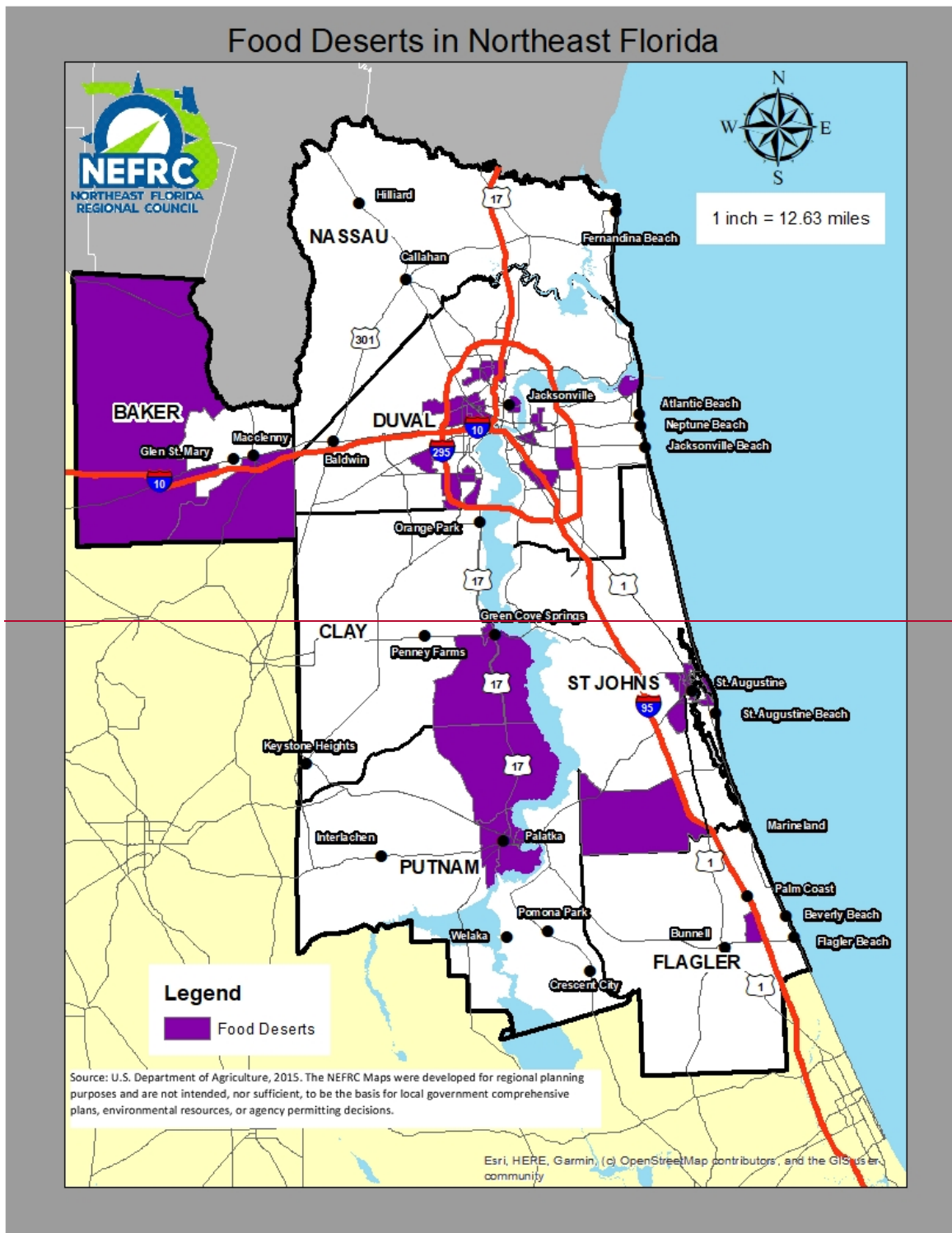
~~As traditional health care delivery continues to evolve due to rising costs and other social and political factors, strategies around prevention promote new approaches to health care delivery and access. Hospital and medical systems are integral to community health. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) supports collaborative networks of organizations working together to improve operations that address public health prevention strategies. These strategies support environmental and other social factors that have a bigger impact on health outcomes than medical care. Effectively integrating community prevention into health services delivery is critical to our Regional health system.~~

~~HRSA suggests, as an example, that access to healthy community environments and social supports increases the ability of patients to follow through on recommended chronic disease management treatments such as participating in regular physical activity or changing dietary habits. This in turn can improve health outcomes and decrease the need for drugs or other medical interventions. Community prevention complements medical care through actions to improve the physical and social environment in which people live, work, and play; and by investing in policies and infrastructure that support safe, healthy communities.~~

~~The map that identifies Health Facilities of Regional Significance later in this section shows licensed Florida hospitals in the Region, according to the Agency for Healthcare Administration.~~

~~In an effort to help visualize the challenge to ensuring that all residents have access to healthy food, the following map shows food deserts in the Region, as identified by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA defines a food desert as a low-income census tract where a substantial number or share of residents has low access to a supermarket or large grocery store. Low access communities include those where 500 or more people, or 33% of a census tract's population, live more than one mile from a supermarket in urban areas or more than 10 miles from a grocery store in rural areas.~~

Figure 1: Food Deserts in Northeast Florida



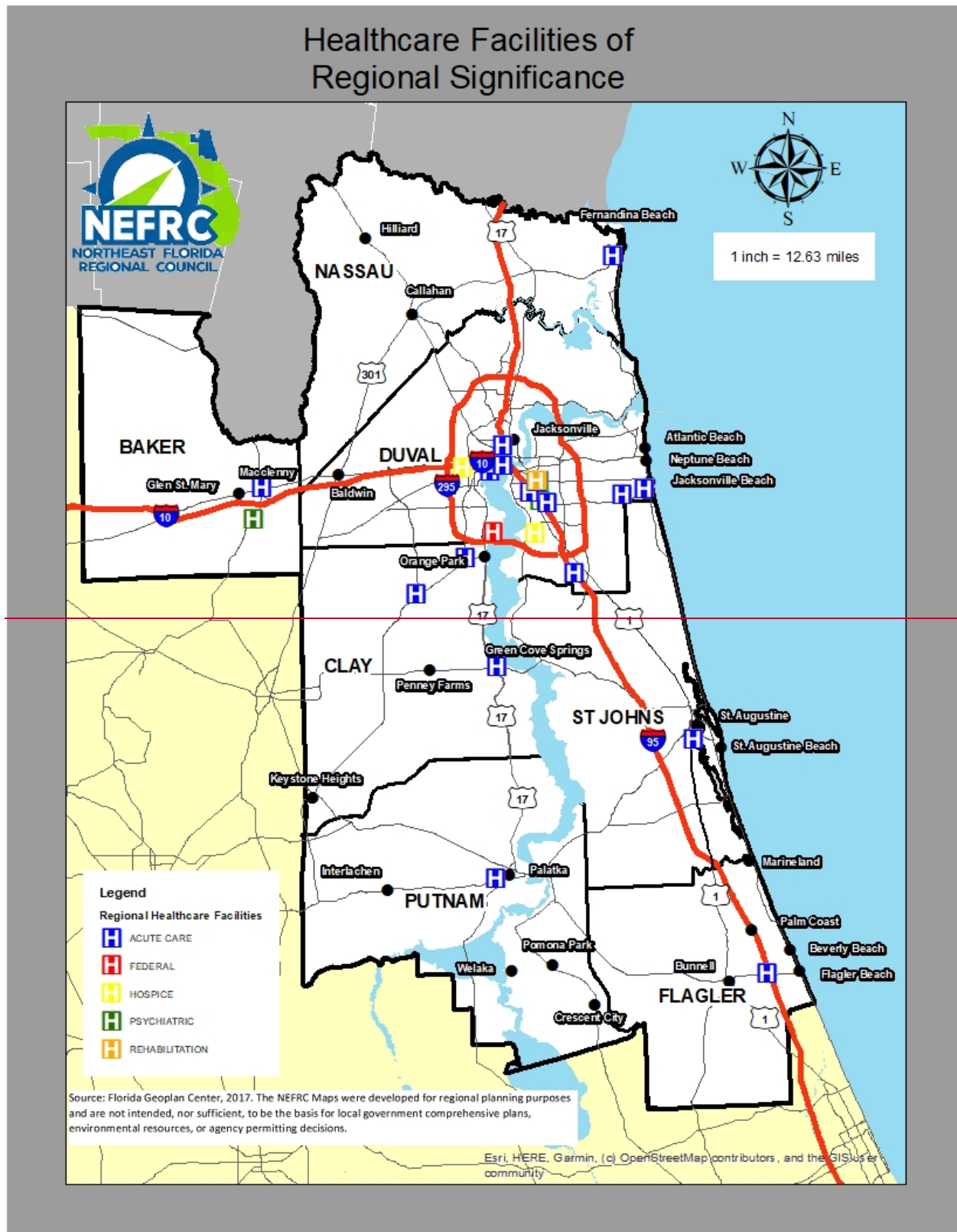
Source: USDA

~~One of the Action Items from First Coast Vision is to foster the relationships developed through the visioning process with partners who support the health of our Region. This includes measuring growth management planning outcomes relative to health metrics, ensuring cross sector collaborations that support a healthy Region during vision implementation, and considering the future impact of decisions in our Region on the health of those who live and work in Northeast Florida. First Coast Vision revealed the importance of health to our overall goals. Each of the health objectives and policies are aligned with the strategic issues in the SRPP.~~

~~**REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES**~~

~~Licensed hospitals are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.~~

Resources of Regional Significance: Health Facilities



GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

~~**Goal:** The Region supports local and regional efforts to ensure that the Region's residents have access to a healthy lifestyle and good health care. Many policies in other elements of the SRPP support the implementation of these objectives. NEFRC supports our partners in seeking improvement in health outcomes throughout the region.~~

~~**Pillar:** Civic and Governance Systems, Quality of Life and Quality Places~~

~~***STRATEGIC ISSUE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH***~~

~~**OBJECTIVE: THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR IS A KEY COMPONENT OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA'S ECONOMIC BASE.**~~

~~**OBJECTIVE: A ROBUST ECONOMY THAT SERVES THE NEEDS OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA RESIDENTS WITH JOBS THAT PAY WELL AND PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF BENEFITS. THIS ECONOMIC WELL-BEING TRANSLATES INTO A POPULATION WITH POSITIVE EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL OUTCOMES THAT RESULT IN INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY.**~~

~~***STRATEGIC ISSUE: TRANSPORTATION AND HEALTH***~~

~~**OBJECTIVE: THE REGION PROVIDES OUR RESIDENTS WITH GREAT PLACES TO WALK TO SAFELY.**~~

~~**OBJECTIVE: THE REGION PROVIDES MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION THAT ADDRESSES BARRIERS TO ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY FOR ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS.**~~

~~**OBJECTIVE: A SAFE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT GIVES PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS EQUAL PRIORITY WITH MOTOR VEHICLES. ROADWAYS ARE DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE CONFLICTS BETWEEN AUTOMOBILES AND BICYCLES OR PEDESTRIANS, THEREFORE RESULTING IN SAFE TRAVELS REGARDLESS OF TRANSPORTATION MODE.**~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND HEALTH

~~***OBJECTIVE: NORTHEAST FLORIDA MAINTAINS GOOD AIR QUALITY AS A RESULT OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK, MORE EFFICIENT ENERGY USE BY ITS RESIDENTS AND PRESERVATION OF NATURAL AREAS THAT ACT AS “CARBON SINKS” THAT HELP MAINTAIN THE REGION’S AIR QUALITY. THESE AREAS ALSO ARE IMPORTANT TO WATER QUALITY, WILDLIFE, AND QUALITY OF LIFE.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: GOOD SURFACE WATER AND DRINKING WATER QUALITY. OBJECTIVE: IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OUR RESIDENTS, INCLUDING REDUCING RATES OF CHRONIC DISEASES BY PROVIDING MORE PUBLIC PLACES TO EXERCISE.***~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: HOUSING AND HEALTH

~~***OBJECTIVE: HOUSING OPTIONS THAT PROVIDE CHOICES TO ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS AND PROMOTE DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC DIVERSITY AS ONE WAY TO ENSURE THAT OUR COMMUNITIES ARE VIABLE AND INTERESTING PLACES FOR THE LONG TERM.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: HOUSING STOCK THAT IS SAFE AND FREE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS THAT CAN BE DETRIMENTAL TO HEALTH.***~~

