

NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting
Virtual & In-Person



100 Festival Park Avenue
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Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 4, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting **will be held on June 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** This will be a hybrid meeting, **virtual and in-person**, at the Northeast Florida Regional Council office located 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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Northeast Florida Regional Council

BOARD of DIRECTORS

A G E N D A

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

Meeting ID: 816 0095 0326

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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

TAB

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – 1st Vice President Whitehurst
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – 1st Vice President Whitehurst
4. Welcome New Board Member – 1st Vice President Whitehurst
 - Nassau County Municipal Representative, **Vice-Mayor David Sturges**,
City of Fernandina Beach, FL
5. Invitation to Speak – 1st Vice President Whitehurst

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

*** 6. Consent Agenda – 1st Vice President Whitehurst**

A. March 2, 2023 Draft Meeting Summary	1
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C. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews	3
• City of Green Cove Springs Transmitted Amendment 23-1ESR	
• Nassau County Transmitted Amendment 23-2SP	
• Nassau County Transmitted Amendment 23-3SP	
• City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 23-1ESR	
• City of Palatka Adopted Amendment 23-1ESR	
• City of Jacksonville Adopted Amendment 22-4ESR	
D. Florida Regional Councils Association Update	4

7. Other Reports/Action Items

- A. Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust – Food & Beverage Tax – Mr. Manny Sarria,
Assistant Executive Director with Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust5
- B. Regional Community Institute Work – Cultivation: Things to Consider – Ms. Moehring...6
- C. Program Spotlight: Town of Welaka’s Downtown Vision Competitive FL
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- D. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Payne8
- E. Regional Leadership Academy Update – Mr. Bacon9

8. Public Comment – LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER

9. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – 1st Vice President Whitehurst

10. Ex-Officio Members’ Reports:

- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity – Mr. Register
- Florida Department of Transportation – Mr. Austin
- St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey

11. Chief Executive Officer’s Report – Ms. Payne

12. Upcoming Events:

- May 4, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Duval
- May 4, 2023 – St. Johns County Hurricane Exercise, St. Johns
- May 9, 2023 – Rescue Task Force During Emergency Response to Active Assailant Incident (Virtual Training)
- May 9, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Flagler
- May 9, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, St. Johns
- May 15, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Putnam
- May 15, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Clay
- May 16, 2023 – Lone Wolf Threat in Every Town USA (Virtual Training)
- May 17, 2023 – Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition Meeting
- May 18, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Baker
- May 18, 2023 – Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Meeting, Nassau
- May 18, 2023 – Trails and Ecotourism Steering Committee virtual meeting
- May 24, 2023 – North Central Florida Healthcare Coalition Meeting
- May 24, 2023 – Resilient First Coast Steering Committee Meeting, Duval
- **May 29, 2023 – MEMORIAL DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- **June 1, 2023 – NEFRC Board of Directors / Committee Meetings**

Upcoming Events (Continued):

- June 5-7, 2023 – JEA & City of Jacksonville Hurricane Exercise, Duval
- June 6-7, 2023 – Hospital Patient Surge Full-Scale Exercise, Duval

13. Next Board Meeting: **June 1, 2023**

14. Adjournment

(*Denotes Action Required)

Agenda

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

MEETING WORKSHOP

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors, pursuant to Chapter 120.525, F.S., held a hybrid meeting both in-person, at 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL, and virtually via Zoom, on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 10:03 a.m.

President DeFoor welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with the following members present:

- BAKER:** Commissioner Bennett (**zoom**)
Mr. Griffis (**in person**)
Mr. Register (**in person**)
- CLAY:** Mr. Bourre (**in person**)
Mr. Steve Kennedy (**in person**)
Commissioner Jim Renninger (**in person**)
- DUVAL:** Councilmember Randy DeFoor (**in person**)
Councilmember Joyce Morgan (**zoom**)
- FLAGLER:** Mayor David Alfin (**zoom**)
Mayor Catherine Robinson (**zoom**)
Commissioner David Sullivan (**zoom**)
- NASSAU:** Commissioner John Martin (**in person**)
- PUTNAM:** Commissioner Harvey (**zoom**)
- ST. JOHNS:** Commissioner Christian Whitehurst (**in person**)
- EX-OFFICIO:** Mr. Brian Austin, FDOT (**zoom**)
Mr. Doug Conkey, SJRWMD (**in person**)
Ms. Katlyn Craver, FDEP (**zoom**)
Mr. Hart, FDEO (**in person**)
- Excused:** Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Arnold, Commissioner Horvath, and Mayor Lynch
- Absent:** Commissioner Adamczyk, Mayor Brown, Commissioner Condon, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Drew, and
- Guests:** Jessica Beach, CJ Davila, Emily Ducker, Ron Fox, Dennis Ragosta, Bill White, 19046528573, and other members of the public
- Presenters:** -Dr. Jennifer Languell, President/Founder, Trifecta Construction; Ms. Mary Tappouni, Treasurer, Florida Green Building Coalition

-Ms. Lori Burklew, Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator,
St. Johns River Water Management District

Staff: Matamron Bacon, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Annie Sieger, Donna Starling,
Sheron Forde, et al.

Roll call determined that a **quorum was not present**. Therefore, the meeting was held as a workshop. All action items are deferred to the April Executive Committee meeting.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

President DeFoor 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

Staff's review report of the Comprehensive Plan Amendments were received and reviewed by the President, and Membership, prior to this meeting. Therefore, **utilizing the Alternate Review process, President DeFoor approved staff's Comprehensive Plan Amendments Review Report.**

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

Program Spotlight: Transportation Disadvantaged

Mr. Matamron Bacon, Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinator, provided a presentation of the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) program. Members who serve as Chair of their County's Local Coordinating Boards (LCB) were acknowledged. The LCBs are comprised of various state and local stakeholders who determine service standards and provide guidance to service providers. The State has contracted with the Northeast Florida Regional Council to serve as the Designated Official Planning Agency since 1994 for six of the seven counties; Duval County was added in 2021. The presentation included a brief background of the TD program, including an organizational chart; Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for each county and their roles; LCB representation requirements; and program highlights for fiscal year 2022-2023. Discussion followed.

Reserves Transfer

Chair Register reminded the Members of the Reserves Policy created in 2021, which states when and how to transfer funds to Reserves. Based on the audited financials for the FY 21/22, the Personnel, Budget & Finance Policy Committee approved the transfer of the maximum amount of twenty percent (\$10,181) of the audited net income to Reserves. A brief discussion followed.

Community Resiliency Update

Ms. Ilami provided an update on resiliency activities over the past month and highlighted the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, in which 17 organizations have signed partner agreements, Resilient Florida Program Planning Grant Awards for Fiscal Year 2022-23; Florida Department of Environmental Protection's RRE Grant Project for Vulnerability Assessment Coordination task submittals; a tour of Natural and Nature-Based Features in Northeast Florida for the Silver Jackets project; an overview of a recent meeting regarding the Military Installations Resilience Review; and the Council's ongoing resiliency work. Discussion followed.

Regional Leadership Academy Highlights

Mr. Nolen provided an overview of the Regional Leadership Academy, its participants, and the program's commitment to regional visioning and growth for the betterment of local communities. Highlights of the first two programs were provided: 1) Baker County's 'Making a Living, Making a Life – Economy and Quality of Life' that included a tour of Heritage Park, and 2) Putnam County's 'Flourishing Environment and Revival', which included a trip to Ravine Gardens State Park. Mr. Nolen provided a preview to the next program, which takes place on March 29th, that includes a visit to Flagler County's Princess Place Preserve.

Ecotourism & Trails Project Update

Mr. Anderson shared information on the Ecotourism & Trails kickoff meeting of February 22nd, which hosted approximately 65 interested participants (of the 115 who registered) from across the Region. An overview of the meeting was provided, including setting expectations and general scope and desired outcomes, question and answer session, group polling on Ecotourism and trails, and discussion of next steps. Desired outcomes included an inventory of the existing resources, a regional vision, regional marketing approach, access to funding opportunities, and an understanding of qualitative and economic benefits. A project schedule was shared that would be updated on a monthly basis. Next steps include the establishment of a steering committee, and building a foundation for the GIS work. Staff will be reaching out to local governments and organizations asking them to share their data and other information. Staff will provide an update regularly.

Ms. Payne shared information on the reach that this project has taken, in that staff have been contacted by various state agencies wanting to be on the Steering Committee, i.e., the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Transportation, and also the Department of Interior and the U.S. National Park Service. There is a wide variety of interests of folks who want to see this work in Northeast Florida move forward and who have volunteered their time and expertise to help with the project; we're excited about it. Discussion followed.

Presentation: Babcock Ranch

Dr. Jennifer Languell, President/Founder, Trifecta Construction, provided a presentation entitled, 'Resilient By Design' relating to the Babcock Ranch; the country's first solar powered town. She highlighted some current realities that have contributed to sustainability concerns. Three things that drives whether or not green building and sustainable development occur include regulation, funding, and corporate culture. She provided an overview of the development of Babcock Ranch, beginning with the largest land purchase in the State Florida, 92,000 acres; 74,000 acres was placed back into conservation. Of the remaining 18,000 acres being developed, approximately 61 percent is being put into reserves and open space. Dr. Languell shared information on the Town's location, 20 miles from the water, which dictated the Town Plan that focused on water conservation, storm resiliency and renewable energy. The entire Town was built to the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) standards, which was used to guide the sustainability components of the community. The Town received a Platinum Certification. The FGBC components for this certification include preservation and conservation, circulation, utilities, amenities, and education.

Dr. Languell also shared information on the Town's ability to withstand 131 mph hurricane force winds during Hurricane Ian, without any loss of power. She highlighted the factors that helped the community's ability to shelter in place, such as utilities, stormwater, native vegetation, and structures. While their buildings are built to withstand 160 mph winds, they also have a structure built to withstand hurricane force winds of 180 mph. The buildings are also built according to Florida Building Code, which requires a continuous load path; the home is tied together from the roof to the foundation. This helps to keep roofs on during these types of storms. The Town did sustain damage during Hurricane Ian, however, the residences, community buildings and infrastructure damage was approximately \$500,000 compared to the \$75 billion other communities are dealing with. Post Ian, plans are being considered to fortify structures, lakes pumping to address needs. A brief discussion followed.

Ms. Mary Tappouni, Treasurer, Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC), and local general contractor and business owner, shared additional information on sustainability efforts in Northeast Florida. She stated that FGBC is a Statewide organization; they also work with other Regional Councils, have partnered with this Council on affordable housing, and the Florida Housing Coalition. She informed the members that the City of Jacksonville is doing FGBC certification on public buildings. They are also working in St. Johns and Clay Counties. Discussion followed.

Northeast Florida Regional Water Supply Plan Update

Ms. Lori Burklew, Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator, St. Johns River Water Management District, presented information on the North Florida Water Supply Plan that is currently being drafted. The Plan is being coordinated in conjunction with the Suwannee River Water Management District and sets the water supply and identifies constraints for the next five plus years. The presentation highlighted the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership (NFRWSP) mandate; the historic water use and population versus projected water demand and population in the NFRWSP; the status assessment for adopted Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) of water bodies – with two in our region that are not meeting their MFLs, identified as Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva.

Ms. Burklew stated that the Water Management District's (WMD) are currently reaching out to stakeholders to develop projects and solutions that will allow growth without impacting resources. Water conservation, recharge, and alternative water supply are tools that can be utilized to address resource constraints. Since 2015, they have worked with stakeholders to implement and fund over 70 water supply related projects through the cost-share program. She stated that the cost-share program for fiscal year 2023-2024 recently closed, but will open again early next year as this is a recurring, annual program. While individual projects will be part of the solution going forward, they will need more large-scale regional projects like the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project in Clay County in order to meet going demand. She added that water conservation is the most important action that can be taken to sustain water supply.

In summary, Ms. Burklew stated that it has been determined that ground water alone will not be sufficient to meet the demands of the Region; the WMD will be working with stakeholders to develop projects through the end of April with the intent to finalize the Water Supply Plan later this year. A brief discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORTS

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity – Shared an article, ‘As Business Environments continue to Change Post Pandemic, State and local incentive programs must continue to evolve.’ The article concluded that, “States and communities that are progressive and continue to evolve their incentive programs will be successful and generates a positive return on investments for the governmental entities providing the incentives.”

Florida Department of Transportation – Nothing to report.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection – reminded about a variety of grant programs available, i.e., the Resilient Florida, Land and Recreation, Florida Communities Trust, and Recreational Trails. These may fall in line with the resiliency and ecotourism goals of the Council.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey stated that April’s Water Conservation Month Proclamations reminder have been pushed out to local governments and thanks everyone for their support.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

The Members were informed of a flurry of Council activities on grants as we approach the end of the State’s fiscal year; local government technical assistance, opioid discussions in Baker County, an upcoming EDA Recovery workshop in Palatka, and the Clay County Strategic Plan.

Ms. Payne also shared the need for a quorum at the meetings through in person participation.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be May 4, 2023.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:04 p.m.

