



| LOCAL  
**KNOWLEDGE**

| REGIONAL  
**SOLUTIONS**

| STATEWIDE  
**IMPACT**

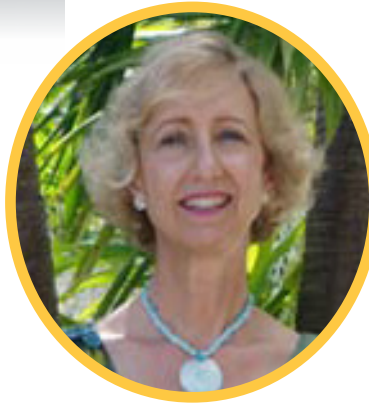
# 2017 - 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**PRESIDENT**  
Councilwoman Roxanne Horvath  
Northeast Florida RC



**1st VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Ms. Sandra Walters  
South Florida RPC



**2nd VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Commissioner Peter O'Bryan  
Treasure Coast RPC



**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**  
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd  
Tampa Bay RPC

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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In a year of storms, environmental concerns, and politics, the ten regional planning councils, connected by the Florida Regional Councils Association, are shining examples of how to work together for the betterment of the citizens of Florida. Serving all 67 counties, the RPCs build consensus and work together to forge plans that take on the rapidly changing needs of our communities.

There has been a great deal of success in working on statewide and multi-regional projects in the past year. Our association includes a broad range of expertise, and together the RPCs take on important problems, from finding effective treatments to reduce the blue-green algae blooms to planning for the complex transportation needs of people and goods.

Emergency Operations and Evacuations Preparedness has always been a part of the mission of RPCs in Florida, and in this year of impacts from Hurricanes Irma, Maria, and Michael our regions have launched ongoing Post Disaster Recovery programs in cooperation with federal, state, and local governments and supported business recovery.

With more than 1,000 people moving to Florida each day, and the loss of housing after storms, we have a critical need for affordable housing, both workforce and low-income, in every region of the state. Our hope is to share best practices and innovative solutions through our continued work together.

Using local knowledge to develop regional solutions makes our communities more safe, vibrant, and healthy places to live and raise our families. We look forward to continuing to have a statewide impact as our leadership in these efforts strives to improve the lives of all Floridians.

**ROXANNE HORVATH**

Roxanne Horvath, President  
Florida Regional Councils Association

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*Leveraging partnerships to build a strong economy and  
improve the lives all of Floridians ...THAT is the mission of FRCA.*

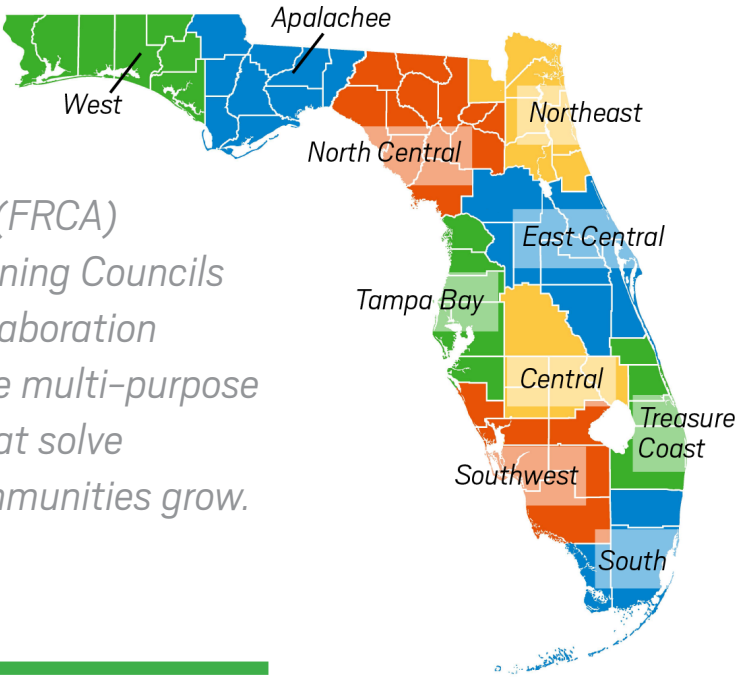
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# WHAT IS FRCA?