STRATEGIC ISSUE: A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

~~***OBJECTIVE: A REGION THAT IS ONE OF THE NATION’S HEALTHIEST.***~~

~~***OBJECTIVE: RESIDENTS HAVE GOOD ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH-SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGARDLESS OF LOCATION OR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS.***~~

~~STRATEGIC ISSUE: SAFETY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT~~

~~OBJECTIVE: THE REGION SUPPORTS BUILDING AND RETROFITTING COMMUNITIES AND BUILDINGS FOR SAFETY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY.~~

~~POLICIES~~

~~POLICY 1: NEFRC GATHERS BEST PRACTICES AND CONNECTS COMMUNITIES WITH STRATEGIES AND PRACTITIONERS THAT CAN HELP ADDRESS THEIR ISSUES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE ASPIRATIONAL GOALS OF FIRST COAST VISION. CONVENING TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND DISCUSS SOLUTIONS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS APPROACH.~~

~~PILLAR: QUALITY OF LIFE AND QUALITY PLACES, SCP: 187.201(4)(A)F.S.~~

~~OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN.~~

~~POLICY 2: NEFRC CONSIDERS IMPACTS TO RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND EXTRA JURISDICTIONAL IMPACTS AS IT REVIEWS CONSISTENCY WITH THE SRPP. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND PROPOSERS OF PROJECTS SHOULD INCLUDE BEST AVAILABLE DATA GATHERED USING PROFESSIONALLY ACCEPTABLE METHODOLOGY IN SUPPORT OF THEIR PROPOSALS, SUFFICIENT TO DETERMINE IMPACTS. WHERE MITIGATION IS PROPOSED, USING STRATEGIES OUTLINED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES OR PLANS, THE SRPP OR A COMBINATION IS ENCOURAGED.~~

~~PILLAR: INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH LEADERSHIP, SCP: 187.201(15)(A)~~

REGIONAL HEALTH MEASURES

HEALTH-RESOURCE-AVAILABILITY 2018- PROVIDER-RATE PER 100,000-COUNTY-POPULATION	DENTIST* STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 54.8	PHYSICIAN* STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 304.7	FAMILY-PRACTICE* STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 18.8	OB/GYN* STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 9.3	PEDIATRICIANS* STATE RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 21.9	HEALTH-RESOURCE-AVAILABILITY 2018- FACILITIES-RATE PER 100,000-COUNTY-POPULATION	HOSPITAL-BEDS STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 308.2	NURSING-HOME-BEDS STATE-RATE PER 100,000-POPULATION 399.8
BAKER	10.9	36.4	3.6	0	0		91	683.9
CLAY	43.1	178.4	20.1	5.6	15.5		235.5	483.7
DUVAL	53.8	399.3	25.5	11.9	28.7		401.4	426.6
FLAGLER	39.6	154.9	15.7	5.5	2.8		91.3	221.2
NASSAU	33.7	149.2	24.1	4.8	9.6		74.6	288.7
PUTNAM	17.7	88.5	8.2	6.8	9.5		134.8	459.0
ST. JOHNS	71.2	399.5	38.1	7.5	24.0		138.7	310.5

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE, AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

*DATA FOR PROVIDERS ARE FOR FISCAL, NOT CALENDAR YEAR-

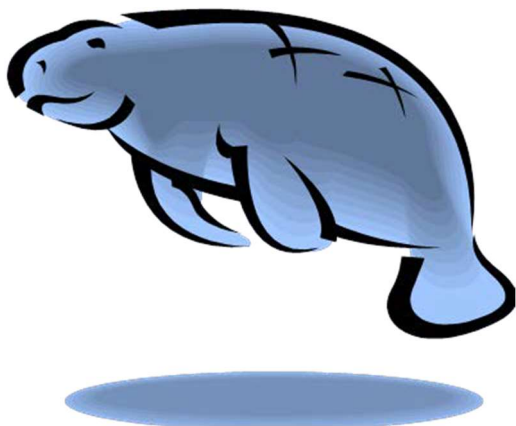
COUNTY	SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATOR: PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WITH HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE BY COUNTY 2014-2018	STATE PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WITH HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE COUNTY 2014-2018

BAKER	87.5	86.5
CLAY	89.6	86.5
DUVAL	88.0	86.5
FLAGLER	87.3	86.5
NASSAU	89.0	86.5
PUTNAM	84.0	86.5
ST. JOHNS	91.6	86.5

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, US BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Natural Resources of Regional Significance



Natural Resources of Regional Significance

NATURAL RESOURCES TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

Natural Resource Summary

The St. Johns River flows north through the Region and empties into the Atlantic Ocean in Duval County offering beauty and economic opportunities to the entire Region. The River and its tributaries present real prospects for economic benefits such as eco-tourism. The Regional climate features moderate winters attracting new residents that are also attracted to Georgia and the Carolinas. The Region has an abundance of natural resources and has so far developed in a pattern that allows much of the land area of the Region to remain in managed forests, with a lesser amount of acreage in agriculture.

In the NEFRC Grow Smart Survey that preceded the 2009 Reality Check First Coast visioning exercise, 32% of residents thought preserving the environment should be the first priority when considering development. The same number thought that the economy should be the first consideration. These two opinions point out the close relationship between the environment and economy.

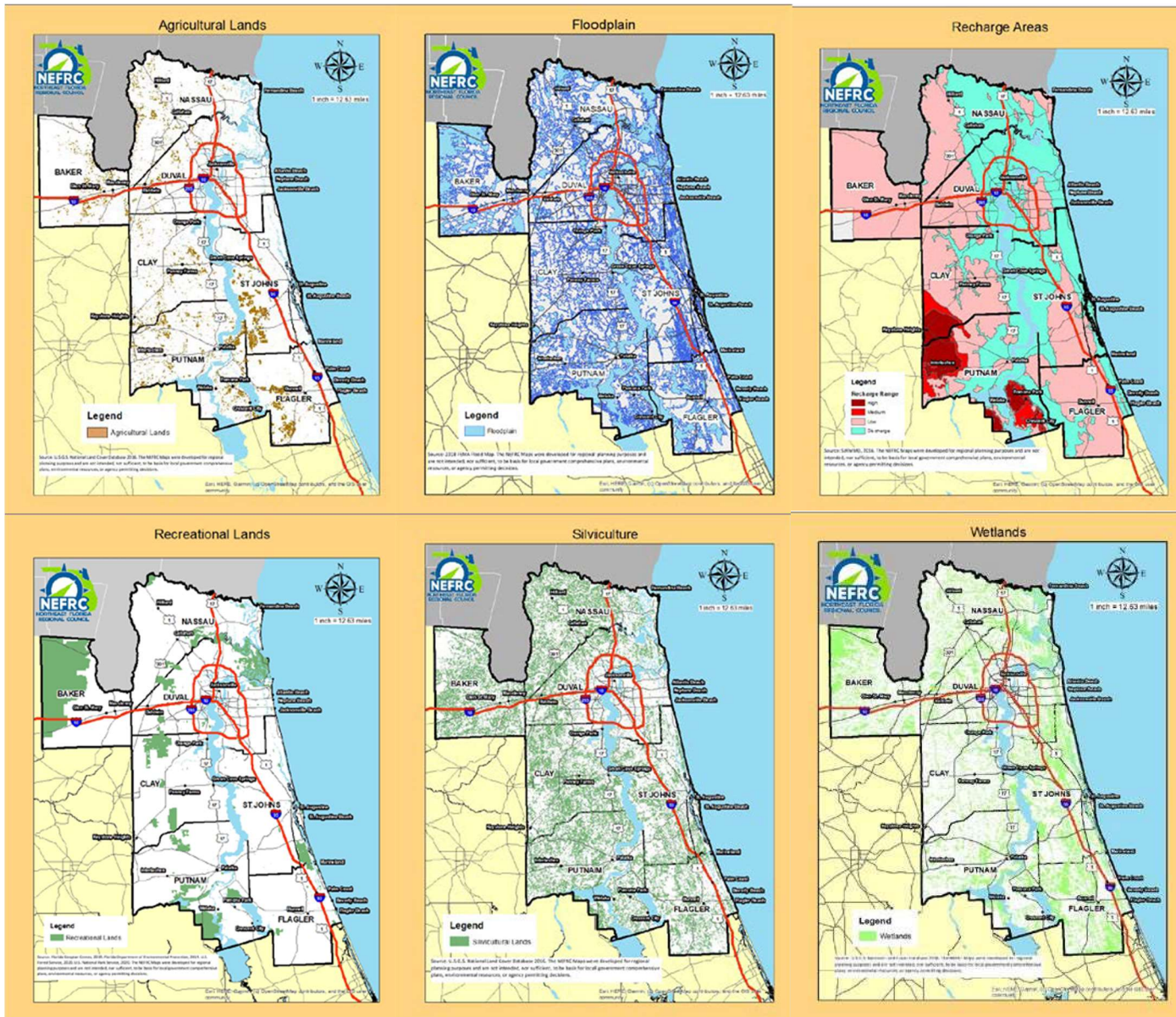
Florida allows wetlands to be permitted for development, subject to requirements for mitigation. Over time, this practice results in fragmentation of wetland systems, and the gradual but continual loss of wetland ecosystem functions and services. The cumulative effect results in Regional impacts. The loss of forested and natural areas means less water recharge from the surface to the aquifer and increased storm water runoff impacts to water bodies such as the St. Johns River, which often experiences algal blooms in the summer months. The annual State of the River Report provides an overview of conditions in the river and should be carefully monitored by the Region. The number of septic tanks permitted is a metric tracked in this report, as these systems, when they fail, have the potential for negative impacts on the River and ground water.

The Floridan Aquifer has provided drinking water of excellent quality to the entire Region for many years. The Floridan Aquifer will reach limits for withdrawal at some ~~point, and~~ [point and](#) will no longer be available as the sole source of drinking water in the Region. ~~The 2017 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan designated Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties as Water Supply Caution Areas, adding them to the status Flagler County had received several years earlier. The 2023 North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan concludes that fresh groundwater alone cannot supply the projected increase in demand during the planning horizon (2020-2045) without causing unacceptable impacts to water resources. As such, e~~Each [jurisdiction](#) ~~must~~ ^{ch} now include [a](#) Water Supply Facility Work Plans to local comprehensive plans, thereby highlighting the importance of water supply. Per capita public supply water use is tracked not to highlight the differences between Counties (and factors such as power plant location, agriculture, and density make usage in