Agenda Item

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

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

RE: MARCH 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$20,766 for the month of March and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$65,477.

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Regional Council - Agencywide	Adopted Budget 22/23	March 2023	YTD	Represents 50% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
Revenues					
County Dues	\$ 694,757	57,896	347,378	50%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$ 37,000	20,372	104,511	282%	232%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$ 176,015	15,284	90,927	52%	2%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	\$ 70,000	10,111	50,341	72%	22%
Hazardous Analysis	\$ 8,556	1,200	4,153	49%	-1%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$ 70,000	5,580	38,766	55%	5%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$ 66,000	-	31,046	47%	-3%
Division of Emergency Management Exercise Support	\$ -	60,003	60,003	0%	-50%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$ 5,000	-	-	0%	-50%
Healthcare Coalition	\$ 748,712	54,336	264,364	35%	-15%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$ 257,000	13,205	108,126	42%	-8%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$ 100,000	5,876	20,763	21%	-29%
Florida Hospital Association	\$ 73,500	-	47,018	64%	14%
Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)	\$ -	8,786	49,011	0%	-50%
American Flood Coalition	\$ -	1,745	6,656	0%	-50%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$ 4,900	350	1,050	21%	-29%
Other Revenue	\$ 100	1,520	4,123	0%	0%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,311,540	\$ 256,264	\$ 1,228,236	53%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$ 137,286	\$ (20,766)	\$ (65,477)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,448,826	\$ 235,498	\$ 1,162,759	47%	
Expenses					
Salaries and Fringe	\$ 1,494,146	112,760	710,361	48%	-2%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$ 611,230	102,335	292,397	48%	-2%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$ 213,000	14,266	99,447	47%	-3%
General Fund Expense*	\$ 130,450	6,137	60,554	46%	-4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,448,826	\$ 235,498	\$ 1,162,759	47%	
Net Income (loss)	\$ (137,286)	20,766	\$ 65,477		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
 Balance Sheet
 March 2023

	FY 21/22 March 2022	FY 22/23 March 2023
ASSETS		
Cash	2,452,109	2,237,393
Accounts Receivable	362,144	530,431
Pension Liability-Deferred Outflows	334,226	439,576
WJCT Security Deposit	7,400	7,400
Total Current Assets	<u>3,155,879</u>	<u>3,214,800</u>
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	<u>243,116</u>	<u>281,631</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>187,942</u>	<u>186,565</u>
Total Property and Equipment, net	<u>55,174</u>	<u>95,067</u>
Total Assets	<u>3,211,053</u>	<u>3,309,866</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	2,297	23,907
Accrued Salaries and Leave	107,607	59,224
Deferred Revenue	288,418	247,285
Pension Liability	428,190	1,087,234
Pension Liability-Deferred Inflows	566,417	56,671
Total Liabilities	<u>1,392,929</u>	<u>1,474,321</u>
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	<u>1,818,124</u>	<u>1,835,545</u>
Total Equity and Other Credits	<u>1,818,124</u>	<u>1,835,545</u>
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	<u>3,211,053</u>	<u>3,309,866</u>

YTD Comparison

	21/22 Net Income (Loss)	22/23 Net Income (Loss)	21/22 Cash Balance	22/23 Cash Balance
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AGENCYWIDE

October	\$ 21,535	\$ 3,147	\$ 2,492,686	\$ 2,480,421
November	\$ 9,605	\$ 10,292	\$ 2,494,600	\$ 2,548,733
December	\$ 22,210	\$ 21,445	\$ 2,487,274	\$ 2,427,805
January	\$ 27,295	\$ 29,526	\$ 2,452,970	\$ 2,516,530
February	\$ 63,350	\$ 44,710	\$ 2,623,570	\$ 2,488,934
March	\$ 98,960	\$ 65,477	\$ 2,452,109	\$ 2,237,393
April	\$ 125,273		\$ 2,340,155	
May	\$ 122,532		\$ 2,390,743	
June	\$ 153,422		\$ 2,247,173	
July	\$ 143,654		\$ 2,227,862	
August	\$ 116,384		\$ 2,466,138	
September	\$ 50,907		\$ 2,425,296	



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

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

RE: MARCH 2023 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest	<u>FY 21/22</u>	<u>FY 22/23</u>
March Interest	\$ 9	\$ 1,351
Year to Date Interest	\$ 51	\$ 3,411
Florida Local Government Investment Trust	<u>FY 21/22</u>	<u>FY 22/23</u>
Current Balance	\$17,786	\$17,915

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Agenda

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 2, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: ROBERT JORDAN, REGIONAL PLANNER *Robert C. Jordan*

RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEWS

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

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

Recommendation

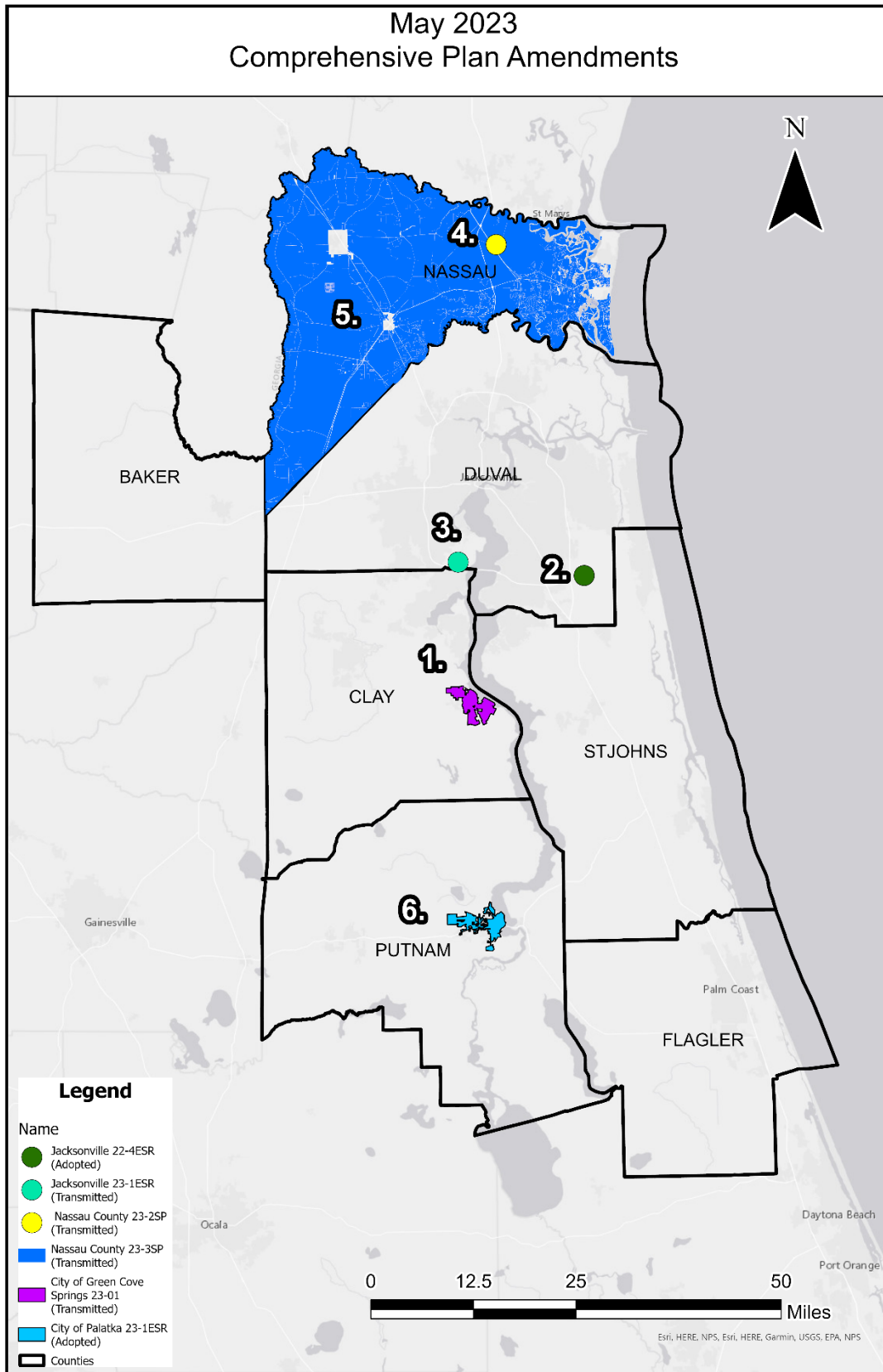
Staff respectfully recommend that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve the proposed amendments and concur that the adopted amendments are consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

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REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES



Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Green Cove Springs 23-01ESR	1	X		Clay	5-5-2023	Green Cove Springs Comprehensive Plan Update

- **Type:** Text
- **Issue:** This amendment to the City of Green Cove Springs Comprehensive Plan includes updates to the Future Land Use Element, Transportation Element, and Capital Improvements Element. The purpose of the proposed update is to continue to manage the impacts of development by enacting a transportation mobility fee and moving to a more multimodal transportation system.
- **Background:** Currently, the City manages transportation concurrency through traffic impact analyses. Development applicants generating more than 40 or more new peak-hour trips must complete a traffic study to determine the impact of their development on area roadways and identify improvements necessary to mitigate the impact. However, traffic studies, on average, take approximately six months to complete, which can slow the process of development approval and may prove to be a hindrance to medium-sized development. To continue to manage the impacts of development and move toward a more multi-modal transportation system, the City hired Gannet Fleming to conduct a transportation mobility study to define the need for additional transportation investment, specifically multimodal; document the standards of service and ration for additional capacity; and ensure that there is a rational nexus between the payees of the mobility fee and the beneficiaries. This would provide more fee predictability for development applicants and shorter application timelines without needing a traffic study. This amendment potentially could support the City in using funds collected to improve multimodal transportation capacity by improving walking and biking facilities as well as vehicular traffic. This amendment to the Comprehensive Plan addresses the policies regarding multimodal development and mobility fees to ensure that the subsequent mobility ordinance in the Land Development Regulations is compatible with the Comprehensive Plan Policies in the Future Land Use, Transportation, and Capital Improvements Elements.
- **Impacts:** No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended for this amendment.

Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Jacksonville 22-04ESR	2		X	Duval	5-5-2023	Ordinance 2023-67-E

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This amendment to the City of Jacksonville’s (COJ) Comprehensive Plan changed 6,174 acres of undeveloped land from Low-Density Residential (LDR) to Mixed Use (MU). The LDR land use is subject to site-specific Future Land Use Element (FLUE) Policies 4.4.11 and 4.4.12, while the MU is subject to site-specific FLUE Policy 4.3.22. Please refer to Maps 1-2 in the Appendix.
- **Background:** The property is located in the Southeast Planning District between J. Turner Butler Boulevard, Interstate 295, and near the St. Johns County line. Most of the site is located within the Rural Development Area with portions along the western boundary being located in the Suburban Redevelopment Area.

In 2020, approximately 5,300 acres of the property were amended from various agriculture land use categories to LDR. The FLUE Policies 4.4.11 and 4.4.12 required that the developer submit a conceptual master plan for review and approval by the COJ Planning Commission. The master plan was a long-range development plan that included elements like densities and intensities of residential and non-residential development which were similar to those in the MU land use category; the two land-use map amendments formed the basis for creating the current MU land use standards.

Based on this amendment from LDR to MU, FLUE Policy 4.3.22 was revised to increase single-family residential dwelling units from 5,889 to 6,103. Moreover, other revisions to the FLUE Policy included decreasing townhome residential dwelling units from 2,913 to 2,420; multi-family residential dwelling units from 2,938 to 2,052; and the gross square footage of commercial/office uses from 1,225,000 to 915,000.

- **Impacts:** The subject site is accessible from Phillips Highway (a major arterial) and is a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. A Daily Trip Generation Comparison between the previous and current Comprehensive Plan land uses and the potential transportation impacts on the roadway network were conducted by the City’s Transportation Planning Division. The previous land use resulted in 291,114 daily trips, and the current land use (amended to MU with a site-specific policy) is expected to result in 114,880 daily trips. The difference in daily trips for the current land use (amended to MU with a site-specific policy) will result in no net increase in daily trips compared to the previous land use.

Further, given the site is adjacent to the Pablo Creek Conservation Area, a Natural Resource of Regional Significance, the COJ’s Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department provided the following comments:

- Part of the management of the Preserve may include timber harvesting, prescribed burns for resource enhancement, and a reduction in wildfire impacts. Prescribed burning will create smoke, which may temporarily impact neighborhoods and surrounding areas. However, such efforts for the management of these lands for wildlife, resource protection, and recreation uses are necessary.

- The area is currently natural, so the planned development may have wetland, stormwater, and groundwater impacts in the Pablo Creek Watershed. The Department recommended that an environmental assessment be conducted to inventory listed or imperiled plant and animal species. If listed species are found, the Department recommended following a habitat conservation plan for protection or mitigation alternatives. The applicant submitted three Listed Wildlife and Habitat Assessment Reports on file with the City's Planning and Development Department.
- The Department also requested that at least a 50-foot natural, vegetated buffer be maintained along the development property's boundary with the Preserve. The Conceptual Master Plan was submitted for review in the adoption phase on November 2, 2022, and depicts an interconnected network of greenways and conservation lands that define the edges of residential neighborhoods and provide wildlife habitat corridors.