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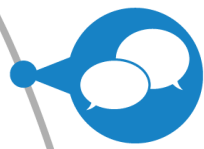
*The Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) is an alliance of Florida’s ten Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) and serves to enhance regional collaboration throughout the state. Planning Councils are multi-purpose entities comprised of local governments that solve problems at the regional level and help communities grow.*



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***Through its RPCs, FRCA creates partnerships statewide to support economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for all Floridians.***

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## Regional Convening

RPCs lead community and regional vision efforts, engage the public in a variety of plans and programs, and maintain Strategic Regional Policy Plans.



## Transportation

Many RPCs serve as the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Several RPCs serve as staff to their local Metropolitan or Transportation Planning Organizations, known as MPOs or TPOs. Planning services of the RPCs also include Complete Streets, Safe Routes to Schools, and Greenways and Trails planning.



## Quality of Life

Through visioning and community planning efforts, the RPCs assist local communities as they set goals to implement a vision and strategy for their communities and regions.



## Emergency Preparedness

As partners and staff to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) they support first responders. Identifying hazardous materials and security threats, the RPCs organize, plan, conduct exercises, and then prepare post exercise reports.



## Economic Development

RPCs complete regional economic impact analyses using the nationally recognized REMI software, facilitate post disaster, redevelopment planning, and administer revolving loan funds for small business loans and brownfields redevelopment.

5

Metropolitan/  
Transportation Planning  
Organizations Staffed

52

Jobs Created or  
Retained Through  
Revolving Loan Funds

740

Hazardous Materials  
Inspections of Small  
Quantity Generators  
(SQG)

18

Economic Indicators  
Monitored

3,158

Emergency Responders  
Trained

1,926

Technical Assistance  
Services to Local  
Governments

5

RPC Led Region-Wide  
Visioning Efforts

500,000

Transportation Disadvantaged  
Trips Planned through RPCs

# 2017-2018 Policy Board

## APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Kristin Dozier, Leon County  
Ms. Lisa Miller, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Honorable Gene Wright, Town of Malone

## CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Nathaniel Birdsong of City of Winter Haven  
Honorable Juril "Buddy" Mansfield, DeSoto County  
Ms. Jacqueline Tucker, Gubernatorial Appointee

## EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Lee Constantine, Seminole County  
Mr. John Lesman, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Honorable Leigh Matusick, City of DeLand

## NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Larry Sessions, Suwannee County  
Ms. Lorene Thomas, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Honorable Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

## NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Honorable John Drew, Nassau County  
Honorable Roxanne Horvath, City of St. Augustine  
Mr. Darryl Register, Gubernatorial Appointee

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Mr. Mario Bailey, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Honorable Franklin Caplan, Village of Key Biscayne  
Ms. Sandra Walters, Gubernatorial Appointee

## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Mr. Tommy Perry, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. Robert Mulhere, Gubernatorial Appointee

## TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Scott Black, City of Dade City  
Honorable Ronald Kitchen, Citrus County  
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Gubernatorial Appointee

## TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Peter O'Bryan, Indian River County  
Mr. Reece Parrish, Gubernatorial Appointee  
Honorable Doug Smith, Martin County

## WEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Honorable Kasey Cuchens, City of Freeport  
Honorable Dick Rynearson, City of Fort Walton Beach  
Mr. J.D. Smith, Gubernatorial Appointee