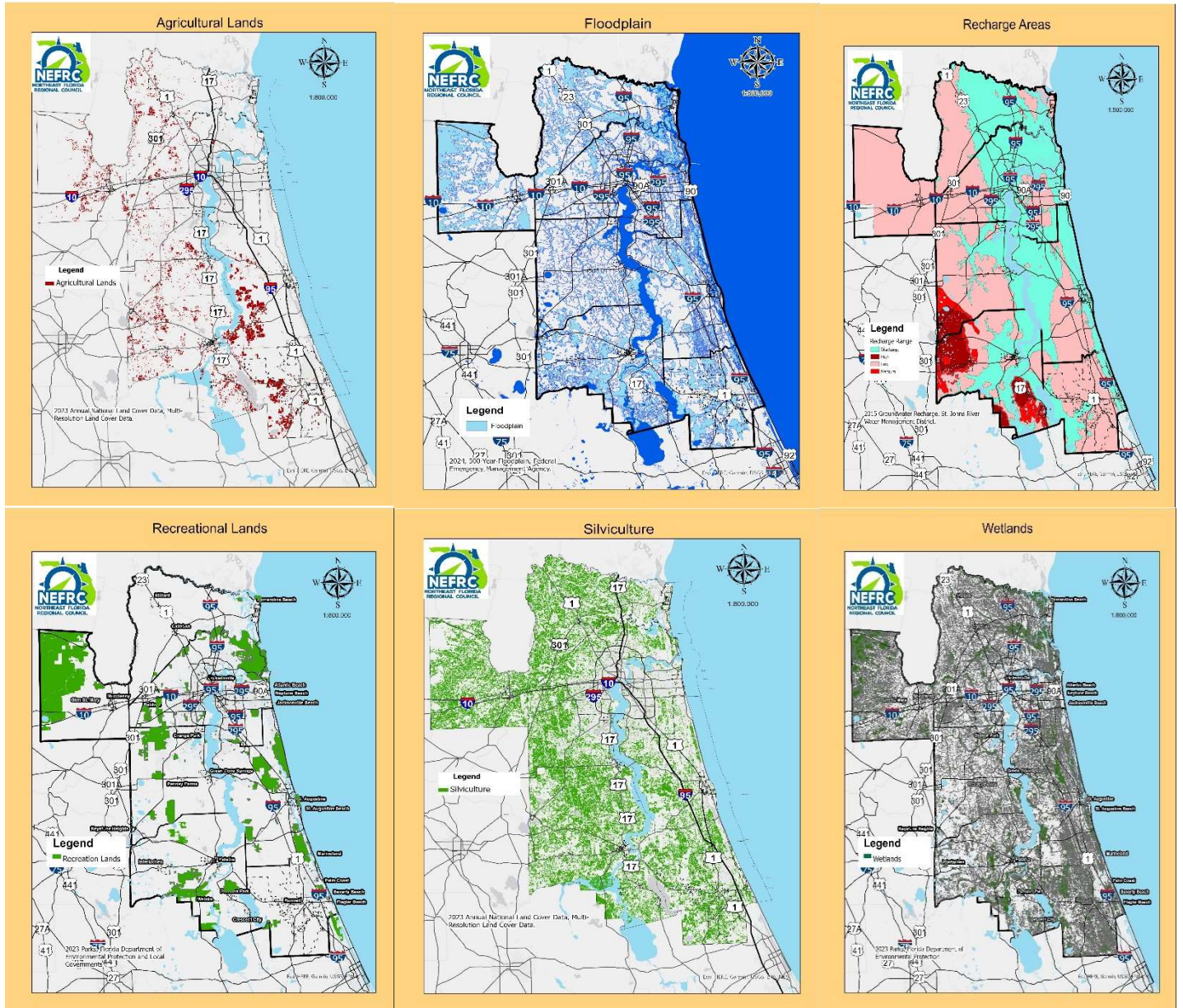
Northeast Florida vary widely) but to look for trends of less usage over time.

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STRATEGIC ISSUE: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



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REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

STRATEGIC ISSUE: HEALTHY, WELL-FUNCTIONING, SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

The State has mandated [the](#) identification of Natural Resources of Regional Significance. The maps include those resources included in the ~~1997 and 2019~~2024 SRPP, updated to reflect [the](#) best available data. They also include those resources suggested by Counties in the Region and parks greater than 20 acres identified as Florida Land Management Areas, or in the Florida State Park System. The lists are included for ease of reference. Local governments should consider impacts ~~to~~[on](#) these Regional resources when they plan, and NEFRC will review such impacts if it is required to review a proposal with the potential for impacts.

Section 403.061(28) of the Florida Statutes grants the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the power to establish rules that provide for a special category of water bodies within the state to be referred to as “Outstanding Florida Waters”~~”-.”~~[.”](#) These resources are worthy of special protection because of their natural attributes. Several natural resources of Regional significance are also Outstanding Florida Waters, including Pellicer Creek in Flagler and St. Johns Counties, Upper Black Creek in Clay County, and the Nassau River-St. Johns Marshes in Nassau and Duval Counties. A complete list is included in Section 62-302.700 F.A.C.

The Region has a role in the protection of state and federal listed species, and its support of preservation of appropriate natural areas is just one way that species can benefit. Developments of Regional Impact are required to assess their potential impact on listed species, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 380.06.

Natural Resources List and Maps

Water Bodies and Wetlands (including associated tributaries)

Amelia River	Georges Lake	Okefenokee Swamp
Ashley Prairie	Goodson Prairie	Oklawaha River
Atlantic Coast and Ocean	Graham Swamp	Ortega River
Big Cypress Swamp	Guana River	Pablo Creek
Big Gum Swamp	Haw Creek	Pellicer Creek
Big Island Swamp	Hull Cypress Swamp	Pinhook Swamp
Black Creek	Impassable Bay	Pottsburg Creek Swamp
Boggy/Mills Creek	Intracoastal Waterway	Putnam Prairie
Brady Branch Swamp	Julington/Durbin Creeks	Rice Creek Swamp
Broward River	Kingsley Lake	Rice/Etonia Creeks
Bulow Creek	Lake Disston	Rodman Reservoir
Cabbage Swamp	Lake Geneva	San Sebastian River
Cedar Swamp	Lake George	Six-Mile Creek
Clapboard Creek	Levy's Prairie	St. Augustine Inlet
Coastal Barrier Resource	Lofton Creek	St. Johns Inlet
System (Comprised of	Long Swamp	St. Johns River
undeveloped coastal	Lower St. Johns River	St. Johns/Nassau Valley
barriers along the Atlantic.	Lowry Lake	Marshes
Source is FEMA, 2012)	Matanzas Inlet	St. Mary's Inlets
Crescent Lake	Matanzas River	St. Marys River
Cunningham Creek	Moccasin Swamp	Thomas Creek
Deep Creek	Moses Creek	Tolomato River
Deep Creek Swamp	Moultrie Creek	Tolomato/Matanzas River
Doctors Lake	Mud Lake Marsh	Marshes
Dunns Creek (Putnam)	Nassau River	Trestle Bay Swamp
Durbin Swamp	Nassau Sound	Trout Creek
Fish Swamp	New River Swamp	Trout River
Florida East Coast Estuary	North River	Twelve-Mile Swamp
Fort George River	Ocean Pond	Yellow Water Creek

Parks and Preserves

9A Mitigation Parcels	Cecil Field Conservation Corridor	Guana River Wildlife Management Area
Alpine Groves Park	Cedar Point	Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve
Amelia Island State Park	Cedar River Sanctuary	Hagstrom Conservation Easement
Anastasia State Park	Cradle Creek Preserve	Half Moon Island Preserve
Bayard Conservation Area	Crescent Lake Conservation Area	Haw Creek Preserve
Beach and Peach Preserve	Deep Creek Conservation Area (SJRWMD)	Haw Creek Preserve State Park
Belmore State Forest	Deep Creek State Forest	Heart Island Conservation Area
Betty Steflik Memorial Preserve	Dunns Creek Conservation Area	Horseshoe Point Conservation Area
Betz Tiger Point Preserve	Dunns Creek State Park	Huguenot Memorial Park
Big Pottsburg Creek	Dutton Island Park and Preserve	Intracoastal Waterway
Big Talbot Island State Park	E. Dale Joyner Nature Preserve at Pelotes Island	J. A. Ginn Jr. Parcel
Black Creek Ravines Conservation Area	Egans Creek Greenway	Jack Wright Island Conservation Area
Branan Field Mitigation Park Wildlife and Environmental Area	Etoniah Creek State Forest	Jacksonville Naval Air Station
Brandy Branch Trail Head	Fanning Island Preserve	Jennings State Forest
Bryant Skinner Conservation Easement	Faver-Dykes State Park	Jim Wingate Park
Bulls Bay Preserve	Ferngully Preserve	John M. Bethea State Forest
Bulow Creek State Park	Fort Caroline National Memorial	Julington-Durbin Preserve
Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic State Park	Fort Clinch State Park	Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park
Camp Blanding Military Reservation	Fort George Island Cultural State Park	Kings Road Historical Preserve
Camp Chowenwaw Park	Fort Matanzas National Monument	Kingsley Plantation
Camp Milton Historic Preserve	Fort Mose Historic State Park	Lake George Conservation Area
Canopy Shores Park	Fort Mose Historic State Park	Lehigh Greenway
Caravelle Ranch Conservation Area	Four Creeks State Forest	Little Talbot Island State Park
Caravelle Ranch Wildlife Management Area	Geiger Tract	Loblolly Mitigation Preserve
Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park	Goodbys Creek Preserve	Loblolly Park
Cary State Forest	Graham Swamp Conservation Area	Longbranch Crossing Conservation Easement
Castaway Island Preserve	GTMNERR - Guana River Site	
Castillo de San Marcos National Monument		

Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area	Princess Place Preserve Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park Ralph E. Simmons State Forest	St. Marys River Ranch Conservation Easement St. Marys Shoals Park Stokes Landing Conservation Area
Matanzas State Forest Mayport Naval Station McGirts Creek Preserve Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park	Ravine Gardens State Park Reddie Point Preserve Relay Tract Conservation Easements	Stone Mountain Industrial Park Sylvan West Conservation Easement
Miller Farm Moccasin Slough Monticello Wildlands Monticello Wildlands Conservation Easement	Ribault River Preserve Rice Creek Conservation Area River to Sea Preserve at Marineland	Theodore Roosevelt Area Thomas Creek Conservation Area Thomas Creek Preserve Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve
Moses Creek Conservation Area Murphy Creek Conservation Area	Roberts Property Rodman Bomb Target Sal Taylor Creek Preserve Sample Swamp San Pablo Creek Conservation Easement	Turnbull Creek Regional Mitigation Area Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area Vaill Point Park
Ocala National Forest Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park	Satsuma Tract Saturiwa Swamp Conservation Area Seven Sisters Islands Shell Bluff Skinner-Smith Parcel	Verdie Forest Washington Oaks Gardens State Park Watson Island State Forest Welaka National Fish Hatchery
Olustee Experimental Forest Ordway-Swisher Biological Station Osceola National Forest Otis Road Trail Head Pellicer Creek Corridor Conservation Area	Southeast Intracoastal Waterway Park St. Johns County Conservation Area St. Marys River House	Welaka State Forest Whitehouse Naval Outlying Field Yellow Water Branch Trail Head
Peterson Tract		
Trails		
Amelia Island Trail Belle Terra Parkway Trail Black Creek Trail 309C Trail Camp Blanding Trail Colbert Land Bike Path Crescent City Trail Cross Florida Greenway	Cross Florida Greenway North Doctors Lake Drive Bike Path Etonia Creek Trail Jacksonville Baldwin Rail Trail Lehigh Greenway Rail Trail	Palatka to Lake Butler State Trail Palatka to St. Augustine State Trail Palm Coast Parkway Bike Path Rice Creek Trail S-Line Trail

State Road 121 Rail Trail

Blueways

Black Creek

Bulow Creek

Bulow River

Florida Circumnavigational

Saltwater

Guana River

Intracoastal Waterway

Julington-Durbin Creek

Lofton Creek

Middle Prong Creek

Moultrie Creek

Pellicer Creek

Pumpkin Hill Creek

Putnam County Blueway

System

San Sebastian

Simpson Creek

Six Mile Creek

Spruce Creek

St. Johns River

St. Marys River

Thomas Creek

Tolomato River

Trout Creek

Floridan Aquifer and Recharge Areas

Features provided on Natural Resources Recharge Areas map (USGS Land Use cover, 2009)

