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## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: February 2015

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### OUTREACH

- Developed and issued FRCA's Winter 2015 electronic newsletter, which focused on RPC "tools in the toolbox," economic modeling, and promotion of the FRCA annual report.
- Arranged a meeting between Bryan Koon, Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, and Brian Teeple, Chief Executive Officer of the Northeast Florida Regional Council and Chair of the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee, as well as Chris Rietow, Executive Director of the Apalachee RPC, to discuss funding for hazardous analyses and the implications of Senate Bill 484 on RPC emergency management functions.
- With confirmed support from the West Florida and Apalachee RPCs, sent a letter to Sherri Martin, Chief of the Bureau of Economic Development, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, supporting redesignation of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Opportunity (formerly known as the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern).
- Continued to reach out to staff from the Florida Department of Transportation, District 3, to encourage their 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: a meeting of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Safe Mobility for Life Coalition, and Florida State Emergency Response Team Stakeholders Group, as well as Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s monthly teleconference.
- Attended a meeting of the Florida Department of Transportation's Florida Transportation Plan/Strategic Intermodal System Plan Update Steering Committee.
- Attended the American Planning Association, Florida Chapter's annual Public Policy Workshop.
- Attended and helped staff the Florida Civic Advance inaugural annual conference, which was an initiative of the Florida Consensus Center.
- Distributed funding announcements from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Transportation, and U.S. Economic Development Administration.

### **LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT**

- Helped FRCA's Executive Director, Ron Book, and Brian Teeple, Chief Executive Officer of the Northeast Florida Regional Council and Chair of the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee, craft a letter to the Governor explaining the role and value of RPCs.
- Attended/monitored numerous committee meetings in the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives and reviewed and summarized relevant pieces of legislation as needed.
- Created and distributed two Legislative Highlights reports covering four 2015 Interim Committee Weeks and issued several iterations of FRCA's bill tracking report.

### **ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT**

- Updated the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs job description to reflect practices that have evolved over the past three years and recognize the existence of and need to implement FRCA's first Strategic Operating Plan.
- Updated the FRCA Website to address regular maintenance issues and post meeting agendas and summaries.
- Prepared for and participated in the February 12-13 FRCA meetings.
- Finalized the logistics, secured speakers, developed agendas, and drafted meeting summaries for the March 12-13, 2015 FRCA meetings.