# Advisory Committee & Staff

## 2017-2018 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Patricia Steed, Chair  
Central Florida RPC

Chris Rietow, Vice-Chair  
Apalachee RPC

Brian Teeple, Treasurer  
Northeast Florida RC

Michael Busha, Immediate Past Chair  
Treasure Coast RPC

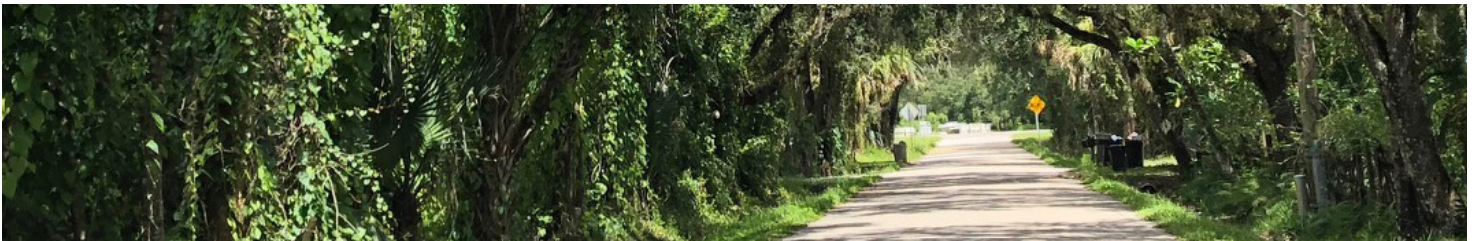
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## Regional Planning Councils

	Date Established	2017 Regional Population <sup>1</sup>	Governing Board Size	Staff Size (FTE) <sup>2</sup>	Square Miles <sup>3</sup>	Budget (in millions)
 <p><b>Apalachee</b> Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Wakulla</p>	Aug. 23, 1977	485,278	27	8	6,757	\$0.9
 <p><b>Central Florida</b> DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, Polk</p>	July 1, 1974	867,970	18	18	5,287	\$3.5
 <p><b>East Central Florida</b> Brevard, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia</p>	Feb. 22, 1962	4,006,558	35	12	9,244	\$1.6
 <p><b>North Central Florida</b> Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, Union</p>	May 7, 1969	557,004	44	11	8,660	\$2.1
 <p><b>Northeast Florida</b> Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns</p>	April 14, 1977	1,661,055	35	12	5,097	\$2.4
 <p><b>South Florida</b> Broward, Dade, Monroe</p>	July 1, 1974	4,693,954	19	17	7,492	\$2.3
 <p><b>Southwest Florida</b> Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Sarasota</p>	Nov. 8, 1973	1,688,062	36	4	7,278	\$1.6
 <p><b>Tampa Bay</b> Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas</p>	Feb. 16, 1962	3,541,479	44	8.5	4,998	\$2.3
 <p><b>Treasure Coast</b> Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, St. Lucie</p>	Aug. 19, 1976	2,013,762	28	9	4,441	\$2.4
 <p><b>West Florida</b> Bay, Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, Washington</p>	Oct. 1, 1964	969,020	33	35	6,509	\$3.5

<sup>1</sup>Source: Florida Estimates of Population, 2017, Table 1, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida, 2017.

<sup>2</sup>FTE means Full-Time Equivalent.

<sup>3</sup>Total land and water area. Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

# Hurricane Irma

**The Most Intense Hurricane in 12 Years with Statewide Impact**

Hurricane Irma was the most intense hurricane to strike the continental United States since Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Hurricane Irma made landfall on Cudjoe Key as a Category 4 storm on the morning of September 10, 2017. Irma made another landfall in Florida near Marco Island around 1:00 pm as a Category 3 storm with winds gusting to 141 mph at the Naples Municipal Airport. From there, Irma continued inland northward through the peninsula. Passing near Wauchula around 11:00 pm as a Category 2 storm with winds of approximately 100 mph. As Irma continued northward, this allowed for additional weakening before leaving Florida as a tropical storm on September 11, 2017.



An estimated 6.5 million residents were ordered to evacuate, the largest in the state's history. Use of the left shoulder as a lane for moving traffic was allowed for portions of Interstate 4 and Interstate 75. It was the first time that the Emergency Shoulder-Use Plan, which was introduced at the start of the 2017 hurricane season, was implemented by the State for hurricane evacuations.

Throughout the state, almost 700 emergency shelters were opened and collectively housed about 192,000 people. The impacts of the storm were widespread and included an estimated 10- to 14-foot storm surge at Cudjoe Key and 4- to 8-foot storm surge near Cape Canaveral. Irma also produced heavy rainfall which resulted in extensive flooding across the peninsula. The highest rainfall amount was recorded in Ft. Pierce with 21.66 inches. Many of the state's rivers and tributaries flooded due to heavy rainfall.