Based on the complete City's staff report for the amendment (some of which are highlighted here), there were no identified adverse effects to Significant Regional Resources and Facilities for the NEFRC Strategic Regional Policy Plan. Further, NEFRC staff also do not find any impacts inconsistent with the comprehensive plans of other municipalities in the county or counties in the region.

- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** The NEFRC recommended that the COJ coordinate with the St. Johns County Planning Department given the proximity of the site to St. Johns County. The COJ provided information for the amendment on several occasions.

Mailed notice of the proposed amendment and public hearing dates were provided to the St. Johns County Growth Management Department for review concurrent with the submittal of the amendment package to FDEO and the State Review Agencies. Moreover, the COJ emailed the St. Johns County Growth Management Department on August 2, 2022, in response to the NEFRC comments; and the department did not express any concerns.

Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Jacksonville 23-1ESR	3	X		Duval	5-5-2023	Ordinance 2023-116-E

- **Type:** Future Land Use Amendment
- **Issue:** This amendment to the City of Jacksonville’s Comprehensive Plan changes the Future Land Use of 127.95 acres located between Roosevelt Blvd. and Ortega Bluff Parkway from Light-Industrial (LI), Medium-Density Residential (MDR), and Residential-Professional-Institutional (RPI) to just Medium-Density Residential (MDR) and Residential-Professional-Institutional (RPI) to allow for commercial and multi-family uses. Please refer to Maps 3-4 in the Appendix.
- **Background:** The 127.95-acre subject site is located west of the railroad tracks along Roosevelt Boulevard, a major arterial road, with frontage along the north side of Collins Road, a collector road. The site is mostly undeveloped with two single-family residential units located along the Collins Road portion of the subject site. A companion rezoning application is not required for the transmittal round of legislation and will be processed during the adoption round of this amendment.
- **Impacts:** The subject site is 127.95-acres and is accessible from Roosevelt Blvd (U.S. 17) and Collins Road, a major arterial and collector facility, and U.S. 17 are considered a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. A daily trip comparison between the current and proposed comprehensive plan land uses and the potential transportation impacts on the roadway network was conducted by the Transportation Planning Division. The current land use would result in 12,092 or 11,441 daily trips, depending on the scenario. If the land use is amended, this will result in 28,556 or 14,493 daily trips, depending on the scenario. The difference in daily trips for the proposed land use amendment will result in 16,464 or 3,082 net new daily trips when compared to the existing land use. The U.S. 17 is subject to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) review and access management requirements. The Transportation Planning Division recommends ongoing coordinating efforts with the City of Jacksonville Traffic Engineer to determine if a traffic operational analysis is needed. The subject site is located within the 150-foot and 300-foot Height and Hazard Zones for the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, a Transportation Resource of Regional Significance. City zoning will limit development to a maximum height of less than 150 feet and 300 feet, respectively, unless approved by the Jacksonville Aviation Authority or the Federal Aviation Administration. No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** The subject site is within proximity to the Town of Orange Park and Clay County. The NEFRC recommends that the City of Jacksonville coordinate with the Town of Orange Park’s Economic and Community Development Department and the Clay County Planning and Zoning Department in the adoption phase.

Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Nassau County 23-2SP	4	X		Nassau	5-5-2023	CPA 22-012

- **Type:** Future Land Use
- **Issue:** This proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (FLUM) is comprised of 45 parcels totaling almost 15,000 acres and occupies a strategically located area between US 17 and Chester Road, in the rapidly growing Yulee area. The property is currently designated on the FLUM as Multi-Use, which includes several customized future land use subcategories. The applicant is requesting a map change to the FLUM that adjusts the boundaries of the currently adopted land use subcategories and revises the East Nassau Community Planning Area (ENCPA) mobility network. Please refer to Maps 5-7 and Table 1 in the Appendix.
- **Background:** This amendment is primarily concerned with the revision of the FLUM, specifically changes to the location and distribution of the land use subcategories. Accompanying revisions to the roadway network (Future Transportation Map Series/FTMS) are included with the companion amendment CPA22-013. Map changes include revisions to the road system and adjustments to subcategory areas as shown in the Table included in the appendices. The proposed land use sub-category mix has increased the average 2.5 dwelling units/acres suburban Residential Tier 2 subcategory by almost 25%, shifting most of those units from the rural Tier 3 subcategory. The remaining land use subcategories have been modified to better define boundaries in relation to the realigned road network. The County supports the final land use mix as a workable compromise that provides for market-driven suburban development while retaining the denser development in and around the Village Centers and in the resort. The Village Center, Resort, and Tier 1 still maintain an important 27% share of non-Conservation Habitat Network (CHN) acreage. The only other proposed change is a gain of over 200 acres into the CHN, which Staff also supports. This amendment has the following companion development application in CPA 22-013, which is an amendment to the Transportation Element and Future Transportation Map Series.
- **Impacts:** No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended for this amendment.

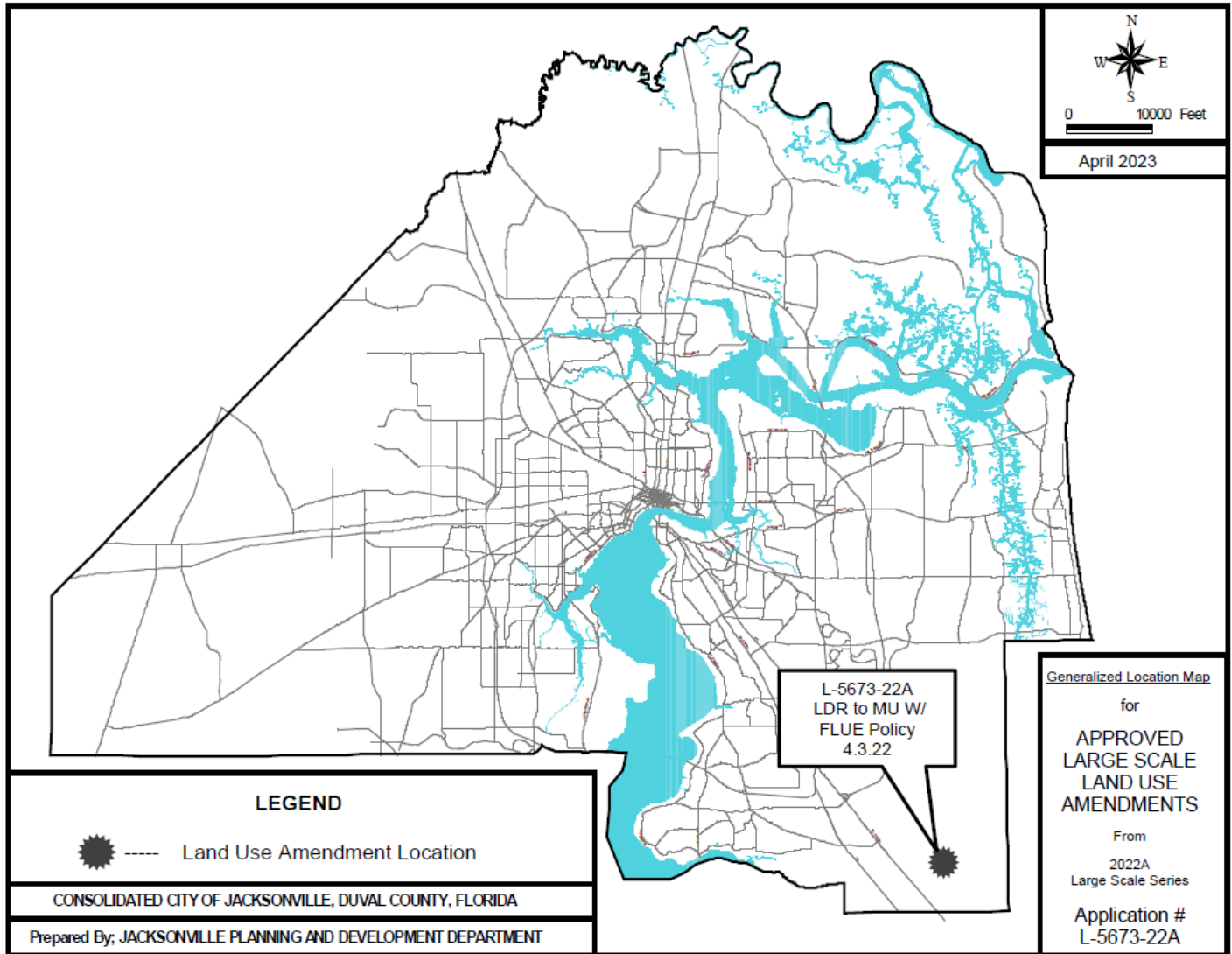
Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
Nassau County 23-3SP	5	X		Nassau	5-5-2023	CPA 22-013

- **Type:** Text Amendment
 - **Issue:** This proposed amendment is an update to the Transportation Element to reflect project updates and changes made to the ENCPA Wildlight Mobility Network by Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA 22-012. The approximate boundary includes the area north of Pages Dairy Road East, East of US 17, south of the St. Mary’s River, and west of Chester Road. Please refer to Maps 8-11 in the Appendix.
 - **Backgrounds:** As required by Florida Statute Chapter 163.3177(6)(b)1, Nassau County’s Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element addresses traffic circulation, including the types, locations, and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares and transportation routes, including bicycle and pedestrian ways. The element also includes maps showing the general location of the existing and proposed transportation system features and is coordinated with the plans and programs of any applicable metropolitan transportation planning organization (TPO), transportation authority, and the Department of Transportation adopted work program. The current Transportation Element and Transportation Element Future Transportation Map Series (FTMS) was amended in 2020 to be consistent with the North Florida TPO’s 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and serve as a basis for the update to the County’s adopted Mobility Plan and the ENCPA Sector Plan Mobility Network. The proposed amendment would update the Transportation Element to:
 1. Amend FTMS-5, Nassau County Needs Network 2045; FTMS-6, Nassau County Cost Feasible Network 2045; FTMS-7, Nassau County Bicycle Facilities; and FTMS-8, Nassau County Trail Facilities to reflect project updates and changes made to the ENCPA Wildlight mobility network by Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA22-012. The approximate amendment boundary includes the area north of Pages Dairy Road, East of US 17, south of the St. Mary’s River, and west of Chester Road.
 2. Provide clarification and correct typographical errors.
 3. Recognize the purpose of the adopted fee-in-lieu program for sidewalks and trail construction.
 4. Amend policies to add Nassau Transit to the list of local and regional agencies that include a transit component.
 - **Impacts:** No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified.
- Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** No intergovernmental coordination is recommended for this amendment.