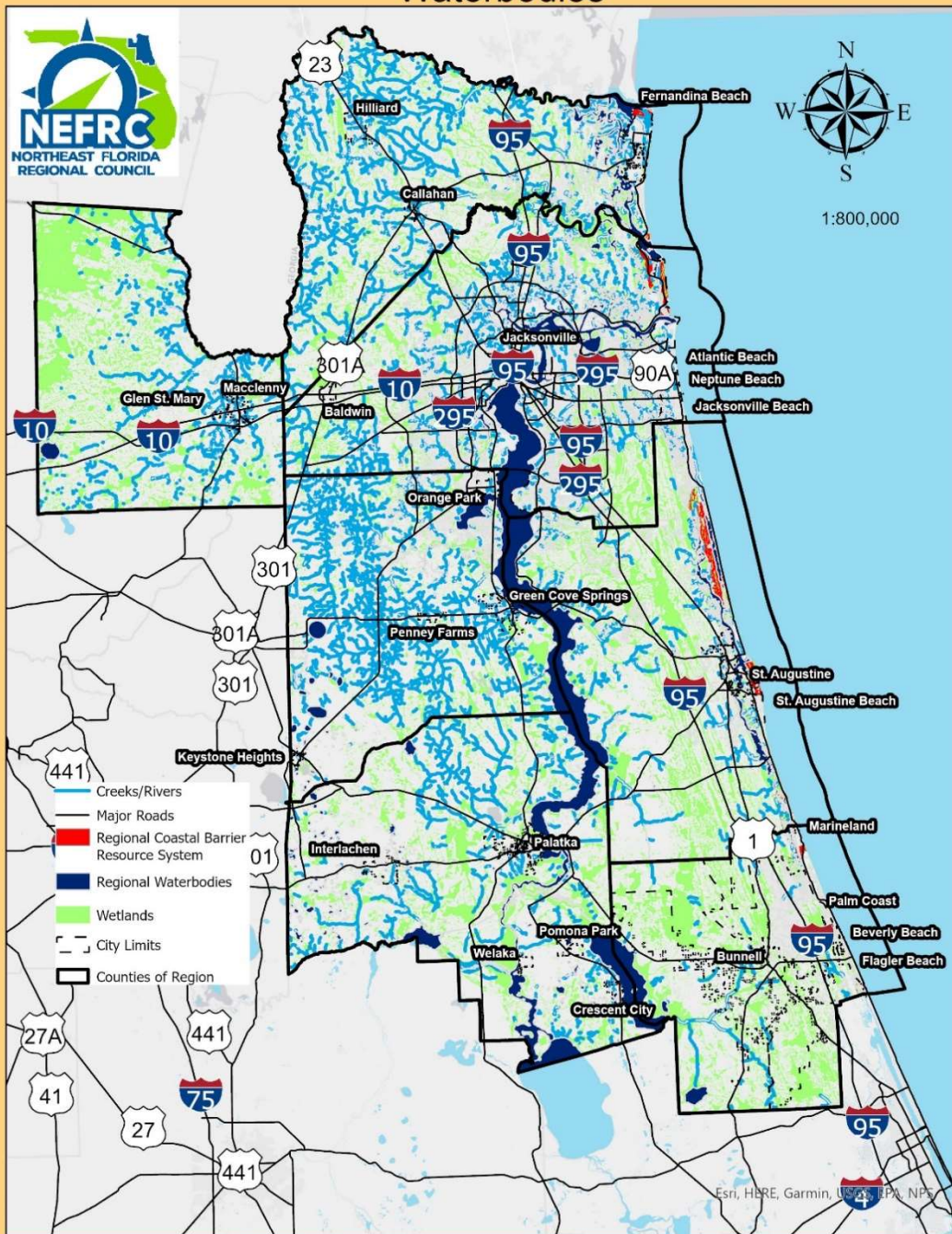
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Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Water Bodies



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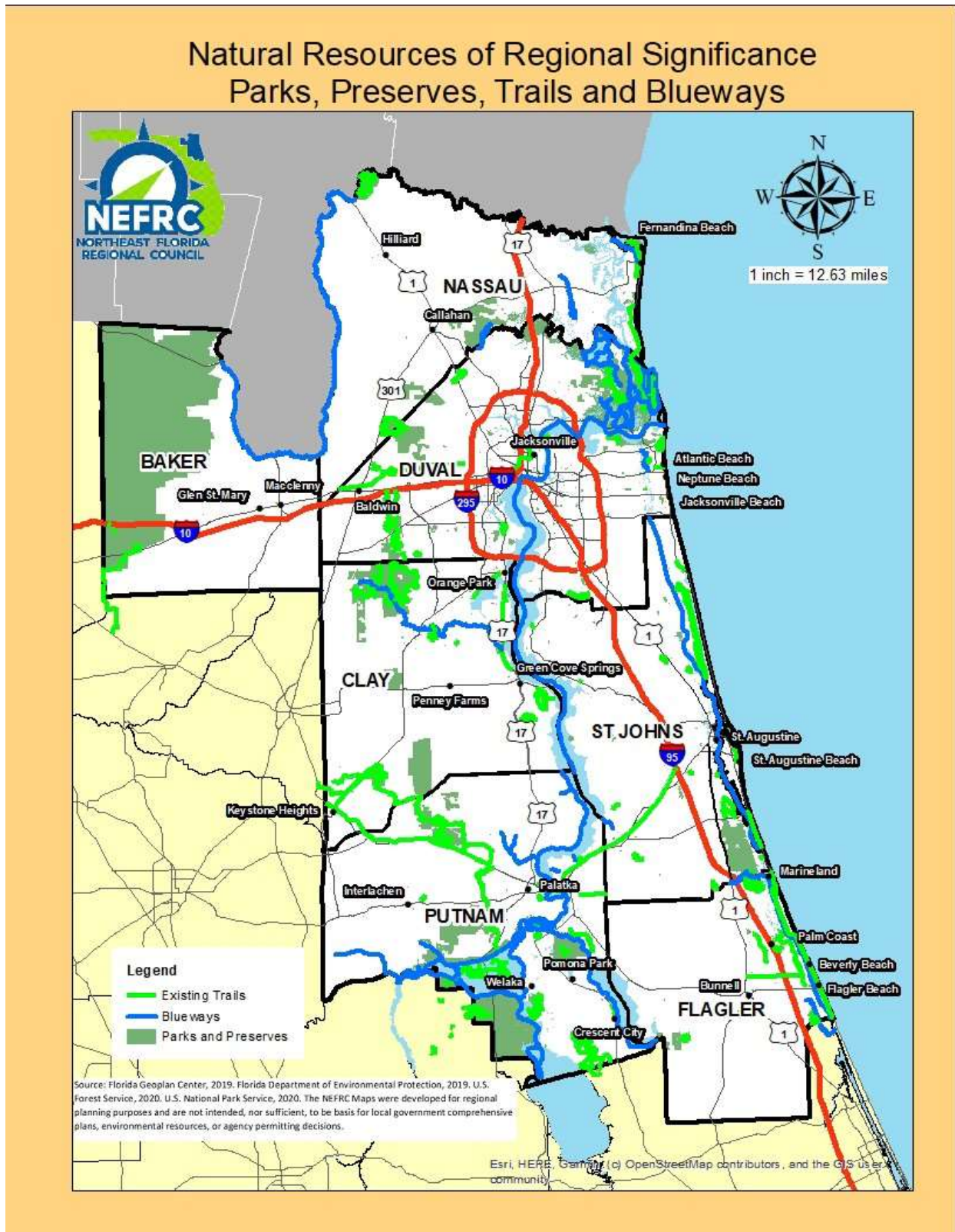
Natural Resources of Regional Significance Waterbodies



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 2023 and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, 2024.

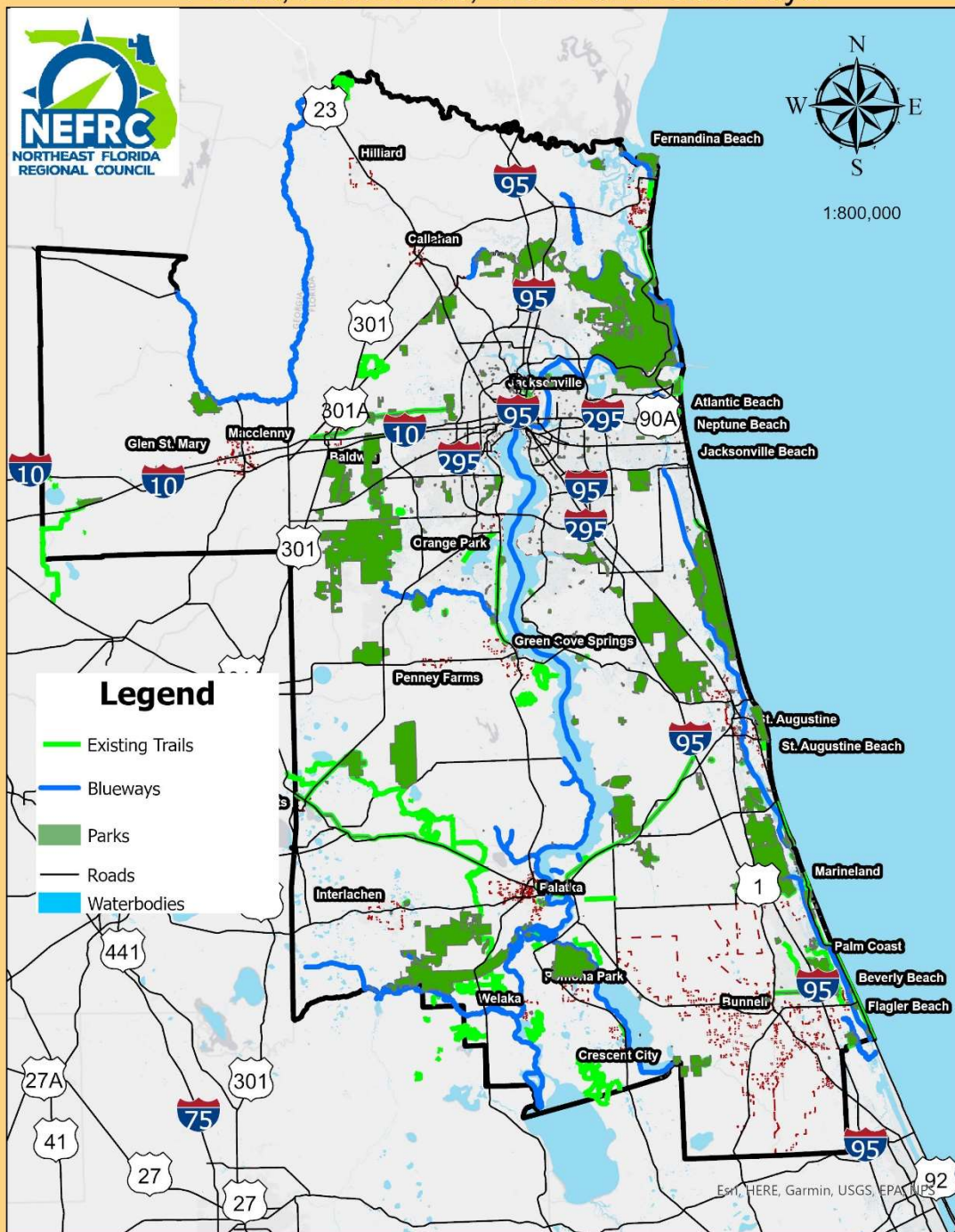
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Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Parks, Preserves, Trails & Blueways



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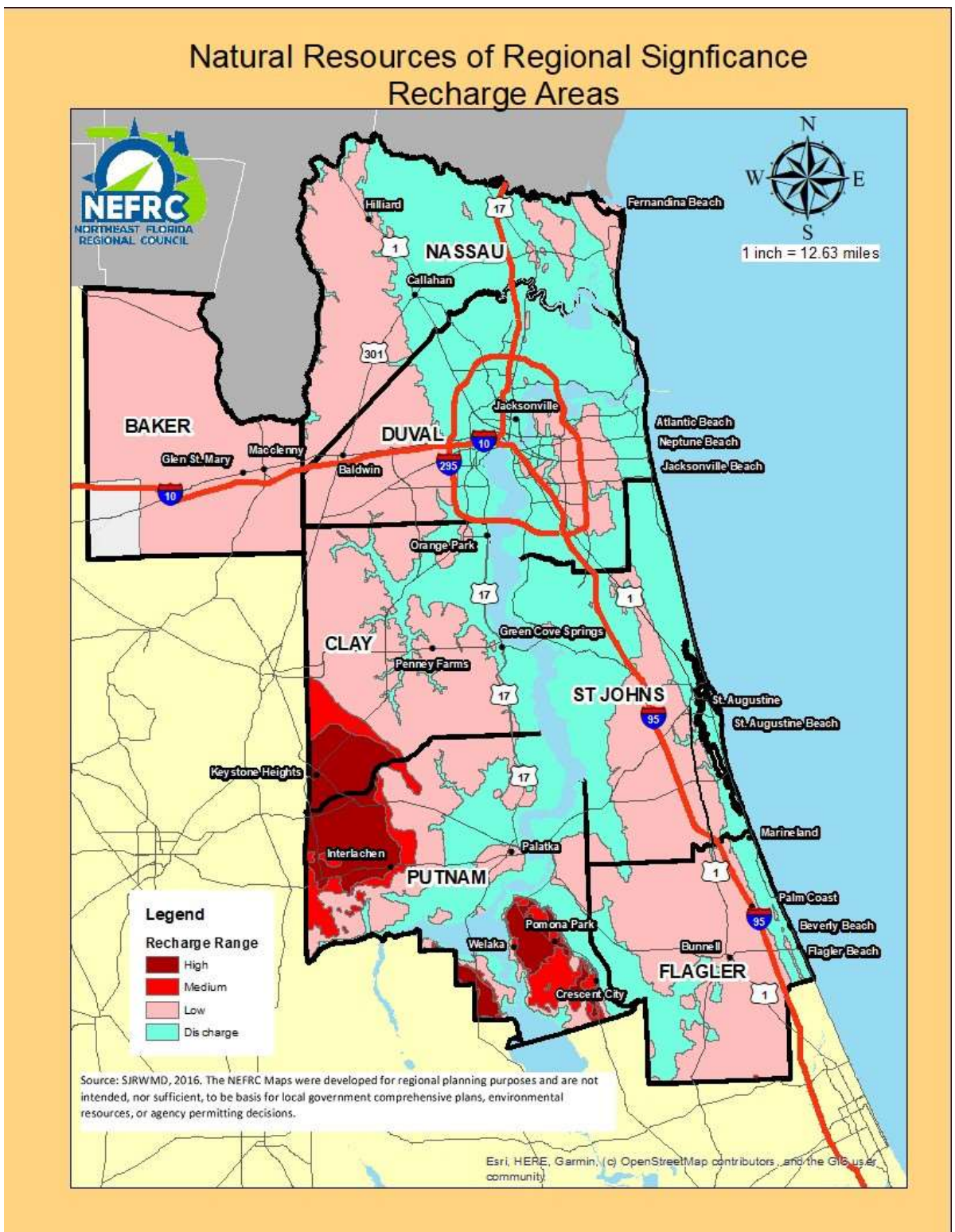
Natural Resources of Regional Significance Parks, Preserves, Trails and Blueways