At least 93 people died in storm related incidents and almost 6.7 million homes and businesses experienced power outages. According to the National Hurricane Center, Irma was the fifth-costliest hurricane to hit the mainland United States with an estimated \$50 billion in damage. More than 877,000 residential and commercial property insurance claims exceeded \$7.2 billion. In addition, Irma's path coincided with some of Florida's most productive agricultural landscapes resulting in major losses to all segments of production agriculture and estimated crop losses of more than \$2 billion.





## Economic Recovery and Resiliency Efforts Following Hurricane Irma



In an effort to facilitate the flow of funding assistance to residents, businesses, and local governments, the Central Florida, South Florida, Southwest Florida and Tampa Bay Regional Planning Councils hosted “Economic Recovery and Resiliency Efforts Following Hurricane Irma” workshops during the month of February 2018 in their respective regions. These workshops were conducted in partnership with the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the International Economic Development Council and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. The workshops provided an opportunity to foster greater agriculture, business, and community resiliency by connecting community leaders with information on state and federal resources available after a disaster.

The workshops provided business and community leaders with information regarding their disaster recovery role and how to prioritize actions for short- and long-term recovery. Continuity strategies, and the availability of resiliency and financial resources were a major topic of discussion. Each workshop was tailored to address the priority needs for recovery within the respective communities. Workshops in Hendry, Polk, and Citrus Counties focused on programs and resources for agricultural recovery, while the workshops held in Collier and Lee Counties focused on programs and resources for business recovery. The workshop held in Monroe County centered on needs related to affordable housing, aquaculture, workforce and tourism recovery.

## Disaster Recovery Coordinators (DRC)

The U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded seven of the Regional Planning Councils (Central, East Central, North Central, Northeast, Southwest, Tampa Bay, and West Florida) and Monroe County grants to support a Disaster Recovery Coordinator (DRC) position for two years. These positions will support enhanced recovery efforts by helping coordinate the efforts of local governments, economic development organizations, and individual business. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity hired a Private Sector Disaster Coordinator position also funded by EDA to work with the Disaster Recovery Coordinators.

Since Hurricane Michael impacted the Florida panhandle area in October 2018, the Apalachee RPC has applied for an EDA grant to hire a DRC position to aid in their recovery efforts for the region.



**View a list of resources for community recovery efforts at [fregionalcouncils.org](http://fregionalcouncils.org)**

# REGIONAL CONVENERS

*RPCs serve as regional conveners. They lead community and regional vision efforts, engage the public in a variety of plans and programs, and maintain Strategic Regional Policy Plans.*

## ECFRPC's Approach to Regional Resiliency

The East Central Florida RPC was awarded a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to develop a Regional Resiliency Action Plan. Working with Brevard and Volusia Counties, a steering committee was formed comprised of federal, state, regional and local agencies and communities. This committee began meeting regularly in October 2017 to develop goals and a direction for the plan and process. The process was guided by two subcommittees: Sea Level Rise and Stakeholder Engagement. The steering committee, along with each subcommittees, helped to define language, assess a regional approach to sea level rise planning and advance an action plan.

As the Regional Resiliency Action Plan progressed, a "Plan and Policy Resiliency Integration" survey was developed. Survey results identified gaps, needs and actionable items aimed at supporting resilient and sustainable coastal communities in the region. Additional activities included research on determining implementation activities for local jurisdictions, regional and state agencies, as well as private and federal partners such as Canaveral Port Authority, Kennedy Space Center and Patrick Air Force Base. Applicable grants available to local agencies and jurisdictions for implementation activities were researched and included in the Action Plan.



The East Central Florida RPC held Regional Resiliency Action Plan Listening Session Workshops in May 2018 in Brevard and Volusia Counties, including two workshop sessions, "Collaborating for Resilience" and "Building Economic and Social Resilience". In August 2018, additional meetings for elected officials and the public were held to gain more input for the Plan.