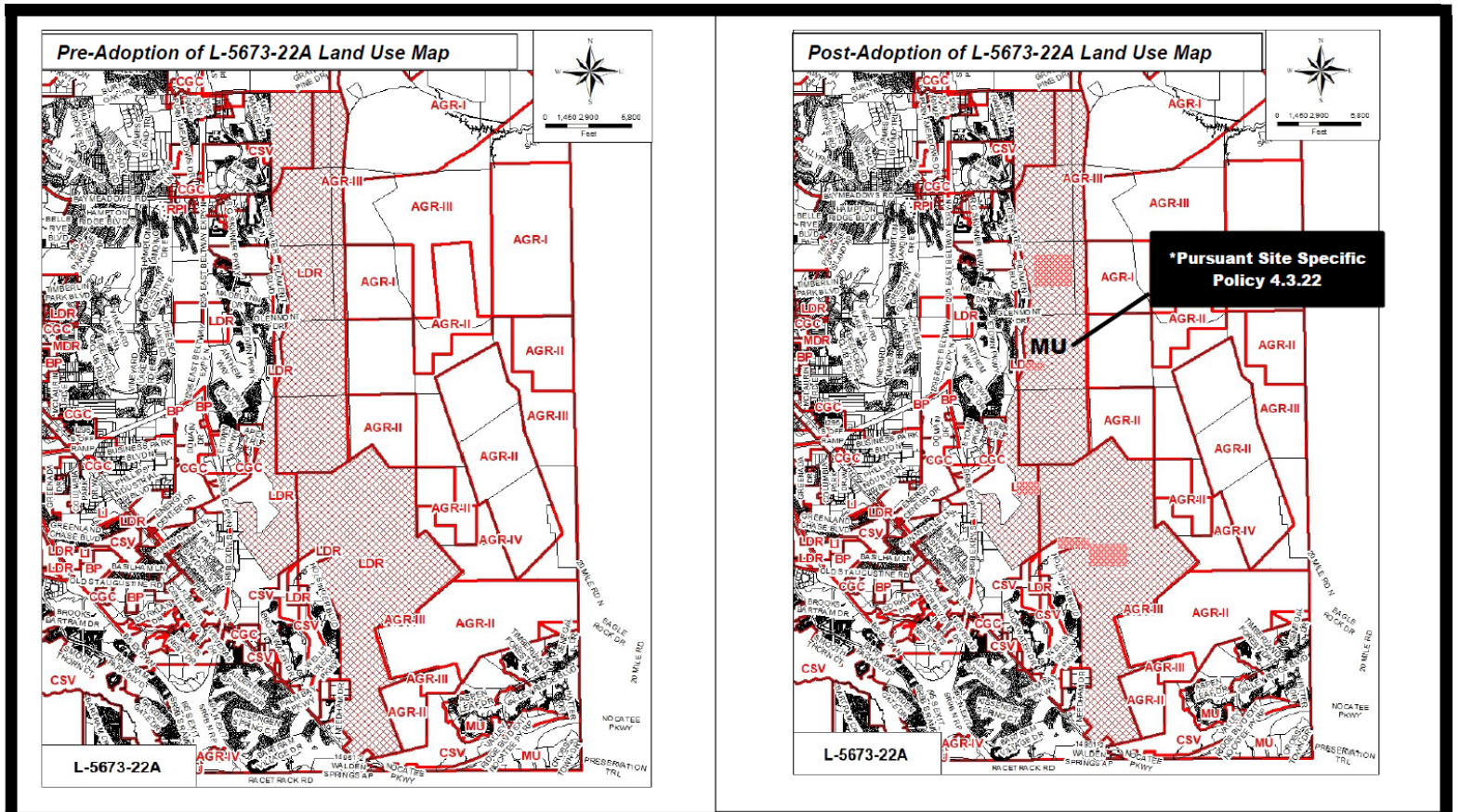
Local Govt. and Plan Amendment	Number on Regional Map	Proposed	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Palatka 23-1ESR	6		X	Putnam	5-5-2023	Ordinance 2023-06
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type: Text Amendment • Issue: The City of Palatka, under Section 163.3187(1) adopted an amendment to the Capital Improvements Element of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. • Background: This amendment updated the City’s Capital Improvements Element to reflect changes to the City’s 2022 Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The new CIP includes capital improvements the City intends to fund, in whole or part, with development impact fees and other funds and for other purposes. • Impacts: No impacts to Resources of Regional Significance or extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of an affected local government were identified. • Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination: No intergovernmental coordination is recommended for this amendment. 						

Appendix

Map 1: City of Jacksonville 22-4ESR (Location Map)



Map 2: City of Jacksonville 22-4ESR (Existing and Proposed Future Land Use Map)



Request for Large Scale Land Use Amendment to Future Land Use Map Series

From: Low Density Residential (LDR) Subject to Site Specific Policies 4.4.11 and 4.4.12
To: Multi-Use (MU) With Site Specific Policy 4.3.22



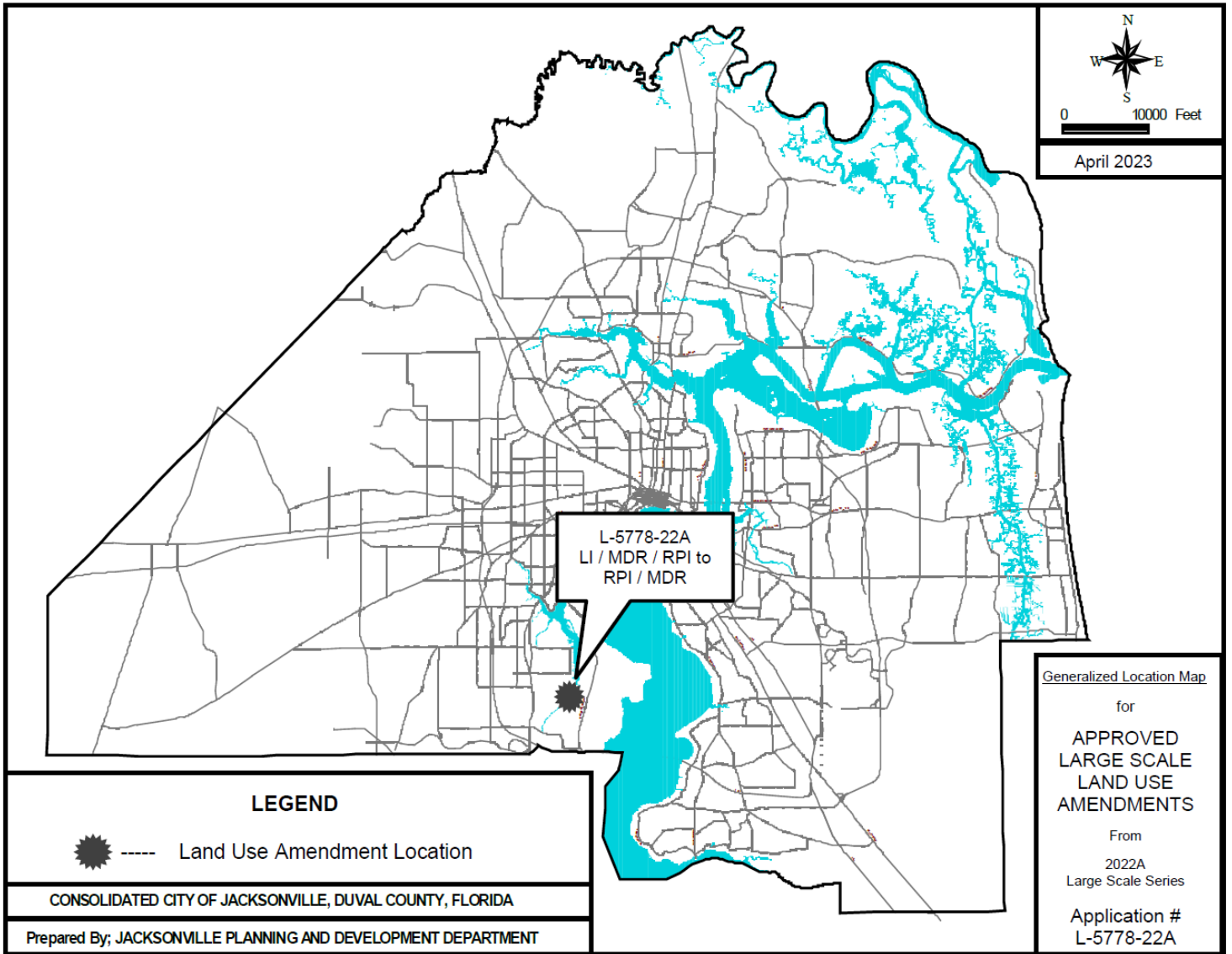
Planning District: 3

Identification Number: L-5673-22A

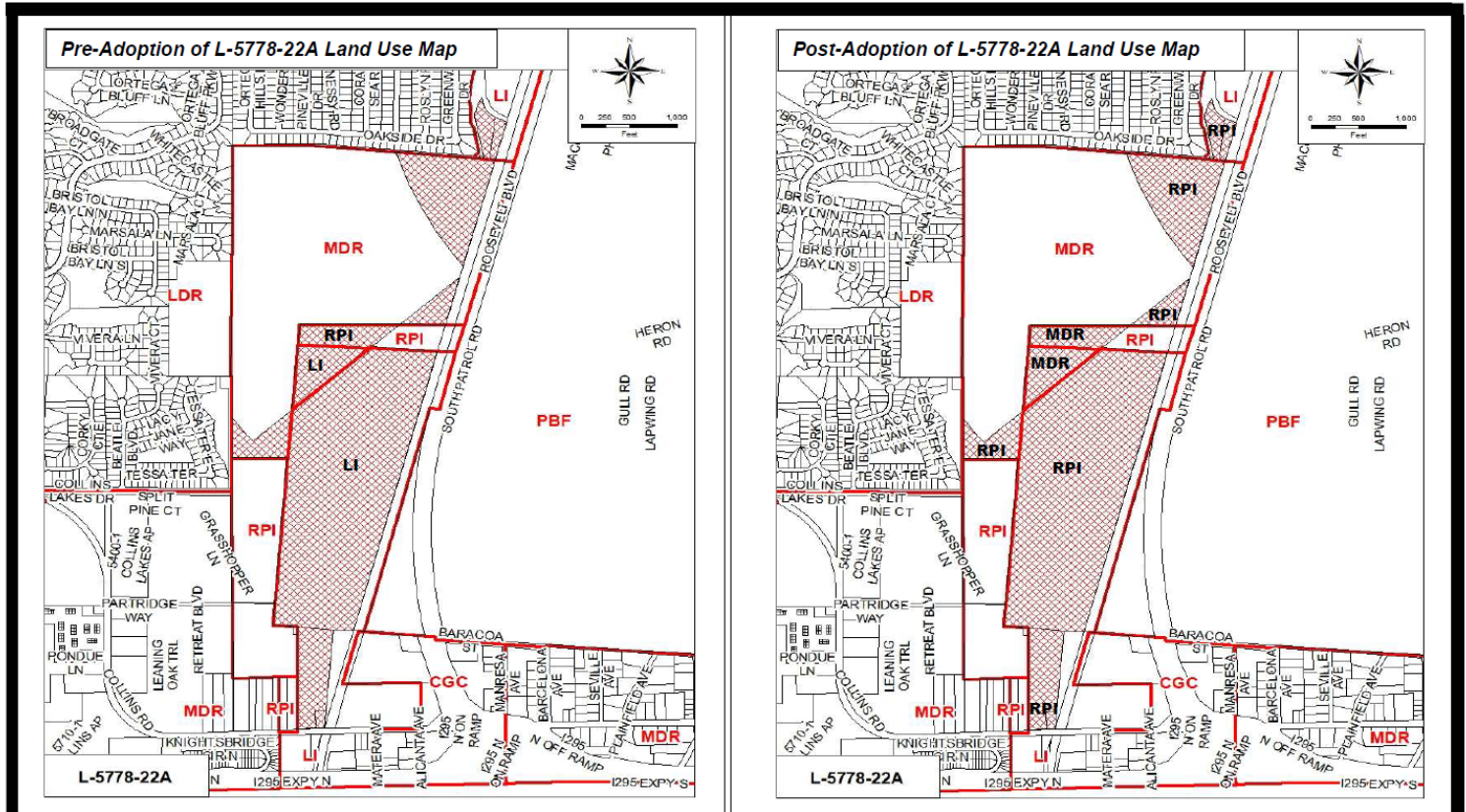
Council District: 11

Exhibit 2 (Page 1 of 1)

Map 3: The City of Jacksonville 23-1ESR (Location Map)



Map 4: The City of Jacksonville 23-1ESR(Existing and Proposed Future Land Use)



Request for Large Scale Land Use Amendment to Future Land Use Map Series

From: Light Industrial (LI), Medium Density Residential (MDR), and Residential-Professional-Institutional (RPI)
To: Medium Density Residential (MDR) and Residential-Professional-Institutional (RPI)



