



Sheri Coven  
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
[sheri.coven@flregionalcouncils.org](mailto:sheri.coven@flregionalcouncils.org)  
(850) 294-0526

## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: May 2014

---

### OUTREACH

- Along with Mario Taylor (Northeast Florida Regional Council), met with Linda McWhorter (Florida Division of Emergency Management) to discuss several priority projects and funding opportunities.
- Began developing FRCA's first electronic quarterly newsletter, which will be issued in June as the "Summer 2014" issue.
- Met with Sal Nuzzo (Florida Chamber Foundation) to provide input and offer assistance pertaining to a Military and Veterans Summit being hosted by the Florida Chamber Foundation in August.
- Thanked Gray Swoope and Al Latimer for identifying the Florida Regional Councils Association as a Partner Entity on the Enterprise Florida website, which has been a work in progress.
- Provided assistance to the U.S. Census Bureau, which is planning a Local Update of Census Addresses Workshop for the 2020 Census in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference.

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in Enterprise Florida's monthly conference call for its economic development partners, and attended the 2014 State Hurricane Exercise as FRCA's representative to Emergency Support Function 18 – Business, Industry, and Economic Stabilization.
- Served as a panelist at a national Executive Directors Training Workshop, which was hosted by the National Association of Development Organization, Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI), and others, and also served as a panelist at SERDI's Annual Training Conference, which were held in conjunction with one another.
- Distributed funding announcements from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity pertaining to its Regional Rural Development Grants and from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Labor, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### **LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT**

- Contacted Florida's Congressional members asking them to oppose the Pompeo amendment that would have eliminated the U.S. Economic Development Administration's entire budget (the amendment failed).
- Provided support on several fronts to help prevent a veto of regional planning council funding (still awaiting action by the Governor).
- Issued a post-session legislative update that included several variations of FRCA's bill tracking reports.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Developed a FRCA Membership Benefits and Services document that will be provided to all regional planning council board members.
- Developed an Orientation Packet that will be delivered via email to all new FRCA Policy Board members.
- Continued to prepare for the June FRCA meetings, which will be held in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference; August FRCA meetings, which will be held in conjunction with the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference; and, October FRCA meetings, which will be held in conjunction with the Florida Chamber Foundation's Future of Florida Annual Conference.