



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #V.E

DATE: JUNE 3, 2013
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: FRCA MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Attached is the FRCA Monthly Accomplishments report.



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MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: October 2013

OUTREACH

- Met with Chad Poppell, Chief of Staff of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to help the Department begin the process of identifying and nominating non-voting, ex-officio representatives to each regional planning council, pursuant to s. 186.504, F.S.
- Attended a Competitive Florida Workshop hosted by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, which was designed to explain the program to local communities and seek input on its further development.
- Attended the Clean Energy Congress 2.0, the outcome of which will be development of key policy priorities and talking points to be shared with Florida's lawmakers.
- Attended a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission meeting, which focused on developing the strategic direction of the agency in conjunction with the priorities of its Commissioners.
- Attended the Florida Chamber Foundation's Future of Florida Forum, which provided an opportunity to interact with representatives of the business and economic development community; during the Forum, the regional planning councils were again recognized as Six Pillars Communities and presented with an award.
- Along with Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Chair, Scott Koons (NCFRPC), and Pat Steed (CFRPC), met with Barbara Foster, Chief of the Bureau of Planning and Partnerships in the Division of Strategic Business Development at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to discuss future partnership opportunities with the regional planning councils and implementation of the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development.
- Along with Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Chair, Scott Koons (NCFRPC), and Pat Steed (CFRPC), met with Bill Killingsworth, Director of the Division of Community Development at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to discuss the relationship between regional planning councils and the Department, with a focus on how the councils are uniquely positioned to provide statewide coverage to help carry out the Department's policies and programs.
- Met with Mark Reichert, Assistant Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Commission, to discuss the Commission's developing priorities related to regionalism and identify any potential impacts on regional planning councils.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- Worked with staff at the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute on tasks leading up to the Florida Regional Councils Association's Strategic Assessment Retreat, including

providing input on the board member/stakeholder survey and developing a plan for its distribution in November.

- Participated by teleconference in Enterprise Florida's quarterly Stakeholders Committee and Board of Directors meetings; among the many presentations made over the two-day event was one on the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils' joint initiative – Seven50 – a blueprint for ensuring economic prosperity and the best-possible quality of life for Southeast Florida (see <http://seven50.org/>).
- Participated in a meeting of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, which included discussions pertaining to the Florida Main Street Program, economics of trails, and Florida Department of Transportation's upcoming review of the rural transportation planning process.
- On behalf of Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Chair, served as the Florida Regional Councils Association representative at the quarterly meeting of the State Emergency Response Commission.
- Distributed grant opportunity announcements to the RPC Executive Directors pertaining to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Community Investment Initiative and the Wells Fargo Foundation and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's joint program to support projects that link economic development and community well-being to the health of the environment.
- Participated in two Energy Resiliency Strategy Working Group teleconferences and reviewed and edited the draft, 122-page Florida Energy Resiliency Report, and provided comments to staff at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.
- Responded to requests for information from the National Association of Development Organizations pertaining to its state association project, which included updating responses to a questionnaire that was first completed approximately two years ago; upon its completion, the project will be shared with the regional planning councils.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

- Worked with staff at the Florida Association of Counties to remove from its draft 2014 Legislative Priorities and Policies, obsolete language pertaining to regional planning councils, while maintaining support for regional planning council funding and technical assistance activities.
- Compiled and distributed to the Executive Directors the membership lists for the Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities legislative committees that address regional planning council issues for purposes of outreach and support of regional planning council funding in the legislature.
- Completed the compilation of regional planning council budgets, broken down by local, state, and federal funding categories, and provided it to the Senate Transportation and

Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee, as requested by its Staff Director.

- Reviewed newly filed bills for the 2014 Legislative Session and attended legislative committee meetings the week of September 7th.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Organized and participated in a conference call to brief the FRCA President, Commissioner Patty Asseff, on the activities and organizational plans associated with the Florida Regional Councils Association's Strategic Assessment Retreat.
- Participated in the October FRCA meetings.
- Executed contracts with the Doubletree Hotel for the January, February, March, and April Florida Regional Councils Association meetings.