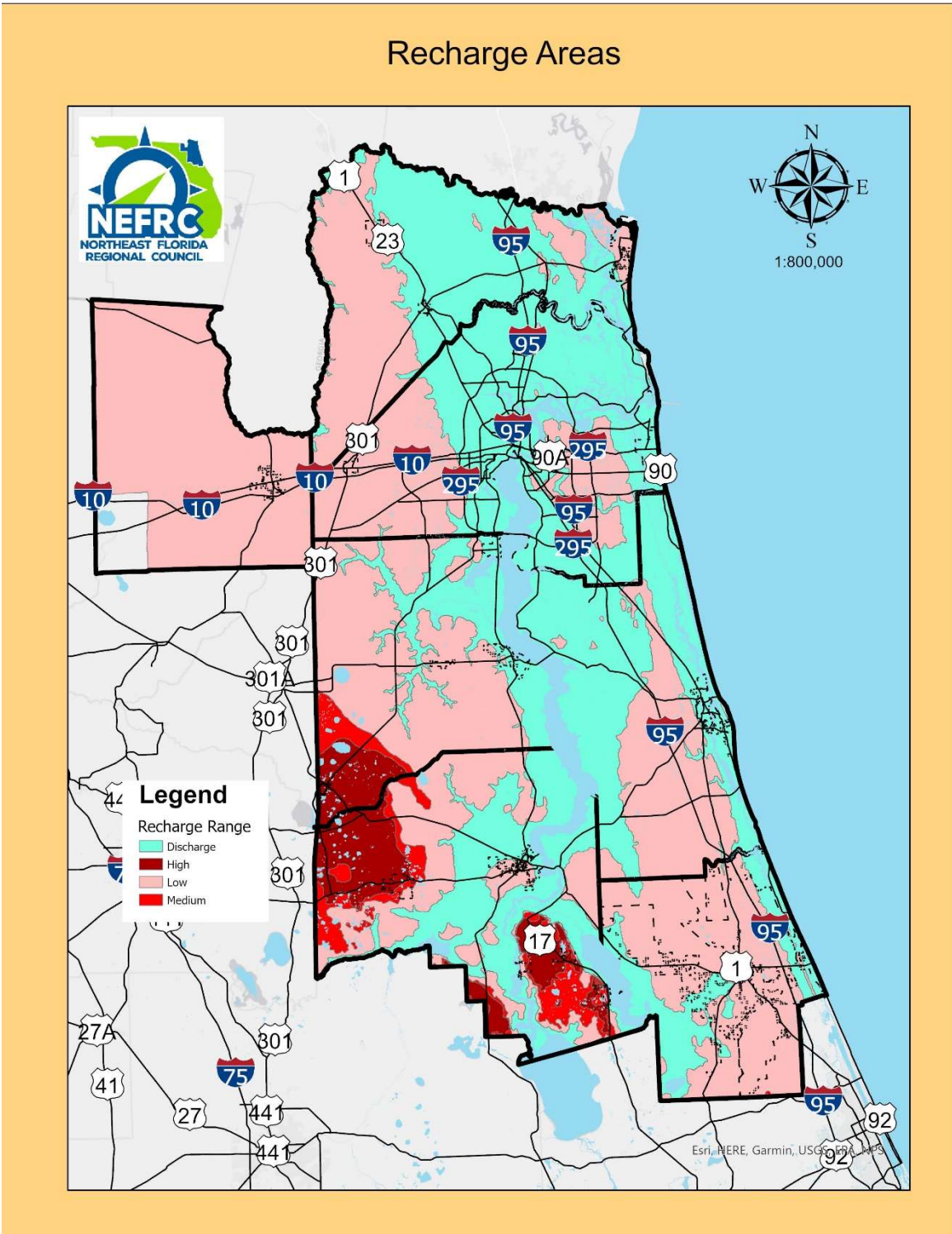
Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 2024.

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Natural Resources of Regional Significance—Recharge Areas



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Source: St. Johns River Water Management District, 2015.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: Northeast Florida recognizes that some resources have the potential to impact more than one jurisdiction, and their viability is of concern to the Region. NEFRC promotes the protection of these resources, as contained on the Natural Resources of Regional Significance list.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places

OBJECTIVE: RESOURCE ADAPTATION

Policies

Policy 1: The Region, as it determines the impact of climate change on Northeast Florida, and if needed, devises plans to mitigate and adapt, will seek to achieve a balance that supports the people, protects the resources and takes advantage of Regional assets.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 2: The Region supports innovation to lessen the impact on resources, including utilizing alternative energy sources for power generation and transportation.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S

Policy 3: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(4)F.S

Policy 4: The Region supports ~~preservation of ecosystem services for clean air, the preservation of ecosystem services for clean air and~~ water, habitat for wildlife populations, and flood control.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 5: NEFRC and its partners will endeavor to educate residents about the connection between their homes, the services, forests, wildlife and habitats, and planning practices to enhance sustainability and adaptation to climate change.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: HEALTHY, WELL-FUNCTIONING, AND SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Policy 6: NEFRC promotes the protection of Natural Resources of Regional Significance.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 7: The NEFRC will consider the long-term health of resources on the Natural Resources of Regional Significance list as it makes decisions and reviews projects that may impact them.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 8: NEFRC encourages local governments to consider impacts to these resources as they plan.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 9: Field verification, site surveys, and other detailed analyses may be used to determine the exact boundaries of Natural Resources of Regional Significance. The maps included in this plan generally depict location and connectivity.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

Policy 10: The Region supports protection of the populations of threatened, endangered and listed species, and will comply with the requirements of federal and state law in decision making regarding species, habitats, and natural systems.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(9)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: ENHANCED WATER QUANTITY

Policy 11: The Region seeks to maximize water conservation by domestic, agricultural, industrial, and commercial users.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

Policy 12: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reduction of gross and residential per capita residential water consumption.
- Development of a uniform comprehensive water consumption per capita tool to clearly and consistently track usage annually.

- Reductions of agricultural runoff by increasing the number of farms that have implemented both water table and nutrient *Best Management Practices*.
- Achieving 100% compliance with *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)* permits.
- Eliminating [the](#) use of potable water for lawn irrigation by 2060.
- Maximizing [the](#) use of reclaimed water.
- Use of Florida Friendly and similar landscaping techniques to reduce irrigation needs and conserve water consumption.
- Diversifying sources of water.
- Tracking the percentages of water supply from each source.
- Educating the Region on water consumption and conservation.
- Protecting recharge areas.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: ENHANCED AIR QUALITY

Policy 13: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reducing vehicle miles ~~travelled~~ [traveled](#) in the Region.
- Increasing use of public transit.
- Increasing energy efficiency.
- Efforts to create more carbon sequestration areas.
- Maintenance of air quality standards.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(10)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: WATER QUALITY

Policy 14: The Region strives for all water bodies to meet water quality standards.

Policy 15: The Region is committed to considering the integrity of ecosystems to be as valuable to the Region as economic growth, as they are interdependent.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

Policy 16: With its partners and through the *Regional atlas* and data clearinghouse the NEFRC will provide access to information on best practices, technologies, and tools to maintain water quality standards and preserve the integrity of ecosystems.

Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

Policy 17: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Reduction of discharge of nutrients and pollutants into surface and groundwater.
- Elimination of failing septic tanks.
- Reduction of new septic tank installations.
- Expansion and improvement of data collection and evaluation for water quality through better coordination among agencies.
- Protection of functioning wetlands.
- Maintenance of riparian and wetland buffers.
- Purchase of land and wetlands for water conservation purposes.
- Development of a uniform wetland database to measure loss/gain of wetland function.
- Promotion of Low Impact Development in land planning and engineering design to manage stormwater runoff.

Pillar: ~~Quality of Life and Quality Places~~, SCP: 187.201(7)(a)F.S.

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 18: ~~The~~ NEFRC considers impacts ~~on~~^{to} resources of regional significance and extra-jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.

Pillar: ~~Infrastructure and Growth Leadership~~, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)

NATURAL RESOURCES MEASURES

County	Public Supply Per Capita Water Use in Gallons Per Day	Public Supply Residential Per Capita Water Use in Gallons Per Day
Baker	222 <u>147.66</u>	172 <u>102</u>
Clay	92 <u>94.69</u>	68 <u>71</u>
Duval	142 <u>136.35</u>	94 <u>90</u>
Flagler	90 <u>96.05</u>	50 <u>54</u>
Nassau	200 <u>152.22</u>	156 <u>112</u>
Putnam	113 <u>113.32</u>	54 <u>59</u>
St. Johns	112 <u>126.13</u>	75 <u>93</u>

Source: ~~2023~~2018 Survey of Annual Water Use for St. Johns River Water Management District, ~~Technical Fact Sheet SJ2019-FS1~~

County	Septic Tanks Permitted 2017-2018 <u>2022-2023</u>	Total Septic Tanks Permitted
Baker	67 <u>124</u>	7,953 <u>8,479</u>
Clay	101 <u>340</u>	32,132 <u>33,337</u>
Duval	272 <u>657</u>	92,907 <u>95,966</u>
Flagler	37 <u>129</u>	6,192 <u>6,728</u>
Nassau	178 <u>295</u>	21,951 <u>23,304</u>
Putnam	131 <u>371</u>	40,874 <u>42,271</u>
St. Johns	234 <u>447</u>	30,415 <u>32,220</u>

Source: Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems permitting, Florida [Department of Environmental](#)

