



Apalachee • Central Florida
East Central Florida • North Central Florida
Northeast Florida • South Florida • Southwest Florida
Tampa Bay • Treasure Coast • West Florida

**Florida Regional Councils Association
Executive Directors Advisory Committee**

**December 7, 2016
9:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Tallahassee City Hall
Tallahassee Room, 2nd Floor
300 Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301**

PARTNERS MEETING SUMMARY

Members in Attendance:

- Chair: Pat Steed, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC)
- Michael Busha, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
- Hugh Harling, Jr., East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRC)
- Scott Koons, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC)
- Austin Mount, West Florida Regional Planning Council (WFRPC)
- Chris Rietow, Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC)
- Brian Teeple, Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC)
- Margaret Wuerstle, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)

Staff in Attendance:

- Denise Imbler, Statewide Coordinator, FRCA

Guests in Attendance:

- Katherine Britt, Environmental Specialist, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Jamie McNease, Strategic Analytics Consultant, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Noel Munson, Strategic Business Planner, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Dana Reid, Administrator, Florida Department of Transportation
- Brian Watts, Planner, Florida Department of Transportation
- Eric Poole, Assistant Legislative Director, Florida Association of Counties
- Davin Suggs, Legislative Director, Florida Association of Counties
- Greg Vaday Economic Development Representative, Economic Development Administration – by conference call

Call to Order and Introductions

Pat Steed, Chair, Executive Director Central Florida RPC

Approval of the September 30, 2016 Partners Meeting Summary

The meeting summary was approved with one change.

Florida Department of Transportation

Dana Reiding, Administrator, Intergovernmental Programs provided a presentation on the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP). The FTP now includes transportation choices as an element of the plan. The steering committee has transitioned to an implementation committee. The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is an internal FDOT plan focusing on the most critical facilities statewide. The Complete Streets Handbook will be published in June of 2017 with a comment period running through April 2017. Brian Watts is the point of contact for military installations and will be informed that RPCs around the state should be involved. Michael Busha suggested at the beginning of every resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation projects, FDOT reach out to the local governments for planning and suggested design considerations.

The State Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) was updated in August 2016. There has been an 18% increase in traffic fatalities from 2014 – 2015 and that figure is projected to rise again in 2016. The transportation program at ECFRPC was discussed for its successful promotion of coordination amongst agencies such as the school board, FDOT and local public works departments which does not necessarily always occur. Ms. Reiding said that the Safe Routes to School Plan is being updated. FDOT is encouraging RPCs to play a role in regional visioning. Not all areas of the state have conducted a visioning session and some of the visions need to be refreshed.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

Noel Munson, Strategic Business Planner talked about the different economic planning initiatives occurring around the state. He is beginning the process of updating the Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development, the first step being to engage with partners for research. A task force will be convened in May with an expanded membership. The meetings will be held primarily by videoconferencing to ensure participation. The public comment period will occur in May of 2018 with a publication date of July, 2018. Mr. Munson asked for RPCs to assist with:

- Including relevant participants
- Providing feedback on what works in the Strategic Plan
- Changes needed in the Strategic Plan
- Input on alignment
- Input on current best practices

The current Strategic Plan is going to be evaluated and it was discussed that the regions need to be engaged individually as well as statewide. Ms. Steed discussed the difference in timelines of the Florida Chamber Foundation 2030 Project, the Strategic Plan update and the RPC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

(CEDS) updates. It was discussed that having CEDS committee members serve on the task force would be valuable. FRCA will coordinate on how the RPCs can best support DEO and have them engaged in the regional process.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Katherine Britt, Environmental Specialist, discussed the EPA 319 Grant and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Water Quality Restoration Grant. The EPA grant is for nonpoint source pollution abatement and Florida typically receives \$6 million annually. She mentioned that it takes about a year after application to receive funds and there is a 40% match requirement. The current solicitation is for the 2018 grant cycle and applications are due in March, 2017. The typical project minimum is \$50K and the most is \$1,000,000. Septic to sewer projects are eligible if you can prove septic is contaminating.

The TMDL Water Quality Restoration Grant is strictly for urban storm water in basin management action plan (BMAP) areas. The project design must be 60% complete and the project duration should not be longer than three years. There is a 50% match requirement and at least 25% must be provided by the local government. There is \$1 million of EPA 319 Grant funds available for education but only in BMAP areas. Education and outreach can be covered any topics on non-point TMDL. These funds have a 40% match and projects are due March, 2017.

Florida Association of Counties

Eric Poole, Assistant Legislative Director, introduced Davin Suggs, the newly appointed Legislative Director for FAC. He reviewed the Legislative Priorities for 2017 and discussed the Constitutional Revision Commission. It was mentioned that local governments are passing moratoriums ranging from six months to one year on medical marijuana. FAC is hosting a one day summit on February 4th in Orlando.

Economic Development Administration

Greg Vaday, Economic Development Representative gave an update on current grant opportunities and training events. He discussed small scale manufacturing to provide jobs to underserved communities. He is planning a RPC and EDA workshop later in the year.

Other Business

Janet Bowman, The Nature Conservancy said they are monitoring Senator Brandes bill on sea level rise for risk reduction to critical facilities.

Adjourn