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## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: January 2015

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### OUTREACH

- Along with Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Chair of the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee, met with Bill Killingsworth, Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Community Development, to discuss several issues, including the need to move forward with the Governor's economic development appointments to regional planning councils.
- Along with Chairman Teeple, met with representatives of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Strategic Business Development and Bureau of Labor Market Statistics to see whether the Department and the Councils could better coordinate their respective economic modeling programs.
- Met with Jenna Titcomb and John Thomas from the Florida League of Cities regarding coordinating the regional activities of the Florida Local Government Coalition with the appropriate regional planning councils.
- Congratulated Jon Steverson on his appointment as the new Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
- Reached out to the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, District 3, to promote the continuation of the District's transportation planning contracts with the Apalachee and West Florida Regional Planning Councils.

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in or attending the following meetings: Rural Economic Development Initiative; Florida Defense Support Task Force; Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s (EFI's) Stakeholders Council; EFI's Legislative Committee meeting; EFI's meeting of its Board of Directors; Florida .
- Prepared and submitted to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity FRCA's 2014-15 second quarter report demonstrating implementation of the *Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development*.
- Attended the first meeting of the Florida Department of Transportation's Florida Transportation Plan/Strategic Intermodal System Plan Update Steering Committee.
- Participated in the Florida Chamber Foundation's 2015 Transportation Summit.
- Participated in a planning meeting for the Florida Civic Advance inaugural annual conference, which is an initiative of the Florida Consensus Center.
- Distributed funding announcements from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA, and U.S. Department of Transportation.

### **LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT**

- Provided support to FRCA's Executive Director, Ron Book, and Chairman Teeple to address certain legislative issues.
- Coordinated with Mr. Book to ensure FRCA was represented at the Sadowski Coalition's meetings with House and Senate leadership.
- Finalized the 2015 FRCA Legislative Agenda as approved by the FRCA Policy Board on January 9, 2015 and posted it to the FRCA website.
- Created and distributed a Legislative Highlights report covering the January 5-9, 2015 Interim Committee Week and reviewed pertinent bills and issued related bill tracking reports.

### **ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT**

- Worked with Mr. Book to respond to a constituent concern in the Withlacoochee region.
- Participated in a variety of conference calls involving the Executive Directors, FRCA President Pat Huff, and Policy Board presenters in preparation for the January 9, 2015 FRCA Policy Board meeting.
- Prepared for and participated in the January 8-9 FRCA meetings.
- Finalized the logistics, secured speakers, developed agendas, and drafted meeting summaries for the February 12-13, 2015 FRCA meetings.