## South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils Partner to Protect the Reef

The South Florida and Treasure Coast RPCs were actively involved in activities to further the study and protection of the Florida Reef Tract. Over the last four years, Florida has been struggling to diagnose and treat a cataclysmic nearshore coral reef disease outbreak affecting the Florida Reef Tract between Martin and Monroe Counties. It is spreading rapidly and unfortunately, in April 2018, was found in the nearshore reefs in the lower Florida Keys.

This issue is of such great importance that in January 2018, the Councils convened a shared staff working group to identify and implement action steps to raise awareness and find resources to protect and save this important state and national treasure. This initial working group included Council members and staff from both regional planning councils, the region's counties, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and The Nature Conservancy. Notable successes have included passage by State Senator Lauren Book and State Representative Kristin Jacobs of Senate Bill 232 and House Bill 53 establishing the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area as well as continued funding by Congress of the South Florida Geographic Initiative.

Council members Mayor Beam Furr (Broward County) and County Commissioner Doug Smith (Martin County) updated the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) at their April 2018 meeting in Fort Lauderdale. The FWC worked with staff to provide a more extensive update at their June 2018 meeting in Sarasota. In addition, staff worked to organize a special briefing for the region's Chambers of Commerce leaders and Tourist Development Councils.



# TRANSPORTATION

## Tampa Bay RPC Sponsors the 2018 Gulf Coast Safe Street Summit

The Tampa Bay RPC was a premier sponsor at the first ever Gulf Coast Safe Street Summit located at the Glazer Children’s Museum in Tampa. The Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit was a collaborative effort of the Hernando/Citrus, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the Polk County Transportation Planning Organization, the Florida Department of Transportation, the University of South Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, and Walk Bike Tampa.



This partnership provided a regional approach to prioritize the Complete Streets initiative throughout the local jurisdictions along the Gulf Coast of Florida.

This was West Central Florida’s preeminent educational event aimed at encouraging the implementation of Complete Streets that are safe and accessible for all. Working to elevate individual efforts, cohesive linkages across to sister counties lead to regionally significant transportation facilities and safety programs for all modes of transportation and for all ages and abilities. Supporters of healthier and safer communities had the opportunity to hear energizing and informed speakers, engage with public officials, and mingle with community partners. Keynote speakers included Mayor Rick Kriseman of St. Petersburg, Ryan Gravel of Sixpitch, along with Florida Department of Transportation Secretaries of District 1 and 7. The Tampa Bay RPC remains devoted to staying on the cutting edge of complete streets and transportation planning.

*Transportation is an integral part of the work of the RPCs. Many RPCs serve as the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Several RPCs serve as staff to their local Metropolitan or Transportation Planning Organizations, known as MPOs or TPOs. Planning services of the RPCs also include Compete Streets, Safe Routes to Schools, and Greenways and Trails planning.*

## Heartland Regional Transportation Disadvantaged Summit



On November 15, 2017, the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) hosted the Heartland Regional Transportation Disadvantaged Summit, along with the Central Florida RPC and the Southwest Florida RPC.

The event brought together providers of services, elected officials, staff, volunteers, users of the system, community partners, and interested citizens.

Executive Director of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, Steven Holmes, began the Summit with a discussion on the future of the coordinated system, changing customer expectations, emerging technologies, and ability to manage a cost-efficient system. The Summit also created a forum for attendees to learn about the services provided throughout the region and the Heartland Rural Mobility Plan that was updated by Florida Department of Transportation District 1 in 2018.

The Heartland Counties of DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Okeechobee are brought together as members of the HRTPO to provide regional transportation planning. The Central Florida RPC provides staff services to the HRTPO.