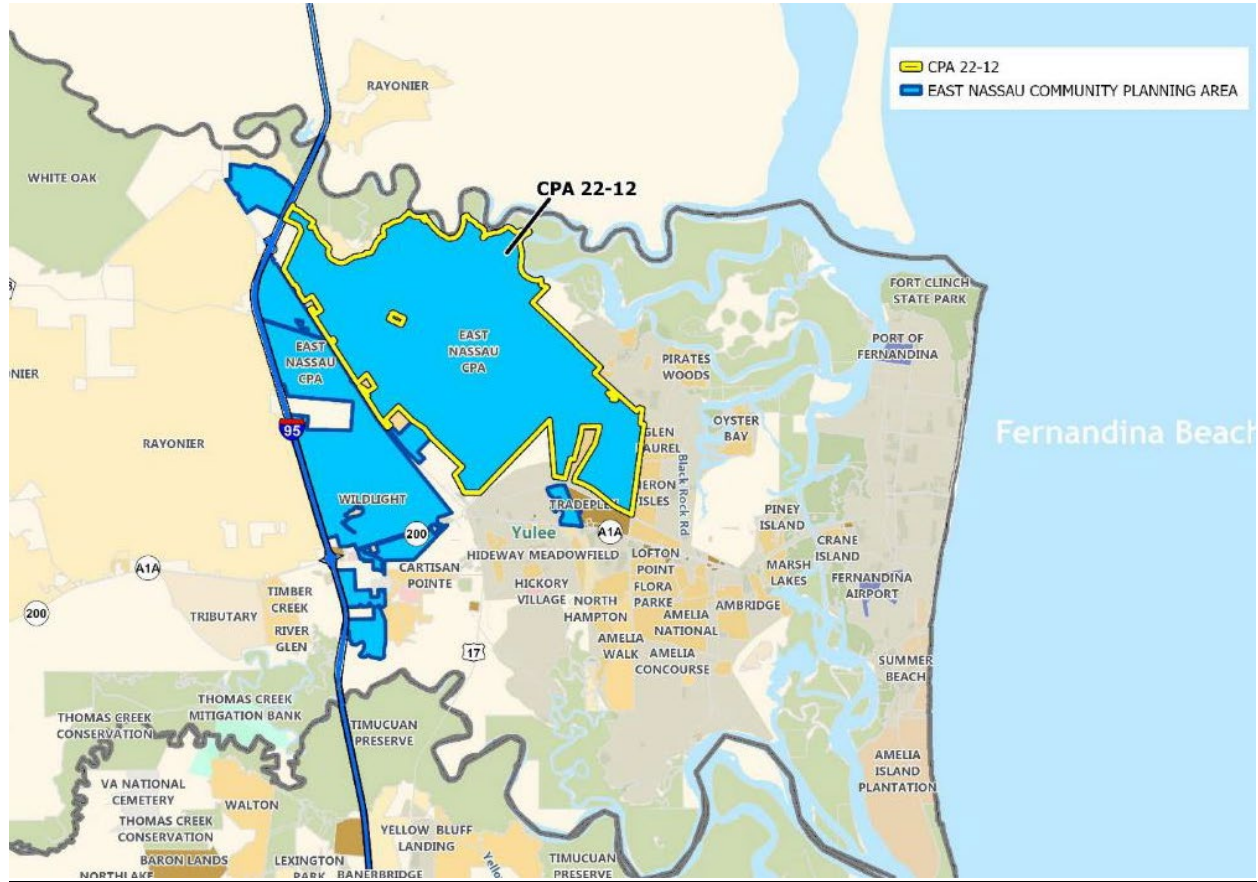
Planning District: 4

Identification Number: L-5778-22A

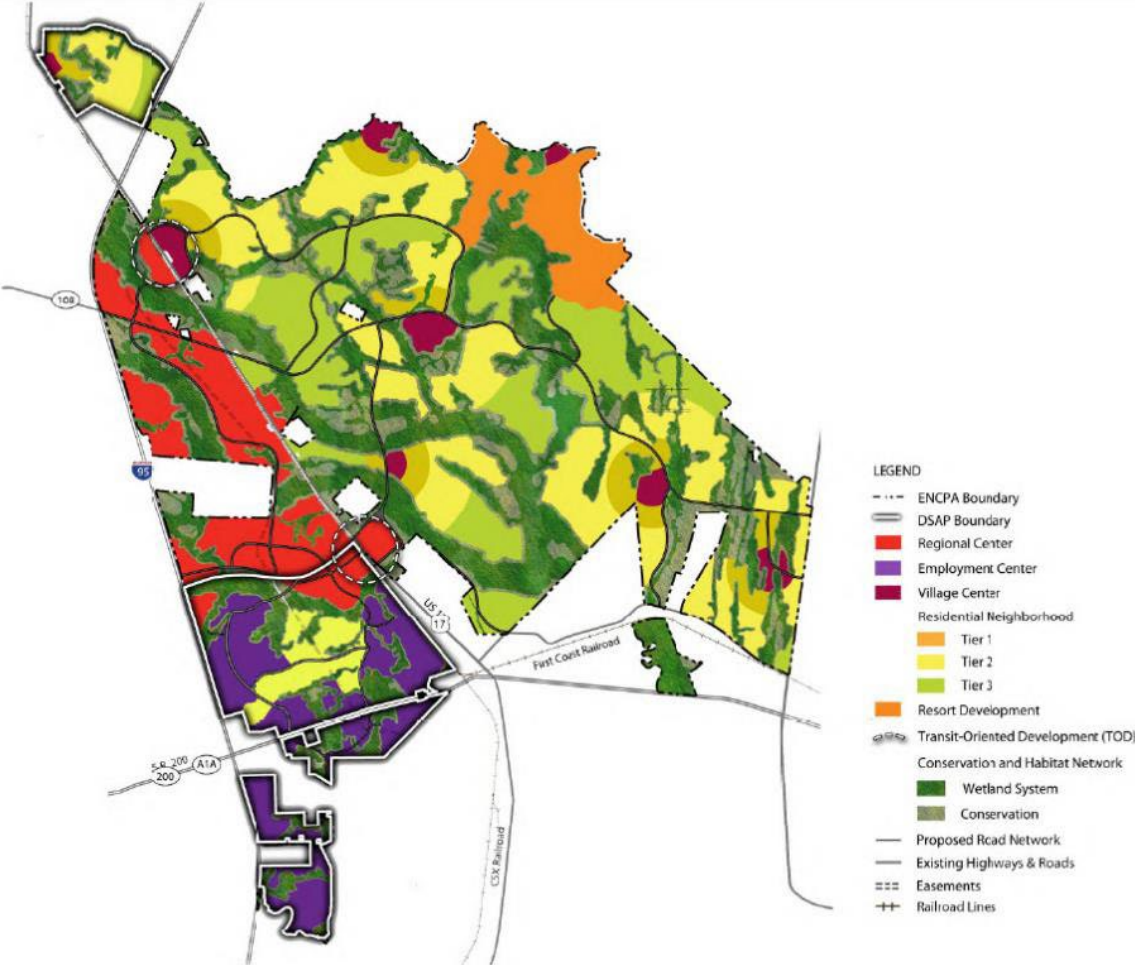
Council District: 14

Exhibit 2 (Page 1 of 1)

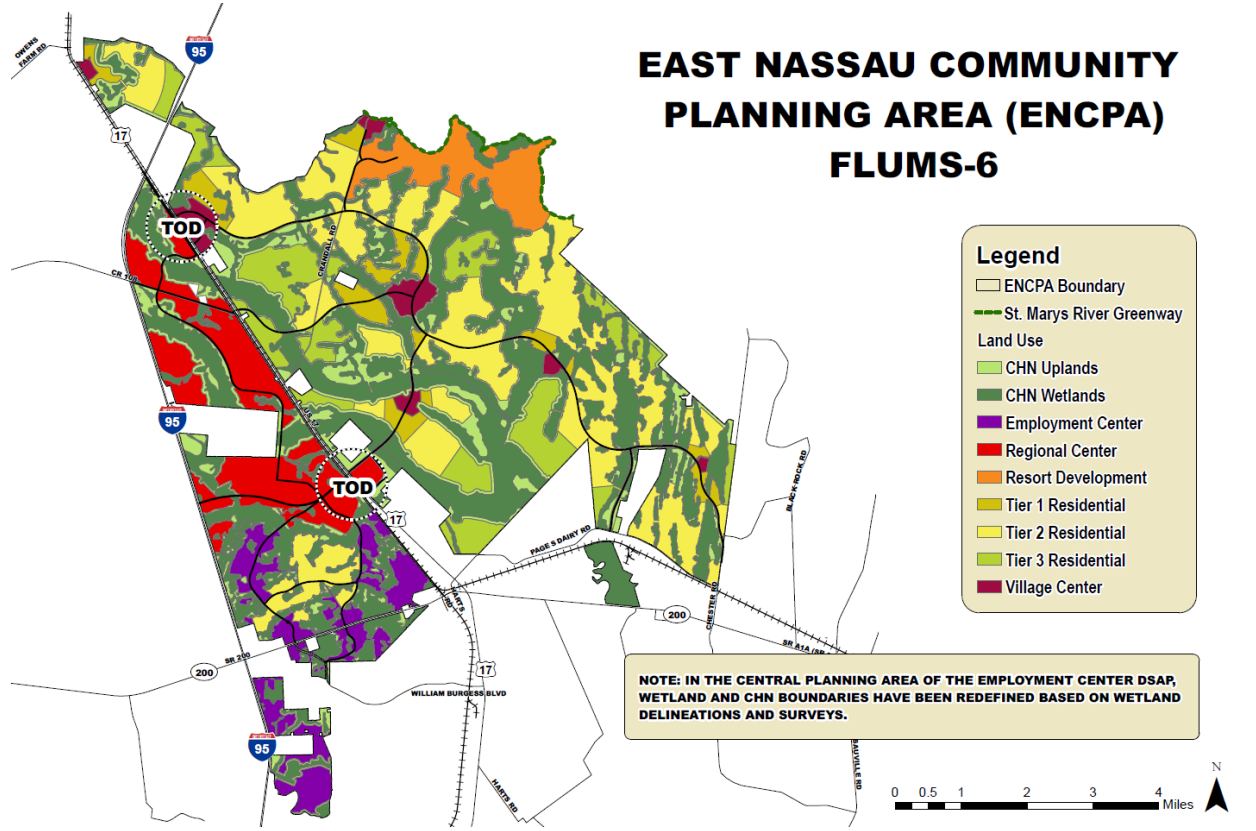
Map 5: Nassau County 23-2SP (Location Map)



Map 6: Nassau County 23-6SP (Existing Future Land Use Map)



Map 7: Nassau County 23-2SP (Proposed Future Land Use Map)

