DATE: MAY 29, 2020

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

The Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) is an alliance of Florida’s ten Regional Planning Councils which serves to enhance regional collaboration throughout the state. The FRCA Policy Board consists of three board members from each of the state’s 10 Councils: a County Representative, a Municipal Representative, and a Gubernatorial Appointee. The Council’s current appointments consist of two Gubernatorial Appointees (Councilmembers Bailey and Walters) with Councilmembers Ross and Bates alternating as the municipal representative.

Councilmember Walters is the President of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board. The Policy Board meets twice a year, generally in January and during the summer. With Councilmember Walter’s direction and leadership, the January meeting focused on “Florida’s Environment, the Foundation of Florida’s Future”. Very well attended by elected and appointed officials across the state, the Policy Board meeting provides a great forum for conversation and strategy development among the ten regional planning councils. During the January Policy Board meeting, the Councils provided updates on their environmental planning activities and accomplishments, and received testimony from the Florida Chamber of Commerce outlining the integral relationship between Florida’s environment and economy; the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on current initiatives to protect and improve Florida’s State Lands (#1 Park System in the Nation); and from Resiliency Florida discussing the role of regional planning councils and local governments.

Planning is currently underway for a web-based meeting in July focused on post-COVID issues including emergency management, economic development, a legislative update following the conclusion of the Florida Legislative Session and developments during the last few months, as well as administrative matters.

Information only.