[Protection](#) ~~Department of Health~~

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE

Element: Regional Transportation



Regional Transportation

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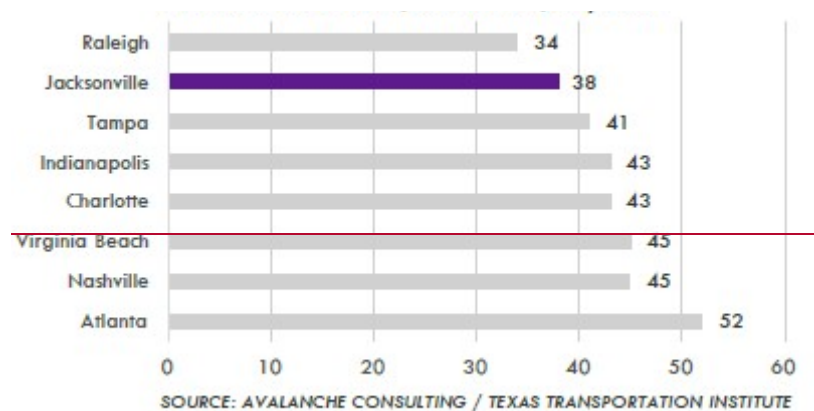
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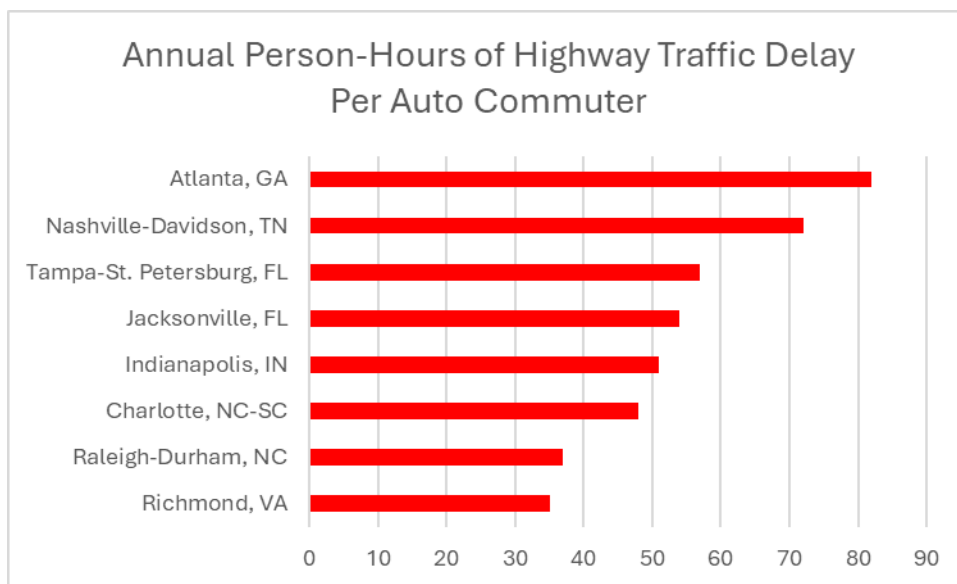
TRANSPORTATION TRENDS AND CONDITIONS

This element is aligned with ~~Elevate Northeast Florida and the 2019~~ 2022 - 2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

~~Unlike many other fast-growing regions, the Jacksonville metro does not suffer from severe traffic congestions.~~ On average, commuters in the region lose ~~just 38~~ 54 hours annually due to traffic congestion. In Atlanta, on the other hand, commuters spend an average of ~~52~~ 82 hours a year in traffic. Less congestion translates to lower costs for Jacksonville drivers. ~~The average cost of congestions for commuters in Jacksonville is less than \$850 annually. Among benchmark regions, only drivers in Raleigh experience lower costs due to congestion.~~ (Note, traffic data is only available for the five-county MSA – labeled “Jacksonville” in the chart below – not the seven-county Northeast Florida study area.)

Figure 1: Annual Number of Hours of Delay Due to –Traffic Congestion Per Auto Commuter, ~~2014~~2022



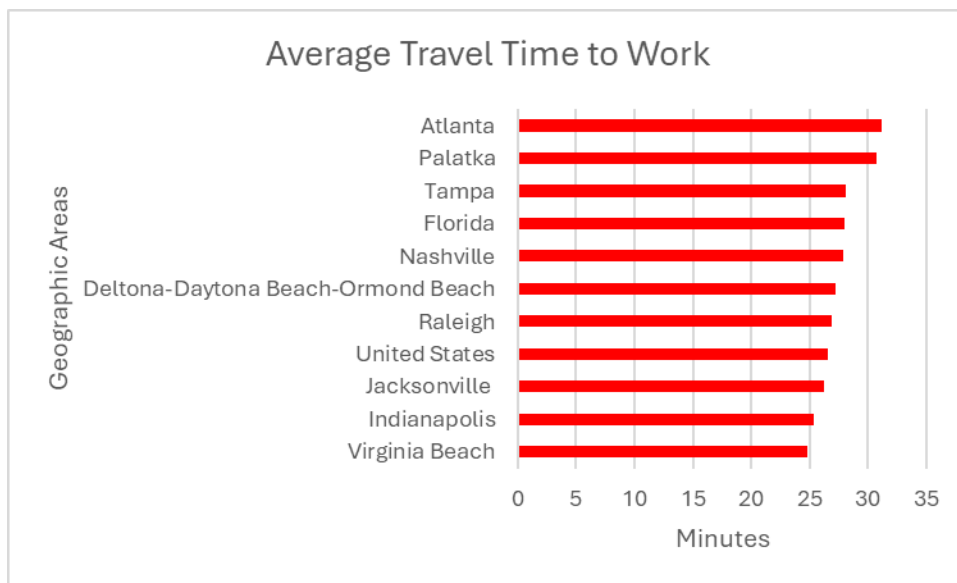
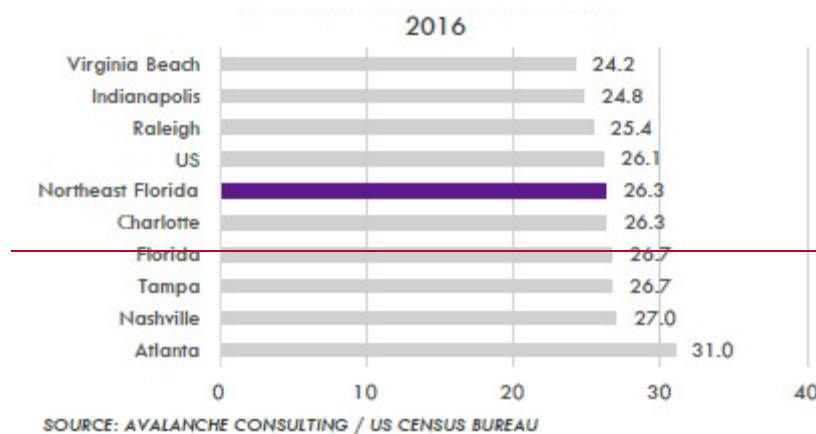


Source: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2022

Short commute times often indicate that a region's job centers are ~~in close proximity to its residents, and also the presence of efficient public transit options. Lowering traffic congestion reduces out-of-pocket transportation costs for residents close to its residents and also the presence of efficient public transit options. Lowering traffic congestion reduces residents' out-of-pocket transportation costs~~ and public expenditures on roadway maintenance and expansions. Ultimately, shorter commutes equate to a higher quality of life for workers and their families.

While commuters in the region do not face the same ~~levels of congestion~~ congestion levels as their counterparts in many other parts of the US, they do have long commutes. On average, workers in Northeast Florida spend more than 26 minutes commuting to work. However, this is larger for those in Flagler and Putnam, with commute time in their respective Metropolitan/Micropolitan Areas nearly 27 minutes and slightly over 30 minutes. The figure is higher for workers in specific counties such as Baker, Clay, and Nassau. Congestion is related to urban sprawl.

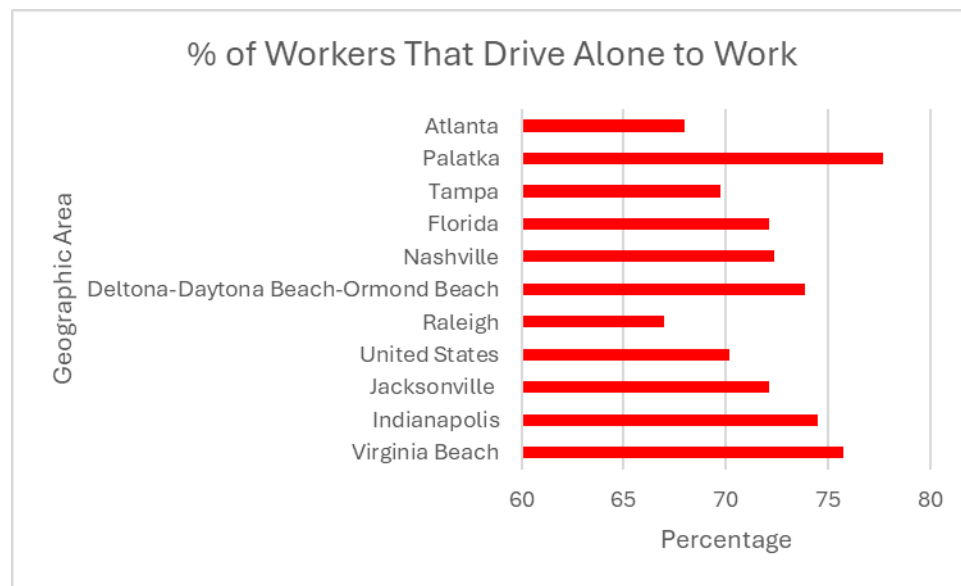
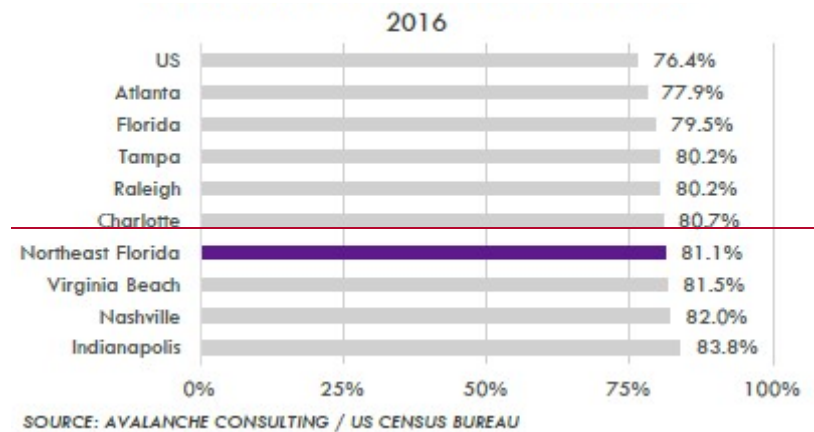
Figure 2: Average Travel Time to Work



Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

More than ~~70~~80% of workers in Northeast Florida (representing all three metropolitan/micropolitan areas which comprise the Northeast Florida Region) drive alone to work, ~~a higher proportion than~~ nearly proportionate to the US and statewide average, excluding workers in the Palatka Micropolitan Area, with almost 80% of workers driving alone. Approximately 15% of Northeast Florida workers telecommute, a higher percentage than the national average but slightly less than the statewide figure.

Figure 3: % of Workers -That Drive Alone to Work



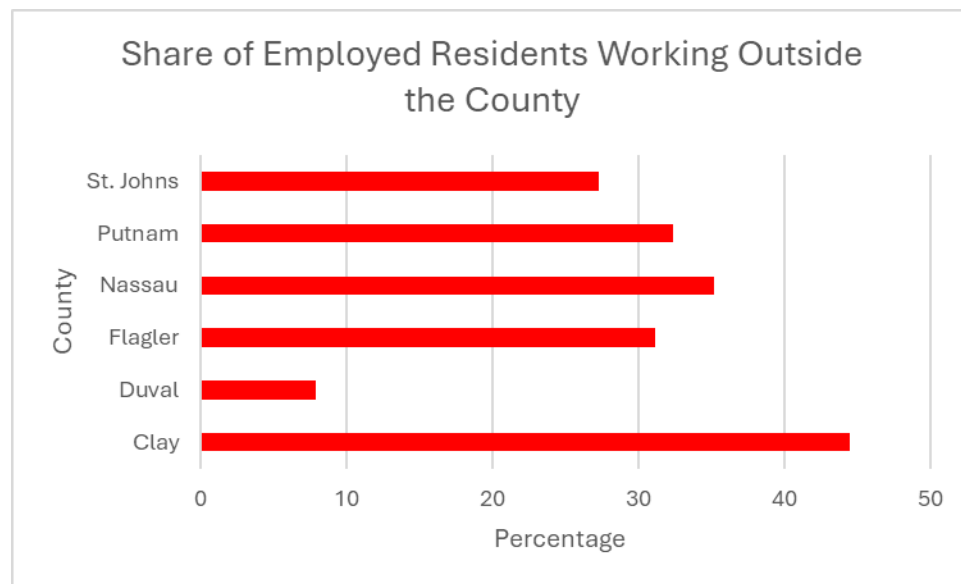
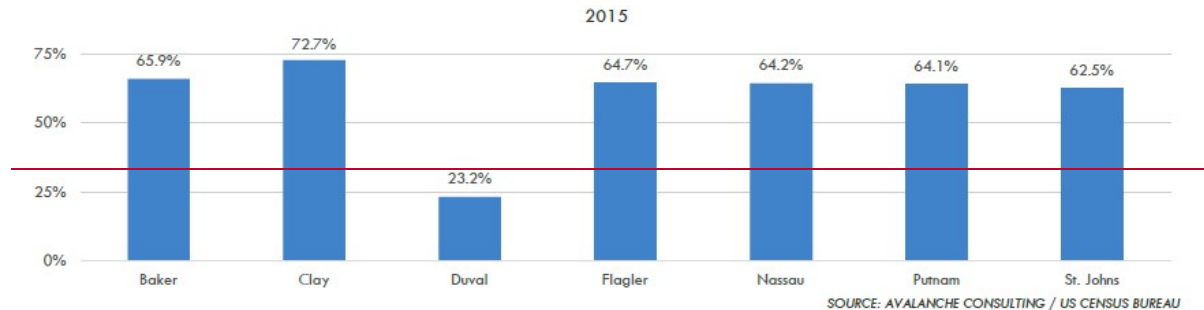
[Source: American Community Survey, 2023.](#)

Counties within the Northeast Florida region are deeply intertwined economically. Much of the wealth earned by residents in many counties within the region is dependent on employment opportunities located in Duval County. Conversely, Duval County relies extensively on the talents of residents in neighboring counties. At least 60% of the employed residents in every county other than Duval within Northeast Florida are employed outside of their home county. ~~Within Duval County, however, fewer than 258% of employed residents~~ However, fewer than 8% of employed residents within Duval County work elsewhere.