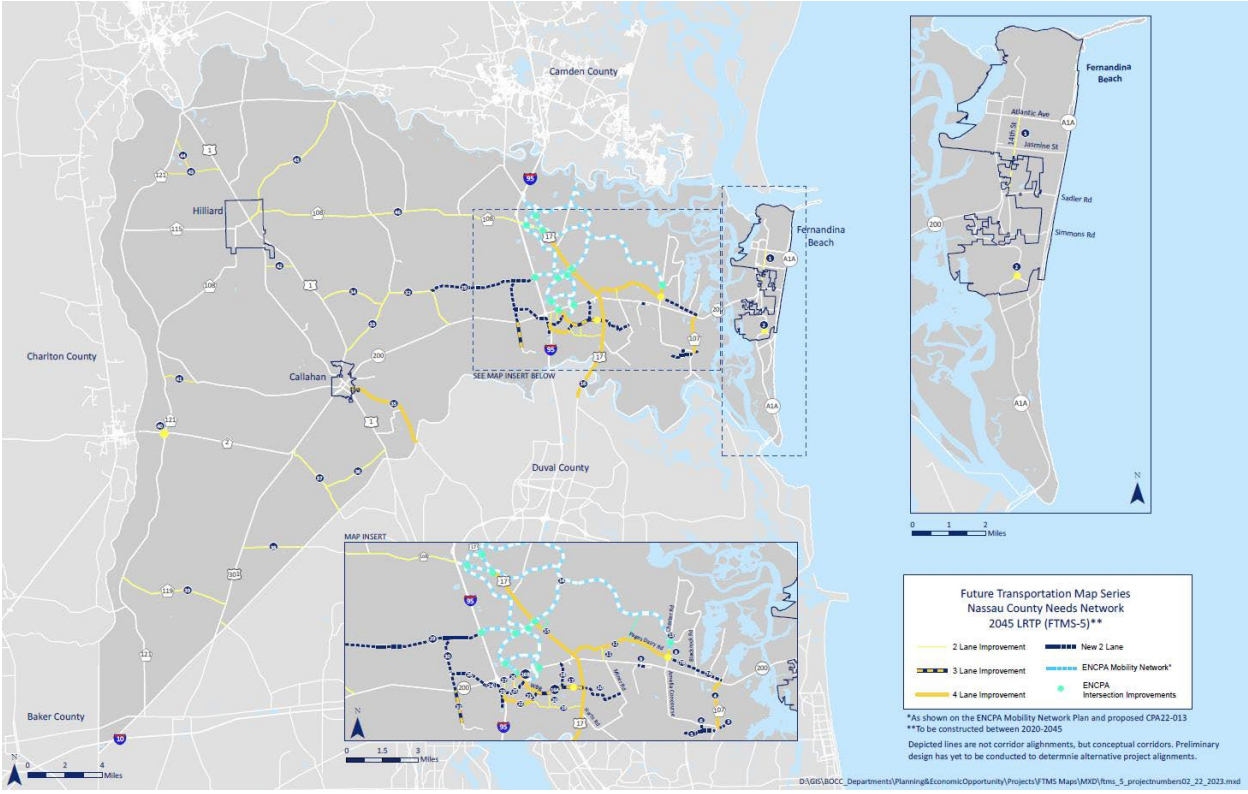


**Table 1: Nassau County 23-2SP (CPA 2022-12 Adopted and Proposed
Land Use Subcategories)**

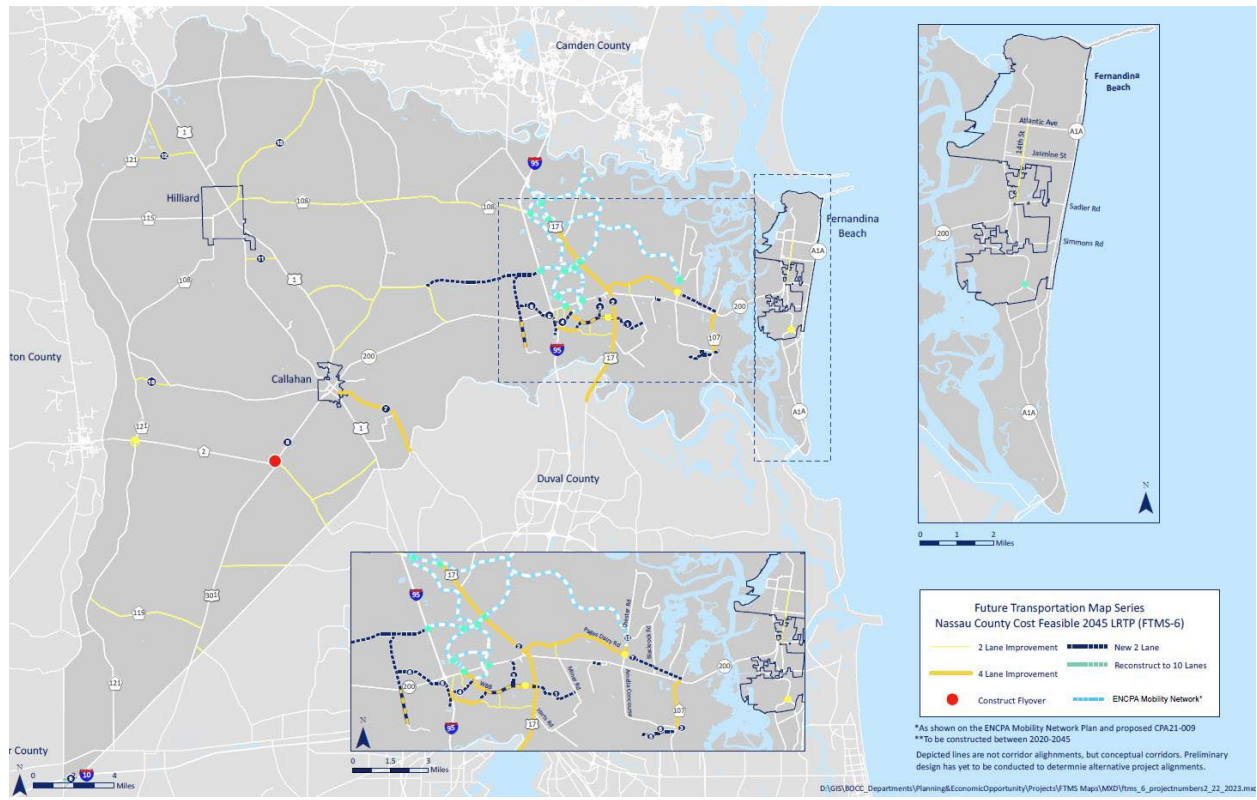
Table 1: CPA22-012 adopted and proposed land use subcategories

Type	Adopted Acreage	Proposed Acreage	Change in Acreage	% Change from Adopted to Proposed
Village Center	467	429	(38)	(8.14%)
Resort Development	1,001	943	(58)	(5.8%)
Regional Center	37	0	(37)	(100%)
Residential Tier 1	750	744	(6)	(0.8%)
Residential Tier 2	3,110	3,855	745	23.95%
Residential Tier 3	2,713	1,859	(854)	(31.45%)
CHN	6,801	7,049	248	3.65%
TOTAL	14,879	14,879	0	

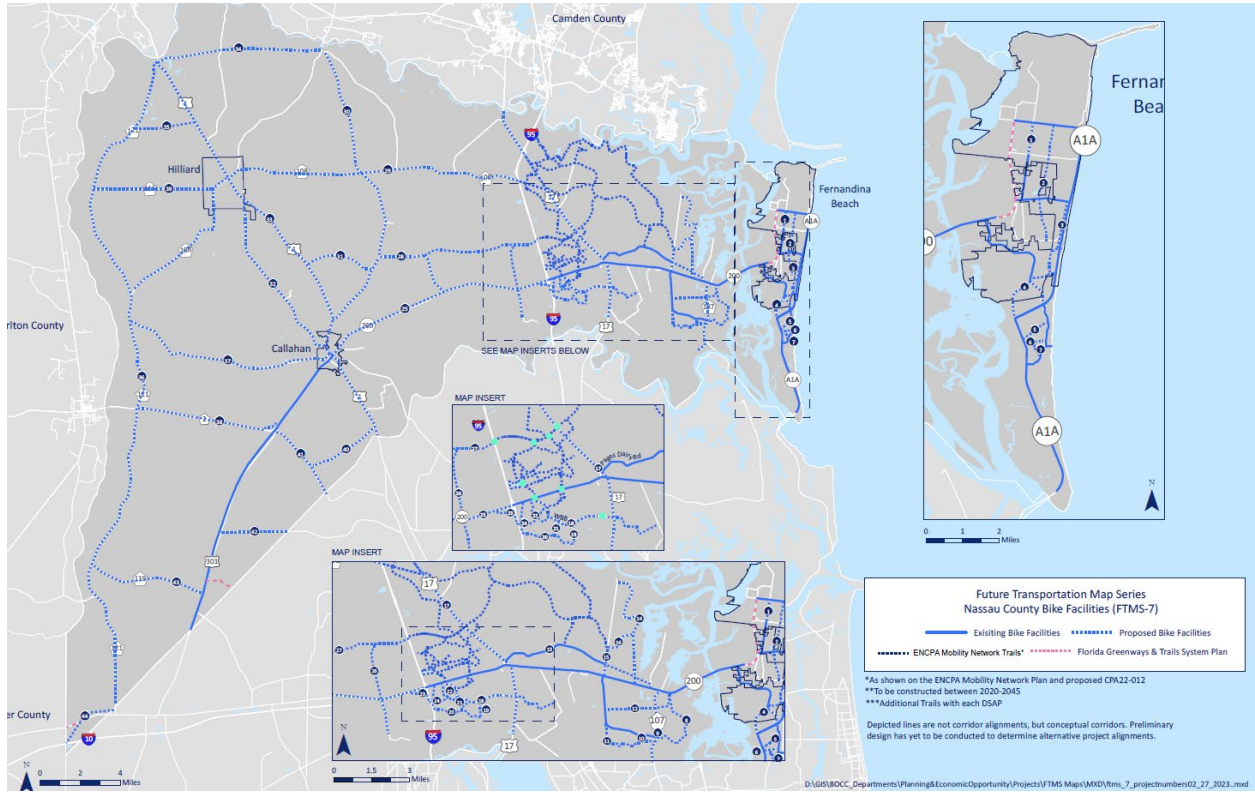
Map 8: Nassau County 23-3SP (Nassau County Needs Network LRTP)



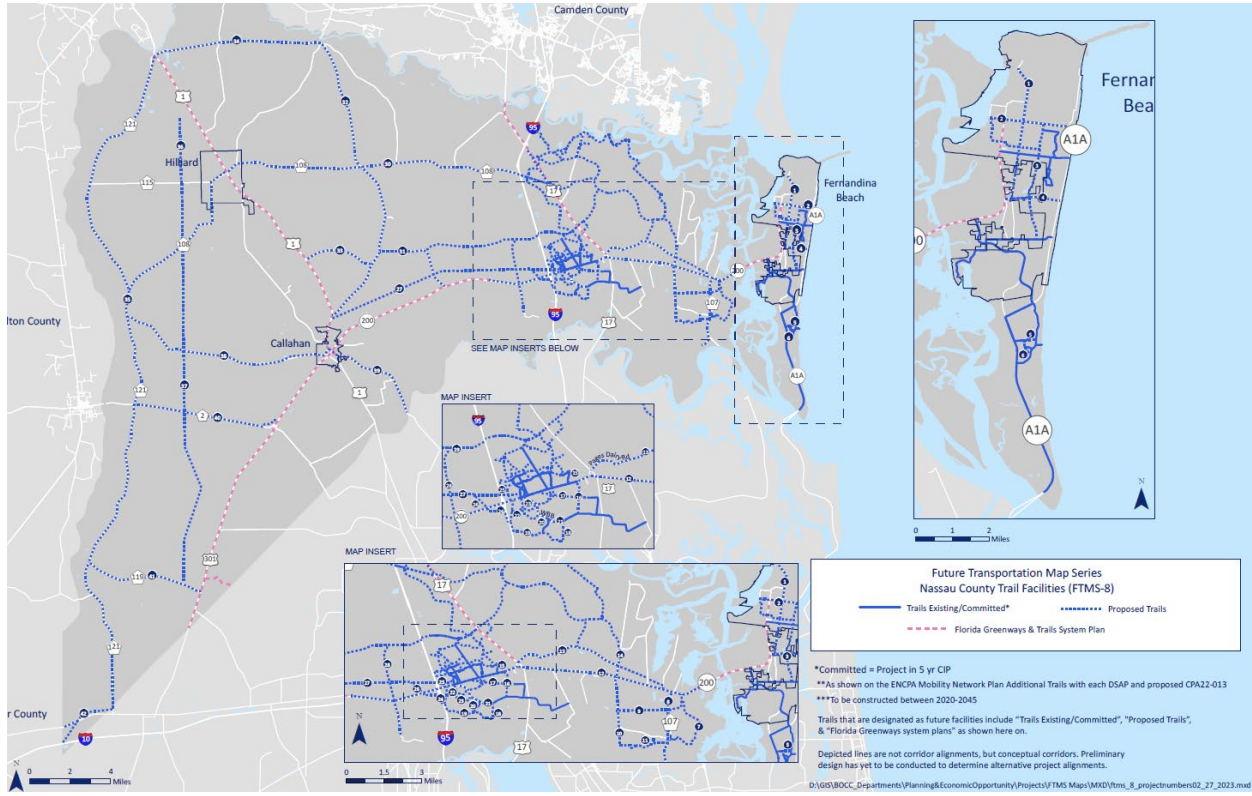
Map 9 Nassau County 23-3SP (Nassau County Cost Feasible Network L RTP)



Map 10: Nassau County Bike Facilities



Map 11: Nassau County Trail Facilities



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MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: April 2023

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Developed and distributed the March Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Newsletter, *FRCA Forward*.
- Updated the email lists for and maintain the email listserv for approximately 2,700 individuals who receive *FRCA Forward*.
- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, organized, participated in or attended the following meetings and shared information:
 - Florida Housing Coalition/Sadowski Coalition Working Group
 - Statewide Emergency Shelter Working Group hosted by the Division of Emergency Management,
 - UF/IFAS Extension Office Webinar
 - Coordination call with the Economic Development Administration and the RPC Disaster Recovery Coordinators
 - Resilient Infrastructure and Disaster Response Center Meeting housed at Florida State University
 - Adaptation Planning Guide hosted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Rural Economic Development Initiative Meeting hosted by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
 - Rural County Days held at the Capital Complex

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Organized, hosted and attended working group sessions for RPC staff in program areas including Resiliency, Finance and Geographic Information Systems.
- Organized and participated in the April FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee (EDAC) Meeting and the Quarterly FRCA Partners Meeting held April 28th.
- Continued to coordinate logistics for the 2023 meeting and conference schedule.
- Distributed the FRCA Bill Report, grant opportunities and information of interest from local, state and national organizations.

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


Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: NOEL P. COMEAUX, DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND PLANNING 

RE: MIAMI-DADE HOMELESSNESS – FLORIDA FOOD & BEVERAGE TAX

Mr. Manny Sarria, Assistant Executive Director with the Miami-Dade County (MDC) Homeless Trust, will provide a presentation on MDC's success in leveraging the State-approved Food & Beverage Tax to help end homelessness. The presentation will provide a comprehensive review of the Trust's history, composition, capabilities, and historical impacts. The presentation will also show funding by program area including emergency and permanent housing as well as other funding commitments in 2023.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST

Food & Beverage Tax

1

Background

- ▶ In 1992, State approves Food & Beverage tax:
 - 85% of tax dedicated to solve homelessness
 - 1% tax collected at restaurants that have over \$400K in sales and a liquor license
- ▶ Board of County Commissioners creates the Homeless Trust to set homeless policy and administer funding to help end homelessness.
- ▶ The Fed appoints the Trust as the County Authority (CA) and awards funding.
- ▶ The Florida Department of Children and Families' Office on Homelessness awards funds given the Trust is the CA

2

MDC Homeless Trust - Structure

- ▶ Lead agency for Miami-Dade County's (MDC) homeless Continuum of Care (CoC), responsible for the oversight, planning and operations of the entire CoC.
- ▶ Led by a 27-member Board of Trustees including reps from the city and business community, elected officials, formerly homeless, religious leaders and homeless advocates.
- ▶ The Trust's Board is served by:
 - An Executive Committee
 - A Finance and Audit Committee
 - A Housing and Services Development Committee
 - A Performance Evaluation Committee
 - A CoC Subcommittee
 - A Youth Homelessness Working Group

3

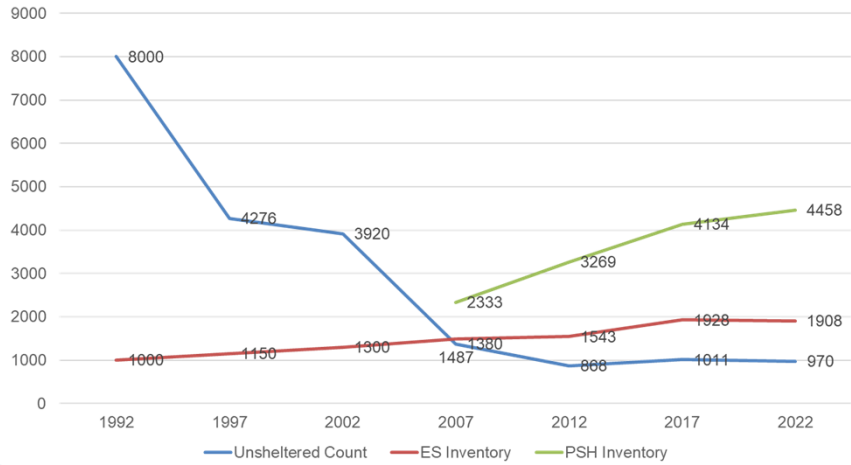
What is the MDC Homeless Trust

The Trust is not a service provider. Instead, it funds 28 agencies operating more than 100 programs which provide:

