

Regional Planning Councils: Return on Investment

Florida Association of Counties Growth, Environmental Planning & Agriculture Committee

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Overview

- Regional Planning Councils
- Return on Investment
- Funding Sources
- Funding History
- Conclusion



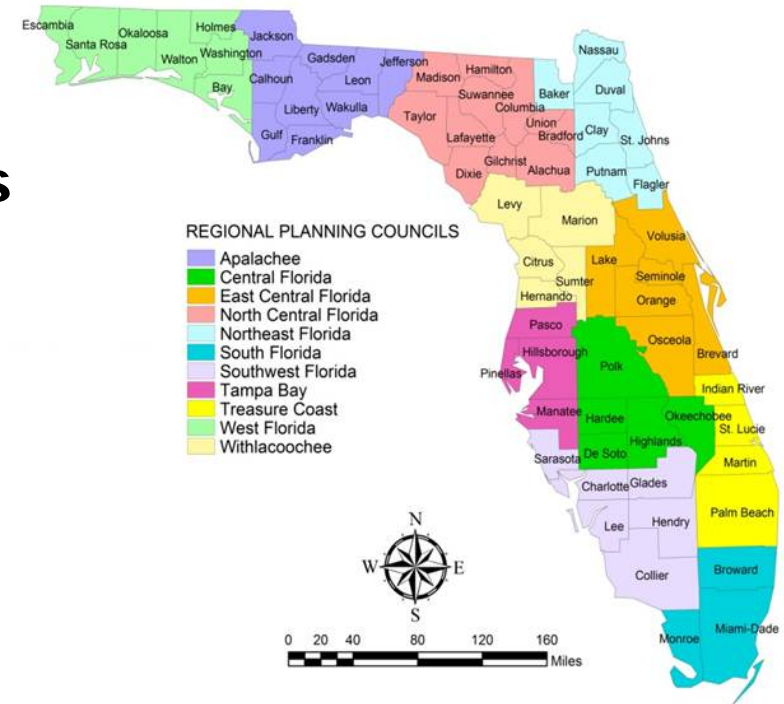
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Regional Planning Councils: Organization

- **11 regions**
- Councils of **local governments**
- Governed by **Boards of Directors**
 - 2/3 local **elected officials**
 - 1/3 **gubernatorial appointees**
 - **Range in size** from 18 to 48

Florida Regional Planning Councils



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Regional Planning Councils: Mission

- Coordinate **intergovernmental solutions** for greater-than-local problems
- Support and promote **regional economic development**
- Provide **technical assistance** to local governments
- Offer high-quality **emergency management and preparedness** planning and training
- **Convene regional leaders** to develop regional visions



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Regional Planning Councils: Portfolio

- Economic development planning
- Regional and strategic planning
- Transportation, community and environmental planning
- Emergency preparedness planning and training
- Homeland security training
- Geographic information systems mapping
- Local government services and technical assistance



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

Federally Designated Economic Development Districts

- Federal investment through regional planning councils over 12 years (2000-2011) = \$125 million in 213 projects in the state to create or retain 25,500 jobs and leveraged \$2 billion in private capital investment

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies

- Economic road map to diversify and strengthen the regional economy
- Input from local governments, economic development organizations, local chambers of commerce, and businesses throughout the regions



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

State Strategic Plan for Economic Development/ Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

- Hosted and staffed ten regional meetings for the Department
- Regional Planning Councils' economic development role is highlighted throughout the plan

Florida Chamber Foundation

- Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy
- Organizing framework for Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies
- Concurrent updates among all 11 regional planning councils



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

SIX PILLARS OF FLORIDA'S FUTURE ECONOMY



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy

- Talent Supply & Education
- Innovation & Economic Development
- Infrastructure & Growth Leadership
- Business Climate & Competitiveness
- Civic & Governance Systems
- Quality of Life & Quality Places



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

Economic Data and Analysis

- Regional planning councils provide objective economic analyses on policy and investment decisions, often in support of local economic development organizations, and have conducted 420 regional impact analyses and studies in the past 10 years

Grant Writing

- Assist local governments and economic development organizations to prepare grant applications for federal/state economic development infrastructure funds



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Return on Investment: Economic Development

Other Programs and Services

- Eco-Tourism and Heritage Tourism Promotion
- Brownfields Revitalization
- Military Base Compatibility Coordination
- Broadband Planning
- Revolving Loan Funds
- Intergovernmental Coordination and Review