## East Central Florida RPC Awarded Grant for Eco-Tourism

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity awarded a grant for the development of the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail Strategic Plan and Eco-Tourism Resources to the East Central Florida RPC. The project was a collaborative effort with the Northeast Florida RC and the St Johns River-to-Sea Loop Alliance. Additional collaborative partners included the five counties and several cities along the Trail. To promote eco-tourism opportunities, partners along the Loop created a brand and marketing strategies and identified collaboration opportunities. Through the inclusion of opportunity maps and a resource directory, the Strategic Plan promotes economic development and identifies eco-tourism opportunities along the River-to-Sea Loop. A Locally Resourceful Trail Oriented Development Case Study was produced.

*The story maps and resource directory will attract trail visitors to destinations along the trail and market private businesses as well as municipal and county resources.*

A case study on the Agritourism Corridor through Flagler, Putnam, and St Johns Counties transfers lessons learned, knowledge and implementation strategies along the Trail, fueling other Trail oriented economic development opportunities. Stakeholder input was of utmost importance and three stakeholder meetings/webinars were held throughout the process.

## Treasure Coast RPC Hosts Regional Biosolids Symposium

As the population of Florida continues to grow, communities, local elected officials and wastewater treatment engineers struggle with how to more effectively manage biosolids. One of the by-products of the wastewater treatment process, biosolids are the sludge left behind after initial processing. In Florida, biosolids are further treated and either land-applied as a soil amendment to improve agricultural productivity or disposed of in landfills. It is an important source of water, energy, nitrogen and phosphorous; all potential resources that some suggest could be managed more efficiently.

To better understand the current methods and alternative practices available, over 170 people attended the Regional Biosolids Symposium hosted by the Treasure Coast RPC and the Indian River Lagoon National Estuaries Program. The Symposium was held at the Indian River State College Chastain Campus in Stuart on June 8, 2018.

The event included presentations by wastewater utility representatives from Indian, Martin, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie Counties, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and subject matter experts and scientists from around the country. There are currently several alternative methods for the management of biosolids and attendees were given a look into the future through presentations of several new concepts.

During the final roundtable panel of summit participants and elected officials, public comment centered on how to prioritize the review of existing alternatives and what is required to fund pilot projects that will eventually reduce negative nutrient impacts to surface waters. During the Symposium, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection announced that it is creating a statewide Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee to evaluate current management practices and potential opportunities for enhancements to better protect Florida's water resources. In June 2018, FRCA established an initiative to have all ten RPCs support a statewide initiative to address this issue.

*The RPCs improve the quality of life in Florida through a variety of services provided to local governments and programs operated through state and federal grant funding. Through visioning and community planning efforts, the RPCs assist local communities as they set goals to implement an economic vision and strategy. Brownfields programs across the state work to provide resources that clean up abandoned or underused commercial and industrial sites resulting in new economic development activities. Many RPCs also provide other services to enhance the quality of life using GIS mapping and affordable housing initiatives.*

## EMERGENCY

# PREPAREDNESS

*Working together, RPCs conduct cooperative statewide projects such as the award winning statewide Regional Evacuation Study, the Energy Assurance Study, and coastal resiliency planning.*



### Apalachee RPC Partners on “Save Life!” Workshops

The Apalachee RPC partnered with the North Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force and the Florida Department of Health to design and deliver six “Save Life! An Integrated Response to Active Shooter Incidents” workshops throughout the region. The workshops provided local emergency response agencies with the information and tools necessary to save lives during the initial phases of response to an active shooter event. During the workshops, tourniquets were distributed to local law enforcement officers. This simple tool helps to prepare them to save as many lives as possible when responding to these types of incidents.



### West Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

The Escambia County Hazmat Team and Kraton Chemical in Pensacola teamed up to hold a joint-small scale exercise at the Kraton Chemical facility. The hazardous materials team members focused on responding to chemicals stored at the facility. The West Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, staffed by the West Florida RPC, met in Bay County and reviewed the Training Subcommittee schedule, upcoming classes, the success of the hybrid 160-Hour Technician Level Course and changes in reporting requirements for hazardous materials. Based on the success of the hybrid Technician Level Course, an additional course for hazardous materials first responders was held in 2018.



### North Central Florida RPC forms Regional HazMat Team

The North Central Florida RPC, in conjunction with the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, initiated the formation of the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team among counties and cities in the north central Florida region. An interlocal agreement among the member local governments provides the governance structure for the Team. Today, the Team is the focal point for hazardous materials emergency response for the region.