- ▶ Stand-alone support services, including:
 - Access (includes Street Outreach)
 - Legal Service
 - Primary Care
- ▶ Homeless Prevention
- ▶ Emergency Shelter
- ▶ Transitional Housing
- ▶ Permanent Housing:
 - Rapid Re-housing
 - Permanent Supportive Housing

4

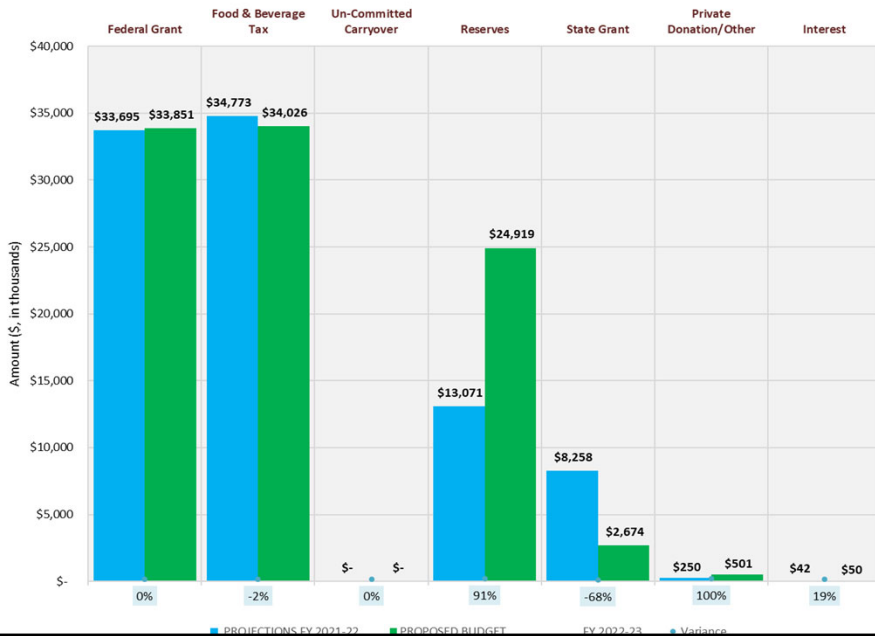
Point In Time vs ES Inventory*



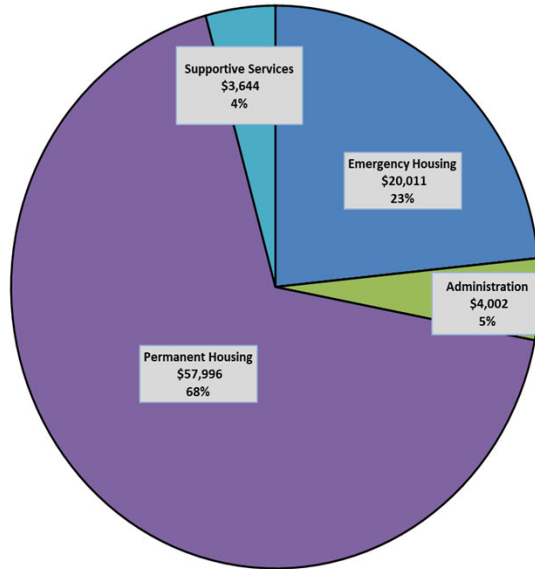
*Data Collected beginning 2008

5

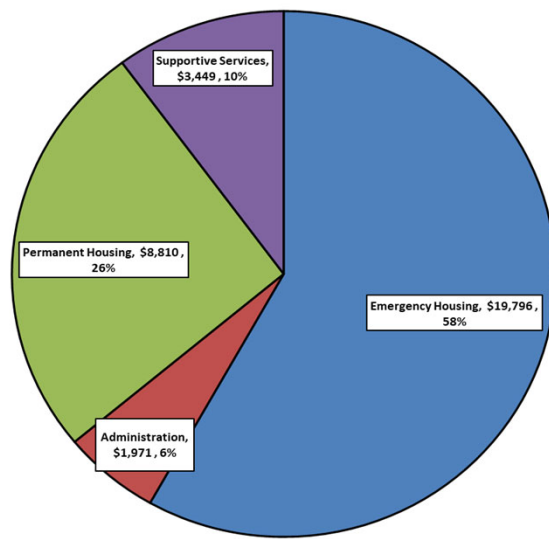
HOMELESS TRUST REVENUES BY SOURCE: Projections FY 2021-22 vs. Proposed Budget FY 2022-23



**HOMELESS TRUST
FUNDING BY PROGRAM AREA
Proposed Budget FY 2022-23 (in thousands)**



**HOMELESS TRUST
FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROCEEDS BY PROGRAM AREA
Proposed Budget FY 2022-23 (in thousands)**



What does the tax allow us to do?

- ▶ Match federal resources.
- ▶ Right-size programs not funded entirely by the Feds:
 - Outreach
 - Shelter
 - Homeless Prevention
- ▶ Have a greater degree of flexibility with the program rules:
 - Serve undocumented persons.

9

Other Considerations

- ▶ A flexible funding source may tempt you to develop programs that “feel good.”
- ▶ Consider system performance before developing new programs; otherwise, you’ll hurt your ability to leverage more dollars.
- ▶ When funding permanent subsidies, make sure you have a reliable funding stream.

10

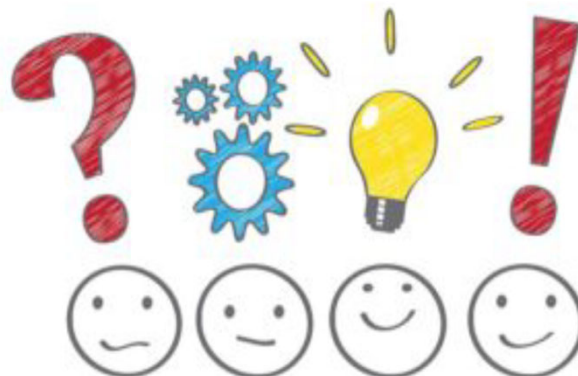
Other Funding Commitments for 2023

- \$25 million from Miami-Dade County (includes \$5 million HOME ARP)
- \$15 million from City of Mimi (includes \$8 million HOME ARP)
- At least \$1 million from City of Miami Beach
- \$1.75 million special appropriation from State of Florida
- \$30K City of North Miami Beach
- \$127K+ Miami Foundation Ending Homelessness Fund

TOTAL FUNDING COMMITMENTS
\$42.9m

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Questions and Comments?



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Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: MARGO MOEHRING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE 

RE: REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE WORK: CULTIVATION THINGS TO CONSIDER

The issue of Cultivation, defined as agriculture, fishing and silviculture, was recognized in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan in the 2021 update. The Regional Community Institute (RCI) has completed the initial phase of work that included addressing the best available data on these subjects, the trends in Northeast Florida and indicators that identify how Northeast Florida is doing in these areas, to be included in the First Coast Well-being Index. “Things to Consider” on each topic have been created, and these will be updated as needed but are available as resources for decisionmakers and others considering issues that impact agriculture, fishing and silviculture.

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Cultivation: Things to Consider



REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE
OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC.

Margo Moehring
Executive Director, Regional
Community Institute of NE Florida
Doug Conkey
RCI Cultivation Committee Chair

Presentation to NEFRC Board of
Directors
May 4, 2023

RCI

Founded in 2005, RCI is a non-profit comprised of Regional Leadership Academy graduates and NEFRC Board members. Since Reality Check (2009) and First Coast Vision (2011), RCI has taken on policy issues important to Northeast Florida:

- Sea Level Rise
- Thriving Small Business
- Tampa to Jax Transportation Corridor
- Water
- Tourism
- Revisit First Coast Vision



REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE
OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC.

Approach to Cultivation

RCI - DISCUSSION MEETINGS FEBRUARY 3 (YULEE) AND FEBRUARY 17 (EAST PALATKA)

- State of Agriculture, Fishing, Silviculture
- Data and Trends
- Impact on Economy, Natural Resources, Resiliency
- Simple Metrics indicating Success
- Include Metrics in First Coast Well-being Index
- Summary Fact Sheet

NEXT STEPS: NEFRC

- Launch the FCWI
- Policy discussions
- Include policies and approaches that will work in the region in next update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (2026)

Questions?

Thank you?

More Information:

Margo Moehring

RCI Executive Director

mmoehring@nefrc.org

904 279 0880 X 161



REGIONAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTE
OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC.

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: JACK SHAD, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGER *JS*
MONICA DOMINGUEZ, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL PLANNER *MD*

RE: WELAKA DOWNTOWN VISION COMPETITIVE FLORIDA GRANT

Staff will provide an update on the Welaka Downton Vision Competitive Florida Grant. The update will include an overview of the engagement process and recommended projects.

Follow Us.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VISION FOR DOWNTOWN WELAKA

DEO Competitive Florida Grant

May 4, 2023



NORTHEAST-FLORIDA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Welaka, FL
River of Lakes

Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Grant



Town of Welaka partnered with Northeast Florida Regional Council on grant application.



The Competitive Florida Partnership Grant was awarded in July 2022.



The grant is for the development of a town center plan.



Guideline: 15 Ways to Make Florida Communities More Competitive



Why does the Town of Welaka need a vision for downtown?


Nearby development plans

Statewide affordable housing issues

Upcoming investment in water & sewer system

Engagement Process

- A total of 6 public meetings.
- Goal of meetings was to seek maximum public input to develop a vision.
- Tools used included visual renderings, Mentimeter, Facebook, and flip charts input.
- Visual Preference Survey was the cornerstone of public input.





**Northeast Florida Regional Council
and The Town of Welaka**

**Let's Talk about a
Vision for Downtown**

Downtown Vision Workshop

at
Woman's Club of Welaka



Presentation at
6:00p.m.

Followed by
open discussion
&
Visual
Preference
Survey

Facilitators:

**Tuesday
November 15**
6:00 pm – 8:00pm
at
Woman's Club of Welaka –
644 County Road 309,
Welaka, FL 32193

NEFRC

- Jack Shad
Economic Development
Project Manager
- Monica Dominguez
Regional Planner
- Robert Jordan
Regional Planner

UF Center for Hydro-generated Urbanism

- Martha Kohen
CHU Research Director
- Maria Barrios
Research Associate

Dominguez 

50 residents attended the 1st community workshop

48 participants walked the tour led by Mayor Watts



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE COMMUNITY ASSET INVENTORY

COMMUNITY ASSET INVENTORY BRING REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE AGENCIES TOGETHER TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS IN THE TOWN.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA WILL PROVIDE EXPERTISE IN AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE TOWN.

EVENT DETAILS

DATE: MARCH 21, 2023
 TIME: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 LOCATION: FORESTRY BUILDING, 794 COUNTY ROAD 309, WELAKA, FL.