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Return on Investment: Assisting Local Communities

Community Planning

- Extension of the local governments they serve
- Coordinate development and implementation strategies to address problems and opportunities created by growth

Local Government Technical Assistance

- Provide a wide range of services and tasks to meet the needs of their local governments
- In many cases, serve as the planning staff for their local governments



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Return on Investment: Assisting Local Communities

Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern

- Provide technical support to businesses and economic developers to promote regional job creation strategies and assist in developing shovel-ready sites for economic development projects

Geographic Information Systems and Data Clearinghouse

- Provide maps and conduct analyses to meet the needs of their local governments
 - Examples: Delineation of community redevelopment areas, hurricane surge zones, floodplain areas, and utility service areas



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Return on Investment: Public Health Safety and Welfare

Emergency Preparedness and Statewide Regional Evacuation

- Develop Regional Evacuation Plans; Post Disaster Redevelopment Plans; and Continuity of Operation Plans
- Provide Business Disaster Planning Kits

Emergency Response

- Trained more than 50,000 first responders in the past 10 years
- Staff Florida's Regional Domestic Security Task Forces



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Return on Investment: Public Health Safety and Welfare

Local Emergency Planning

- Staff Local Emergency Planning Committees
- Hazards Analysis and Response Planning Services
- Assist local governments in developing Local Mitigation Strategies
- Identify and monitor Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste

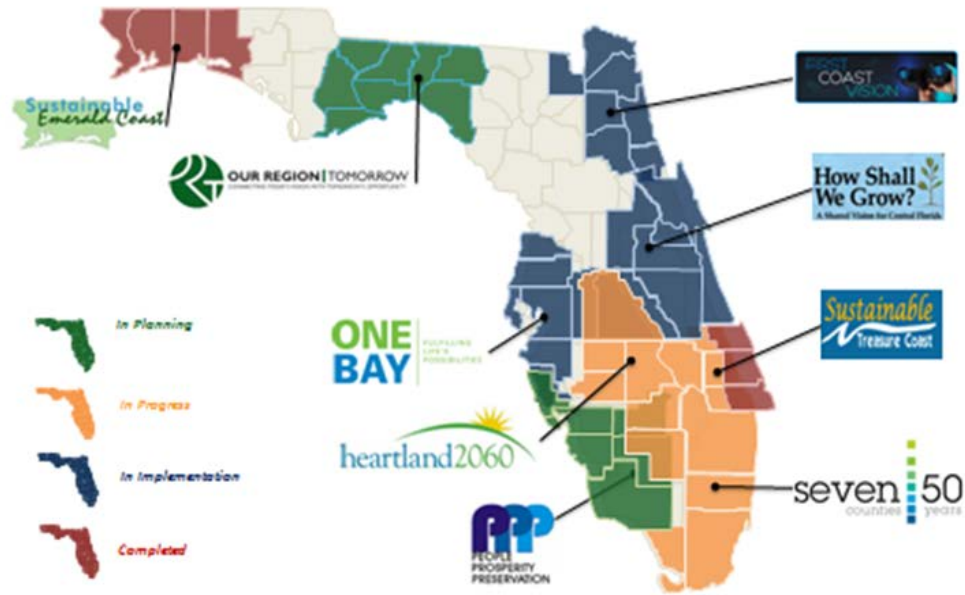


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Return on Investment: Regional Partnerships & Collaboration

Florida's Regional Visioning Processes



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Return on Investment: Regional Partnerships & Collaboration

Sharing collective expertise

- Rural Economic Development Initiative
- Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s Stakeholders Council
- Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillar Caucus
- State Emergency Response Commission
- Florida Greenways and Trails Council
- Safe Mobility for Life Coalition



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Return on Investment: Statutory Mandates

Mandated Responsibilities in 13 Statutes, including:

- Florida Regional Planning Council Act – Ch. 186, F.S.
 - Provide technical assistance to local governments
 - Administer federal and state grants
 - Promote and facilitate economic development
 - Conduct cross-cutting negotiations with local governments
 - Foster region-wide transportation systems
 - Adopt Strategic Regional Policy Plans
 - Provide dispute resolution



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Return on Investment: Statutory Mandates

Continued:

- Comprehensive Planning Programs – Ch. 163, F.S.
- Rural Economic Development Initiative and Military Base Reuse Plans – Ch. 288, F.S.
- Transportation goals and policies within Strategic Regional Policy Plans; review recommendation role for other transportation plans and products – Ch. 339, F.S.
- Development of Regional Impact Program – Ch. 380, F.S.
- Power Plan Siting and Transmission Line/Corridor Siting; Expedited Review Permitting Process – Ch. 403, F.S.