Commuting patterns play several important roles in a region’s economy. Regions that can draw outside workers can significantly increase their available workforce. At the

same time, long commutes by individuals who live and work in different locales ~~contributes~~ contribute to traffic congestion and its ~~negative~~ adverse side effects.

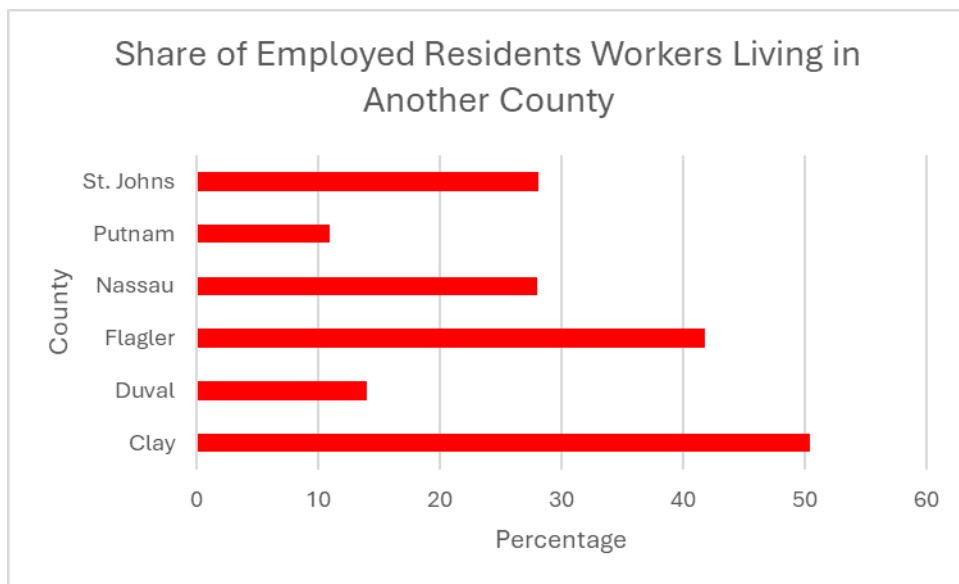
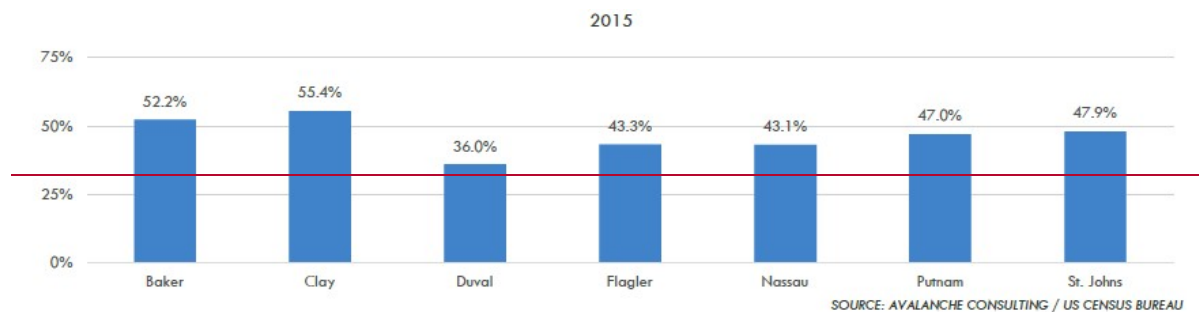
Figure 4: Share of Employed Residents Working Outside the County



Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

Duval County relies on imported workers less than other counties in the region. At least one in three workers employed in each of the seven ~~counties in the Northeast Florida region live in another county~~ Northeast Florida counties live in another. For some, such as ~~as Baker and~~ Clay, more of their workforce commutes in than lives locally.

Figure 5: Share of Employed Workers Living in Another County



Source: American Community Survey, 2023.

TRANSPORTATION SUMMARY

Northeast Florida is a transportation hub. Three major Interstates converge in or near the seven County Region. The First Coast Expressway is being built to connect I-10 to I-95 through Clay County. Two deep-water ports exist at Fernandina Beach and Jacksonville. The St. Johns River offers the option of river transport and cruise ships. Every railroad with a presence in Florida has facilities in Northeast Florida. An international airport in Jacksonville, along with several Regional and commercial airports and one of the longest runways in Florida at Cecil Field, offer opportunities and room for expansion of transport by air. The military impacts many aspects of life in the Region. A change to flexible start times for workers commuting to and from some of the military installations in the Region has made a positive impact on the capacity of roads in the vicinity at peak hours.

Maximizing the Region's transportation assets remains a challenge. The Region depends almost exclusively on roads; most of the Region's residents drive, to the exclusion of most other modes of transportation. Bus transit exists in limited parts of the Region or is available to the transportation disadvantaged as para-transit. The Jacksonville Transportation Agency provides fixed route service and is innovating with flexible service to accommodate getting users the "last mile" to their final destinations. The City of Jacksonville has recently approved a pilot program to allow scooters in the downtown area. Transportation Disadvantaged programs are well established in Florida and well-utilized in Northeast Florida. They have a special benefit in rural areas, where no other transit is available.

Transportation network companies (TNCs) operate in ~~the more~~ more urban areas but often not in rural ones. Unpaved roads are a factor in rural areas, impacting the longevity of vehicles owned by residents, businesses, and transit agencies. Low densities and unpaved roads may explain why TNC service is often unavailable in rural areas. TNCs provide convenience but do nothing to limit congestion, ~~and in fact may add it~~ and, in fact, may add to it. The limited options also limit the ~~options possibilities for residents~~ of residents who are trying to take advantage of opportunities to increase their incomes, as many jobs are out of reach without an automobile. The presence of existing rail lines is an asset, but they are not currently used for commuter rail, ~~and they~~ and are not ideally located to shift freight from the ports. Most freight is trucked from the ports to rail. While higher-speed passenger rail is being used in South Florida and ~~being~~ built in Central Florida, it has not yet been extended to Northeast Florida.

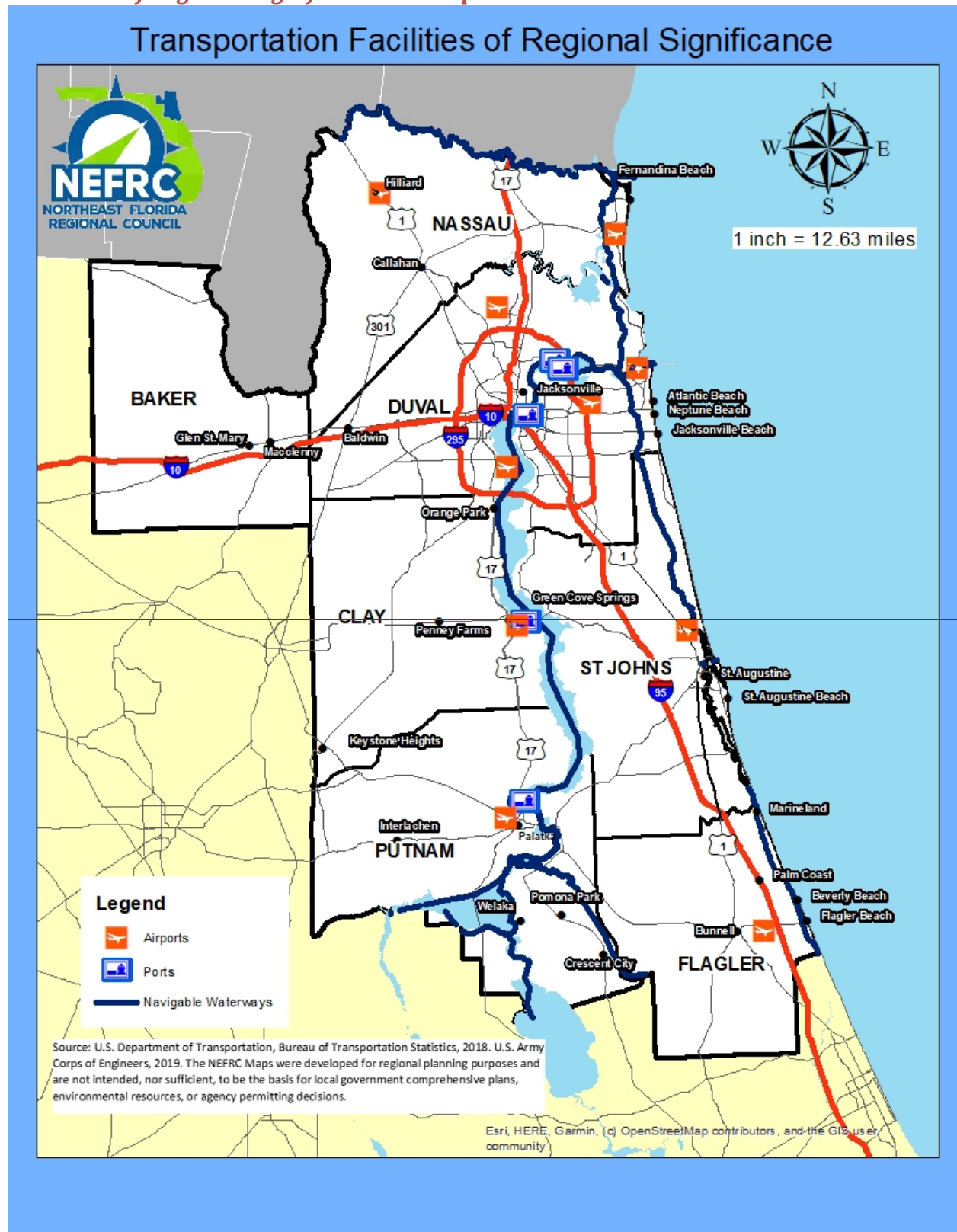
REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

A roadway facility in Northeast Florida will be a Regionally Significant Roadway if it meets one of the following criteria.