In 2017-18, the Council continued to provide staff support to the Team. With the assistance of Council, the Team has been awarded over \$1,000,000 in competitive grants. The Team recognizes that hazardous materials preparedness planning and emergency response is primarily a regional activity.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

RPCs complete regional economic impact analysis using the nationally recognized REMI software, facilitate Post Disaster, Redevelopment Planning, and administer revolving loan funds for small business loans and brownfields redevelopment.



## SWFRPC Receives Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant

The Southwest Florida RPC was awarded a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant for \$600,000 (50% petroleum, 50% hazardous substances). The grant covers the Southwest Florida Promise Zone area of Glades County, Hendry County, and the Immokalee community in Collier County and will fund an expanded community driven inventory of brownfields sites as well as a Generic Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), 40 ASTM-AAI compliant Phase I Environmental Site Assessments, 14 Phase II ESAs (with site-specific QAPPs), and up to eight Remedial Action Plans. The primary focus of the brownfields assessment is to eliminate the threat of contamination and improve the quality of life in the low-income, high unemployment communities of Glades and Hendry Counties and Immokalee, while keeping environmental justice as a key focus.

## Elevate Northeast Florida

The Northeast Florida Regional Council, JAXUSA, and CareerSource Northeast Florida formed a partnership to develop a new economic development strategy for the region. With major funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, "Elevate Northeast Florida" kicked off in February 2018. Goals for Elevate Northeast Florida include economic growth, talent development, brand recognition and global competitiveness.



American Planning Association  
Florida Chapter



*Through its RPCs, FRCA creates partnerships statewide to support economic growth, improve infrastructure and enhance the quality of life for all Floridians.*

# AWARDS



## Florida 2017 NADO Excellence in Transportation Award

**Apalachee RPC**

*Strategic Planning for the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone*

**West Florida RPC**

*Interactive Project Priorities and Long-Range Transportation Plans*



## 2018 FPZA Annual Awards

**Central Florida RPC/ Heartland Regional TPO**

*Highlands Transit Plan*



## 2018 APA Florida Award of Merit

**Central Florida RPC and Treasure Coast RPC**

*South Florida Avenue Project*



## 2018 APA Florida Chapter President's Lifetime Achievement Award

**Michael Busha, Executive Director**

**Treasure Coast RPC**

## 2018 National Association of Regional Councils

**Heartland TPO/Central Florida RPC**

*Highlands Transit Plan*

## 2018 George I. Treyz Bronze Award for Excellence in Economic and Demographic Analysis

**Tampa Bay RPC**

*Tampa Interstate Urban Study: Urban Core Area Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis*



## Florida 2018 NADO Innovation Awards

**Central Florida RPC**

- *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*

**Central Florida RPC and Treasure Coast RPC**

- *South Florida Avenue Complete Street Charrette and Master Plan*

**Central Florida RPC/ Heartland Regional TPO**

- *Highlands Transit Plan*

**East Central Florida RPC**

- *Minton Road Town Center Mobility Plan*
- *Orange County Food Production Strategic Plan*
- *West Lakes Health Impact Assessment*

**North Central Florida RPC**

- *North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team*

**Tampa Bay RPC**

- *Tampa Interstate Study Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis*
- *Hazardous Materials Training Program 2018*



## Congratulations to North Central Florida RPC Director Scott Koons!

Scott Koons, Executive Director of the North Central Florida RPC was elected as President of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) in October 2018 at NADO's Annual Training Conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina. As President, Director Koons will lead the NADO Board of Directors which oversees the Association's budget and operations and develops policy on issues affecting regional development organizations nationwide.



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## REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS:

### APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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### EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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### NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

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### SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Executive Director: Isabel Cosio Carballo  
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### SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Executive Director: Margaret A. Wuerstle  
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239.938.1813 | [swfrpc.org](http://swfrpc.org)

### TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Executive Director: Sean T. Sullivan  
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### TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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### WEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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