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Regional Planning Council: Funding Sources

- Federal Agency Contracts – 60%
- State Agency Contracts – 5%
- Local Government Contracts – 12%
- Local Government Membership Dues – 19%
- Development of Regional Impact Review Fees – 3%
- Other – 1%
- ~~State General Appropriation – 0%~~

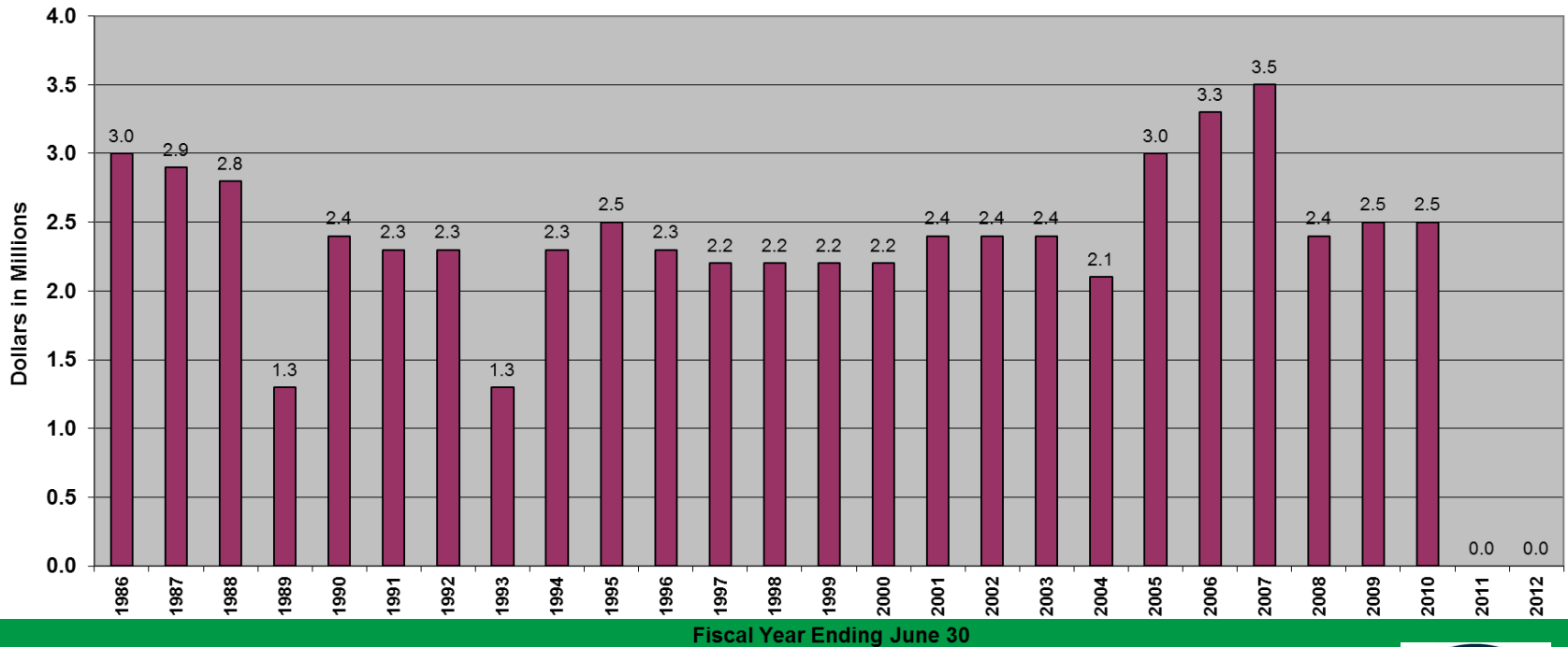


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Regional Planning Council: Funding History

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
STATE APPROPRIATION
FISCAL YEARS 1985-86 to 2011-12



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Conclusion

Support

- Full funding of regional planning councils to, at a minimum, cover the costs of statutory responsibilities, and to support enhanced economic development support activities

Oppose

- Legislation prohibiting or restricting in any way the ability of a regional planning council to provide planning and technical services to its local governments



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