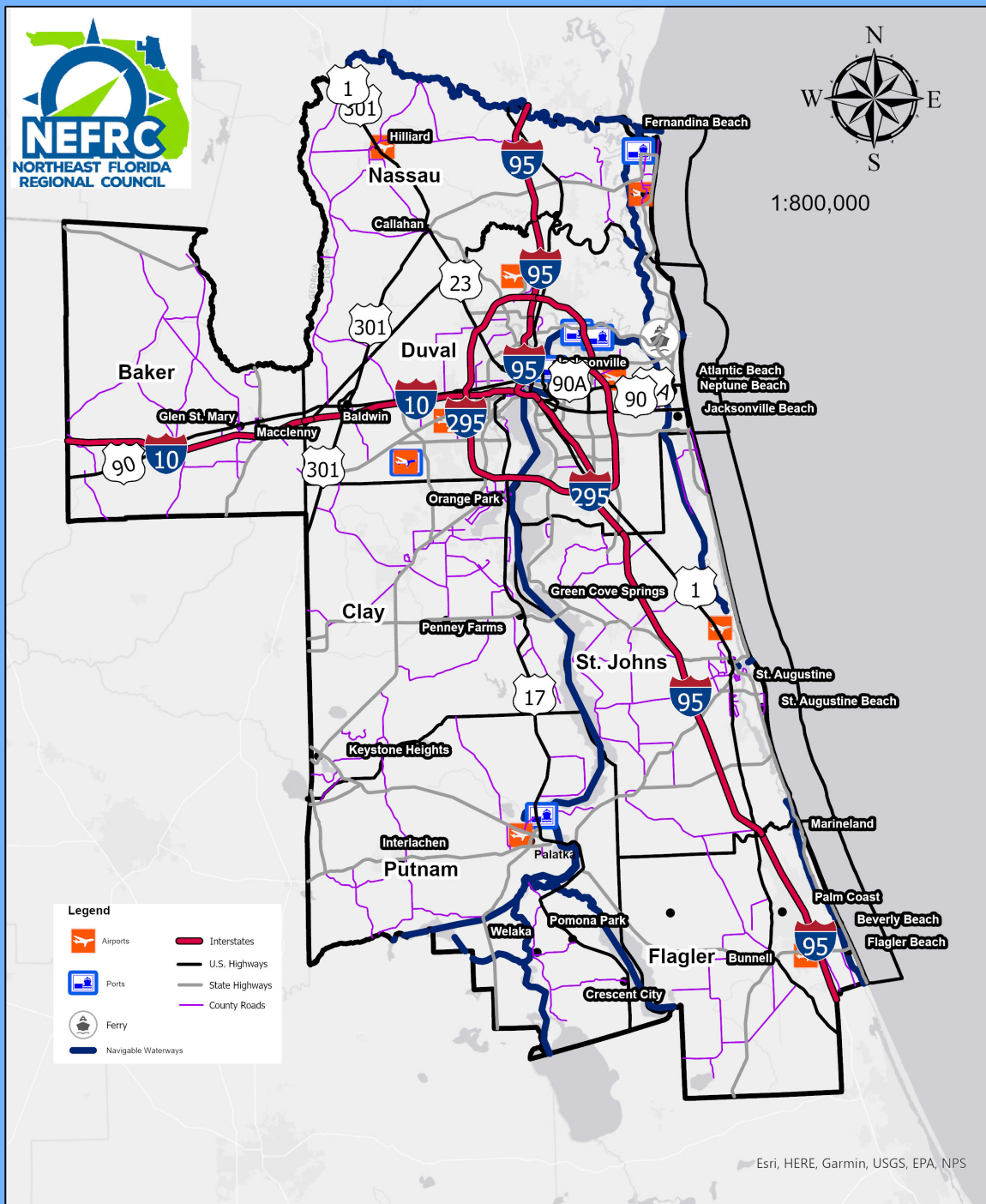
1. **Roadways Providing Direct Access to a Regional Activity Center** — Any roadway which provides direct access to a Regional activity center is designated as Regionally significant because it facilitates travel to and from a center whose service delivery area consists of greater than one County. Regional activity centers are defined as a major facility or development area that regularly attracts use by citizens from more than one County, and includes Regional malls, Regional airports, major universities, professional sports centers, etc.
2. **Designated Hurricane Evacuation Route** — Any roadway which is a hurricane evacuation route is designated as Regionally significant because of its importance in meeting the evacuation needs of the Region. Hurricane evacuation routes are those designated by County emergency management officials that have been identified with standardized statewide directional signs by FDOT, or are identified in the Regional hurricane evacuation study for the movement of persons to safety in the event of a hurricane.
3. **Florida State Highway System** — Any roadway on the state highway system is designated as Regionally significant because of the involvement of local government in land use planning and approvals, and the state for funding and access management decisions.
4. **Arterials Crossing County Lines** — Any arterial which crosses County lines is designated as Regionally significant, because the land use planning and decisions by one local government may affect the operating conditions in the adjacent County, and roadway improvements need to be coordinated to attain and maintain acceptable operating conditions.
5. **Connecting Arterials** — Any arterial which directly connects two roadways that fit into any of the above categories.

The transportation facilities on the following map are of Regional significance. The map is just an illustration and may not include all such resources or facilities.

Resources of Regional Significance: Transportation Facilities



Transportation Facilities of Regional Significance



Source: Florida Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2024.

Figure 6: List of Transportation Facilities of Regional Significance

INTERSTATES				
I-10 (SR 8)	I-95 (SR 9)	I-295 (SR 9A)		
US ROADS				
US 1 (SR 15 and SR 5)	US 301 (SR 200)	US 90 (SR 10 and SR 212)	US 17 (SR 15)	
STATE ROADS				
SR 2	SR 23	SR 111	SR 126	SR 208
SR 5A	SR 23 (First Coast Outer Beltway)	SR 113	SR 128	SR 211
SR 9B	SR 26	SR 114	SR 129	SR 224
SR 10A	SR 100	SR 115	SR 134	SR 228
SR 11	SR 101	SR 115A	SR 139	SR 228A
SR 13	SR 102	SR 116	SR 152	SR 230
SR 16	SR 103	SR 117	SR 202	SR 243
SR 19	SR 104	SR 121	SR 206	SR 312
SR 20	SR 105	SR 122	SR 207	SR A1A
SR 21	SR 109			
COUNTY ROADS				
CR 2	CR 105A	CR 125	CR 213	CR 304
CR 5	CR 105B	CR 127	CR 214	CR 305
CR 5A	CR 106	CR 130	CR 215	CR 305A
CR 13	CR 107	CR 139B	CR 216	CR 308
CR 13A	CR 107A	CR 163	CR 217	CR 308B
CR 13B	CR 108	CR 200A	CR 218	CR 309
CR 15A	CR 109A	CR 201	CR 219	CR 309B
CR 16A	CR 110	CR 203	CR 220	CR 309C
CR 20A	CR 115	CR 204	CR 220A	CR 309D
CR 21	CR 115A	CR 205	CR 220B	CR 310
CR 21A	CR 115C	CR 207A	CR 225	CR 311
CR 21B	CR 116	CR 208	CR 226	CR 312
CR 21D	CR 117	CR 209	CR 228	CR 315
CR 23A	CR 119	CR 209A	CR 229	CR 315C
CR 23C	CR 121	CR 209B	CR 231	CR 318
CR 23D	CR 121A	CR 210	CR 250	CR 352
CR 99	CR 122	CR 210A	CR 250A	CR 739
CR 101A	CR 123	CR 211	CR 302	CR 739B
CR 103	CR 124	CR 212		

(Note: Policy 28 defines such facilities, and this list may not be all-inclusive.)

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal: Create efficient connectivity within the Region, and with state, national, and global economies. Include centers of population and jobs that are well-connected, limit commute times for most residents and provide opportunities for all residents of the region to work if they choose. Northeast Florida makes development of regional employment centers and infrastructure a first priority, politically and fiscally.

~~**Goal:** In order to promote a diversified and vibrant regional economy, the Region supports an efficient multi-modal transportation framework to move people and goods, and NEFRC and its partners support over time the infrastructure investments needed to make it work~~
To promote a diversified and vibrant regional economy, the Region supports an efficient multimodal transportation framework to move people and goods. NEFRC and its partners support the infrastructure investments needed to make it work over time. The framework maintains an environment ~~that includes~~ with mobility options to move goods and people to support business and industry.

Pillar: Innovation and Economic Development

OBJECTIVE: MOBILITY – PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM MOBILITY AND ACCESS

Policies

Policy 1: The Region supports ~~strategies~~ strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including

- Reduced commute times and automobile dependence, as they provide additional opportunities for residents to engage in physical activity.
- Reduced automobile dependence through community design that encourages walking, scooters, and bicycles as transportation modes.
- Mixed-use communities that integrate residential and employment-generating land uses to reduce the need to travel great distances for work.
- Using park design and community design to ensure that recreation areas are accessible to all residents, and providing mobility and programmatic options so that all ~~of~~ residents can get to recreation areas without the use of a personal vehicle.
- Increasing the proportion of trips of less than a mile that are accomplished by walking, and the proportion of trips of less than 5 miles that are accomplished by biking.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

Policy 2: The Region aspires to provide the most reliable, comprehensive, and cost-effective service possible to the transportation disadvantaged. The NEFRC will use partnerships to realize Regional efficiencies, provide access to all necessary services, and increase trips that encourage social interaction.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: CONNECTIVITY – MAXIMIZE THE UTILITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNED AND CONNECTED CENTERS

OBJECTIVE: ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS: A MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

OBJECTIVE: INTEGRATED PLANNING: THE LINK BETWEEN LAND USE, RESOURCES AND MOBILITY

Policy 3: NEFRC gathers best practices and connects communities with strategies and practitioners that can help address their issues within the context of the aspirational goals of First Coast Vision. Convening to share experiences and discuss solutions is an important part of this approach.

~~Pillar: Quality of Life and Quality Places, SCP: 187.201(4)F.S.~~

Policy 4: The Region supports strategies identified by the Regional Community Institute as they worked on First Coast Vision, including:

- Local governments as they identify areas appropriate for mixed-use development.
- Communication of the benefits of density and mixed-use development, including demonstration of property value increase.
- Emphasis on balance between individual and common spaces and the transition of densities, so that residents of the Region see the benefits, regardless of the lifestyle choices they make.
- Incentives for dense and/or ~~mixed use~~ mixed-use development.
- Incentives to private landowners to maintain wise forestry practices and maintain ecosystem services on their lands.
- Maintenance of a diversity of land use in the Region.

- Conservation of natural resources through public land acquisition to preserve ecosystem services.
- Reduction of impervious surfaces in the Region.
- Infill and redevelopment.
- Use of ~~low-impact~~ low-impact development practices.
- Balance between land use and parking policies.
- Learning from other communities and Regions.
- Sensitivity to communities in road and mobility infrastructure design.
- Communities that are planned for people first, not cars.
- Giving residents great places to walk ~~to~~-safely. Encouraging developers and local governments to promote mixed-use communities that provide alternative forms of transportation, such as sidewalks, bike paths, and transit stops in locations with the highest density.
- Provision of reliable transit options.
- Designation of areas for *Transit Oriented Development* (TOD) and the offering of ~~cost~~ effective cost-effective incentives within them for development that is affordable, dense, and/or green.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES: FUNDING MOBILITY AND MAINTAINING CAPACITY

OBJECTIVE EDGE – MAKING FULL AND TIMELY USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Policy 5: Northeast Florida is receptive to technology that improves the transportation system or can otherwise benefit the quality of life in the Region. If technology can help us ~~to improve quality of life in the Region, we~~ improve the quality of life in the region, we will embrace it.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(19)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: CLARITY ON THE DEFINITION OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Policy 6: Regionally significant transportation facilities are those facilities used to provide transportation between municipalities located both within and outside the region and other specially designated facilities. Regional facilities and resources provide an interconnected system for the movement of people, goods, and services between the cities,

counties, and states in the Region. The regional road network is comprised of connecting interstate, intrastate and U.S. highways, state roads and county roads, airports, ports, and train and transit facilities. In addition, regionally significant facilities include any roadway that currently or as proposed and funded provides direct access to a regional facility or resource.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(17)(a)~~

OBJECTIVE: CONSISTENCY WITH THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

Policy 7: NEFRC considers impacts to resources of regional significance and extra jurisdictional impacts as it reviews consistency with the SRPP. Local governments and proposers of projects should include best available data gathered using professionally acceptable methodology in support of their proposals, sufficient to determine impacts. Where mitigation is proposed, using strategies outlined in local government policies or plans, the SRPP or a combination is encouraged.

~~Pillar: Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, SCP: 187.201(15)(a)~~

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MEASURES

Travel Time Reliability in the Peak Hour	Interstate	Expressways/Freeways
North Florida TPO Performance Measure 2021 2016	94 89 %	94 89 %
River to Sea TPO Performance Measure for Flagler County 2014 2023	100 98 %	98 94.6 %

Agenda Item

Tab 10

Tab 10

Tab 10

Tab 10

Tab 10



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🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org




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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 30, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: BETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: EDA FUNDING: POST DISASTER RECOVERY FOR HURRICANES HELENE & MILTON

The Economic Development Administration awarded NEFRC a non-competitive grant for post disaster economic recovery for the 2024 Hurricane Season, including hurricanes Helene and Milton. This funding will allow for the continuation of economic recovery work, including collaboration and coordination for projects and grant funding and technical assistance as needed by local communities.

NEFRC will also use this funding to start the Community Visioning Initiative aimed at providing low-cost community visioning to smaller local governments that often have fewer resources for future visioning and planning. This program will engage community stakeholders to create a vision for the future on an individual community basis.