AGENDA

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: REGISTRATION & BREAK
 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: STATE AGENCIES PRESENTATIONS
 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: WALKING TOUR

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MONICA DOMINGUEZ AT (904) 537-8554 OR EMAIL AT [DOWNTOWNWELAKA@NEFRC.ORG](mailto:downtownwelaka@nefrc.org)



Northeast Florida Regional Council and The Town of Welaka

Let's Talk about a Vision for Downtown

Downtown Vision Public Meeting
at the Forestry Building

Presentation at 5:30p.m.
Followed by open discussion

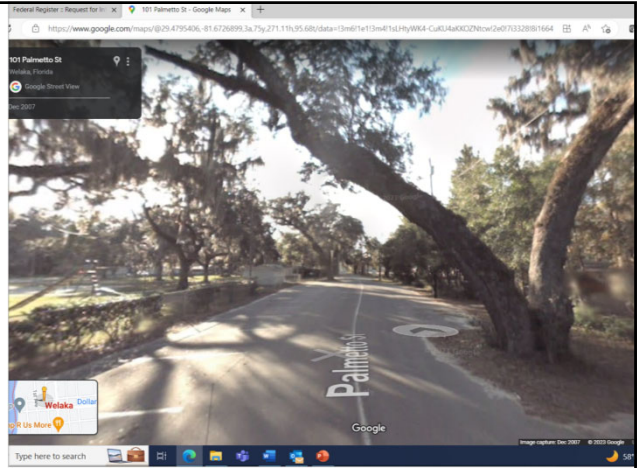
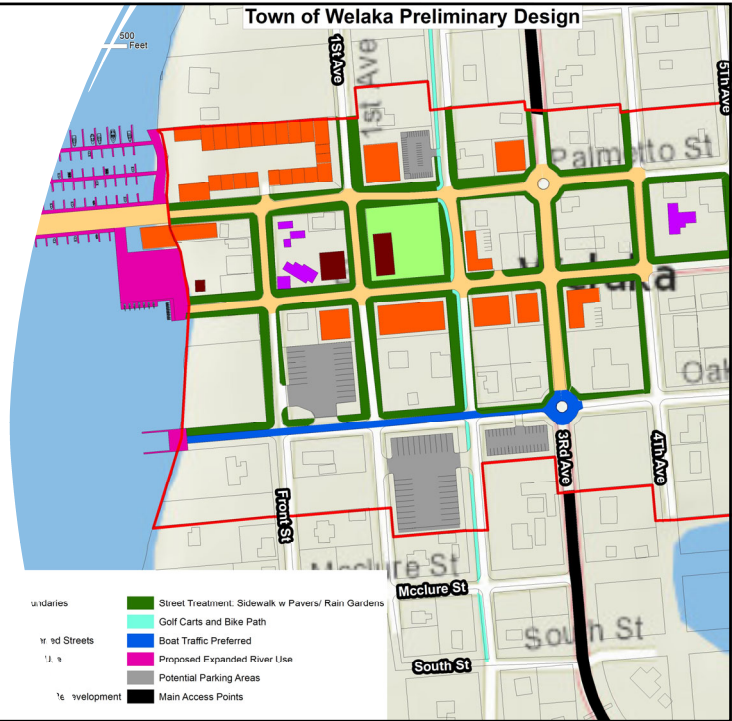
Facilitators:

- NEFRC
 - Jack Shad, Economic Development Project Manager
 - Monica Dominguez, Regional Planner
 - Robert Jordan, Regional Planner
- UF Center for Hydro-generated Urbanism
 - Martha Kohen, CHU Research Director
 - Maria Barrios, CHU Research Associate

For more information contact Monica Dominguez at downtownwelaka@nefrc.org or 904-537-8554

52 residents attended the 2nd Public Workshop

Welaka Proposed Projects



PEDESTRIAN PREFERRED STREETS

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Improved stormwater treatment could also provide credits to benefit private development
- Provides a better environment for trees to thrive
- Could begin with a Tree Survey, funded by DEO Technical Assistance Grant

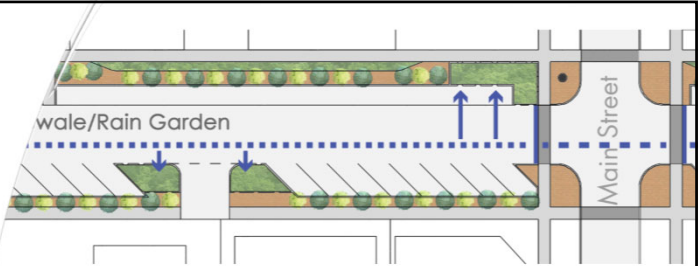


Figure 48 - 50. Street Rack Samples
Figure 51. Rain Garden System Section



PROPOSED MIXED USE AREAS

- Design Review Standards to ensure that new development maintains the unique character of the town
- Development rules (e.g. parking requirements) can also encourage small scale development



HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- Conduct a Historic Resources Survey to identify historic buildings
- Grant funding available from Florida Department of State
- Town needs to file paperwork with State to maintain status



MAIN SQUARE

- Re-orient downtown park as a public gathering space
- Consider re-locating tennis courts and using paved area as a pad for vendors, farmers' market, etc.
- Preserve & maintain tree canopy



EXPANDED RIVER USE

- Design new spaces to improve resiliency
- Improve public access to river – marina, kayak & canoe launch, and expanded boat launch
- Add public gathering spots at the river – restaurants, park, boardwalk



POTENTIAL ROUNDABOUT

- Creates a distinctive entry feature
- Slows traffic and allows easier crossing of CR309

NEW TOWN SIGNAGE

- Distinctive town signage can also create a distinctive entry feature
- Traffic can be slowed through street design



Questions?

Agenda

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100 Festival Park Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32202
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🌐 www.nefrc.org
✉ info@nefrc.org


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


Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE UPDATE

Staff will provide an update on community resilience efforts being facilitated across Northeast Florida. This update focuses on the progress of the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, the hiring of new NEFRC Resiliency staff, the initiation of a Military Installation Resilience Review in the region, collaboration with the City of Jacksonville on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to conduct a Climate Action Plan for the region, and other ongoing resiliency work.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Community Resiliency Update

NORTHEAST FLORIDA 2022-2023 DEVELOPMENTS

Resilient First Coast



- At least 20 organizations have signed Partner Agreements
- Marketing package to be completed by May31 using grant from American Flood Coalition

Meeting Highlights from Full Collaborative (April 13):

- Committee leads reported out and recruited new members
- Guest speakers on Legislative Report and East Central Florida Regional Resiliency Collaborative provided framework for moving forward
- Next Steering Committee meeting to be May 24, 2023; objective is to approve roadmap for **Regional Resiliency Action Plan**



New NEFRC Resiliency Staff



Paige DeBold, Regional Planner



Payton Jamieson, Resiliency Intern

Military Installation Resilience Review



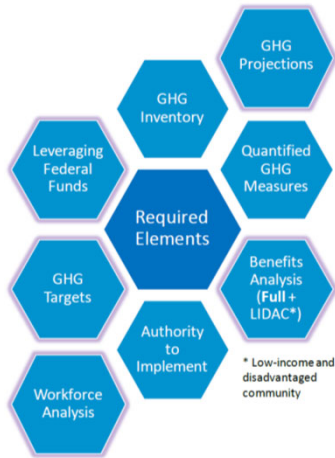
Local installations to be included:

- Naval Air Station Jacksonville
- Naval Station Mayport
- Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island
- Camp Blanding Military Training Base
- Naval Outlying Field Whitehouse

Progress made:

- Determination and Findings submitted (full application due June 1)
- NEFRC Executive Committee approved to provide up to 10% match if unable to obtain outside match source
- Gathering letters of support from installations
- Engaging with OLDCC Project Manager

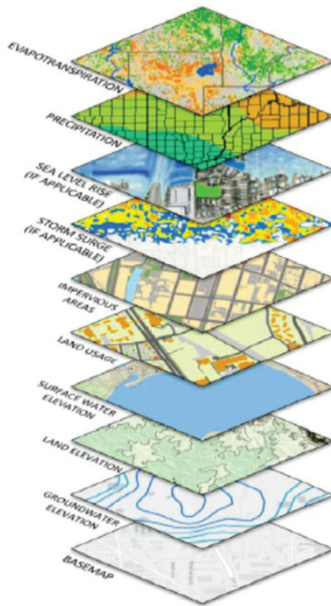
EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



1. Planning grants to develop strong climate pollution reduction strategies (\$250 million)

- Administered through non-competitive cooperative agreements
- Allocations:
 - \$3M per state (Florida opted out)
 - \$1M each for 67 most populous MSAs (**Jacksonville MSA opted in**)
- Deliverables:
 - Priority Climate Action Plan (Year 1)
 - Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (Year 2)
 - Status Report (Year 4)
- Deadlines:
 - Letter of intent: April 28, 2023 (submitted by City of Jacksonville)
 - Full application: May 31, 2023 (to be completed by COJ in consultation with NEFRC)

2. Competitive implementation grants to help put plans into action (\$4.6 billion)



Ongoing Resilience Tasks

- Staff is working toward completion of deliverables for Regional Resilience Entity grant (due July 11)
- Half Associates is analyzing geodatabase that NEFRC staff built for Flagler County Vulnerability Assessment.
- Staff submitted Work Plan for Baker County Vulnerability Assessment to FDEP
- Staff is working with Town of Welaka on agreement to conduct its Vulnerability Assessment
- Staff continues working on deliverables for CDBG Healthcare Resilience project.
- Staff is moving into model runs and other tasks for CDBG Multiregional project

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Bringing Communities Together

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 27, 2023

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: TYLER NOLEN, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNER 

RE: 2023 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PROGRAM UPDATE

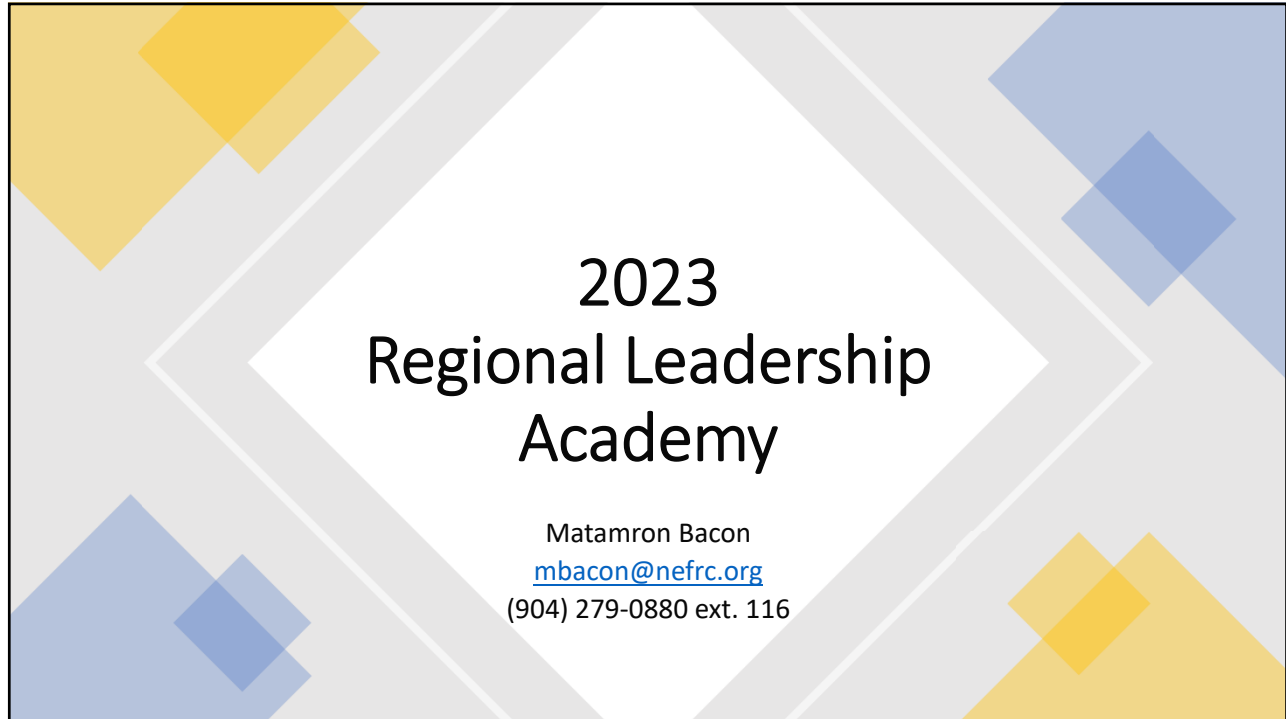
On Wednesday, April 26 the Regional Leadership Academy met at the American Beach Community Center. The day's program was titled *Evolving Development & Equality*. Participants learned about the history of American Beach and received presentations from Nassau County Staff on the American Beach Water and Sewer Conversion Project and the Conservation Lands Acquisition and Management (CLAM) Program.

Additionally, participants traveled to Traders Hill Farm to tour an aquaponics farm that provides produce to local businesses around the Northeast Florida Area.

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Program #4: Nassau County *Evolving Development and Equality*

- Presentations @ American Beach Community Center
 - **American Beach History**
Erving Gilyard- Friends of American Beach Inc. Secretary & American Beach Water Sewer District Advisory Board Chair

Pastor Carlton Jones- Friends of American Beach Inc-President
 - **American Beach Water and Sewer Conversion Project**
Amy Bell- Nassau County Senior Management Analyst
 - **Conservation Lands Acquisition and Management Program (CLAM)**
Brandy Carvalho- Nassau County Director of Strategic Advancement & Economic Resources





Traders Hill Farm

Presentation & Tour

Tracy Nazzaro, President and General Manager



What is Next???

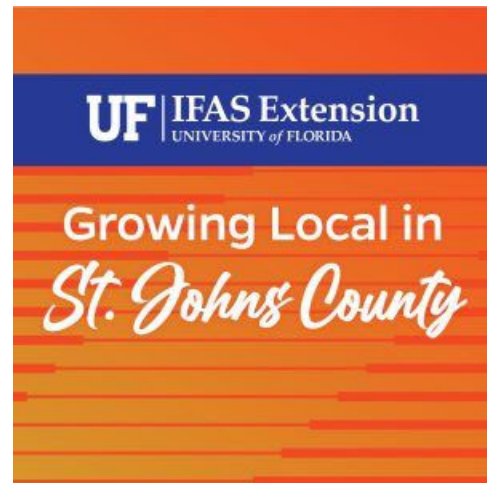
Program #5: St. Johns County

- **Farm Tours**

- Blue Sky Farms Tour (Potatoes)
- Tater Farms (Sod and Citrus)

- **Presentations**

- Farming in Northeast Florida
- Affordable Housing Initiatives



Matamron Bacon
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