



### *January 2016 - News from Around the State*

SFRC and the Urban League of Broward County Partner on \$4 Million Small Business Loan Fund

Kissimmee Medical Arts District Strategic Plan

North Florida Medical Reserve Corps Award

Northeast Florida Full-Scale Regional HazMat Exercise

Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Facility Visit

Village of Tequesta Completes Streets Project

FRCA Introduces New Director for Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

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FRCA Calendar

**South Florida Regional Council and the Urban League of Broward County Partner to Administer \$4 Million Small Business Loan Fund**



**2016 Meetings & Events Calendar**

FRCA is pleased to share a calendar of state and national meetings and conferences of interest to our members, partners and affiliates.

[Click to view the 2016 Calendar](#)

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
Jan. 27, 2016	9:00 am-12:00pm	Hotel Duval, Tallahassee, FL
Feb.12, 2016	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Tallahassee City Hall, Tallahassee Room, Tallahassee, FL
Mar. 11, 2016	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Tallahassee City Hall, Tallahassee Room, Tallahassee, FL

**FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION**

*Partnerships for the Future*

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## Recent FRCA Awards

### 2014-2015 Florida National Association of Development Organizations Innovation Awards

#### Central Florida RPC

*Heartland 2060*

#### Central Florida RPC, Southwest Florida RPC & Tampa Bay RPC

*Florida Local/Regional Broadband Planning Project*

#### North Central Florida RPC

*Incorporating Safety into Transportation Planning*

#### Northwest Florida RPC

*Regional Action Plan for Sea Level Rise*

#### Apalachee RPC

*Wakulla Environmental Institute*

### 2015 National Association of Regional Councils Major Metro Award

#### Tampa Bay RPC, Central Florida RPC & Southwest Florida RPC

*Florida/Local/Regional Broadband Planning Project*

### 2015 FPZA Outstanding Redevelopment Plan Award

#### Central Florida RPC

*Bartow Community Redevelopment Plan*

### 2015 Congress for the New Urbanism Charter Award

#### Treasure Coast RPC

*Seven50: Southeast Florida Regional Partnership Plan*

## 2016 FRCA Partners Meetings Schedule - 1st Quarter

FRCA hosts six Partners Meetings each year. To propose a presentation for a future Partners' meeting, contact [director@flregionalcouncils.org](mailto:director@flregionalcouncils.org).

- completed 560 RPC economic impact analyses in support of private business entrepreneurs and local economic development organizations, to help them compete nationally and globally for investment and skilled jobs.
- trained 38,573 first responders/emergency management personnel.
- validated 12,673 projects under the Federal Consistency Review Program ensuring access to billions of dollars of federal infrastructure and economic investment dollars.



The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) has selected Sean Sullivan as its new Executive Director. "The TBRPC has found a unique and different leader who is highly accomplished. He is a proven expert in transportation matters which will be helpful in this region," said Commissioner Victor Crist, former chair of the TBRPC.

As program manager/environmental protection specialist in the Region One Office of the Federal Transit Administration covering six states, Sullivan's experience includes oversight of capital transit projects including extension of the Green Line in Boston and planning for a Transit Oriented District in Greater Boston. His duties included working with multiple transit agencies, federal and state agencies, regional planning councils/commissions and numerous local governments to provide guidance pertaining to economic development, acquisition or disposition of property, capital construction projects, grant development, energy efficiency and protecting the federal interest of capital assets.

"I am delighted to welcome Sean Sullivan to the Tampa Bay region," said Commissioner Kathryn Starkey who represents Pasco County on the TBRPC and also served on the search committee. "His background in transportation, economic development and planning will be an asset to the community."



**Sean Sullivan, TBRPC**

Other commissioners agreed with Starkey and Crist. "Mr. Sullivan is just what this organization needs," added Commissioner Janet Long who represents Pinellas County on the TBRPC. "I am very excited about the expertise and experience he will bring to the council and I look forward to working with him on moving our region forward on the important issues facing our local governments and our citizens."

Sullivan earned a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts Lowell and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Suffolk University in Boston. He is the recent recipient of the Administrator's Award from the Federal Transit Administration. He was also honored by receiving the Fellowship Award from Suffolk University and the Presidents Medal from the University of Massachusetts Lowell. He is a member of the American Planning Association, a Certified Umpire with the American Softball Association and is a Certified Referee with the International Association of Basketball Referees. Sullivan is married and has two daughters who reside in Massachusetts. Sullivan officially took the reins at the TBRPC on January 11. For more information, please contact Sean Sullivan, [sean@tbrpc.org](mailto:sean@tbrpc.org).

## **About the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA)**

Created by the Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) in 1976, the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) is the only association in the state that represents all 10 RPCs in Florida. FRCA is a results-oriented organization dedicated to furthering the interests of regional planning councils and their member local governments, especially with respect to economic development, transportation, emergency preparedness, and local technical assistance initiatives. During the past 10 years FRCA, through its RPCs, have:

- originated \$74.9 million in federal investments in 39 different economic development projects in Florida, creating 5,623 jobs, retaining 10,310 jobs and leveraging more than \$606 million in capital investment.
- loaned \$41.9 million through their small business revolving loan funds which resulted in the creation and retention of 3,760 jobs.



### Possibilities"

West Florida RPC staffers recently visited the Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama (HMMA) facility in Montgomery for a combination economic development/ transportation technology research trip. If you have not visited HMMA, you need to reserve a spot during your next trip through Alabama. They offer a very informative - and free! - tour of Hyundai's first assembly and manufacturing plant in the states. At \$1.7 billion, their facility is one of the most advanced assembly plants in North America. Kudos to our tour guide, Alan. He was both educational and entertaining! For more information, please contact Austin Mount, [Austin.mount@wfrpc.org](mailto:Austin.mount@wfrpc.org).

## Village of Tequesta Completes Street Projects



Working collaboratively with the Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and affected local governments, the Council conducted a public planning charrette which led to the adoption of the Tequesta/Jupiter US1 Corridor Master Plan. The plan details a transformation of the corridor from a six-lane highway devoid of bicycle facilities to a four-lane "Complete Streets" retrofit, utilizing FDOT's Lane Elimination Program. Amenities will include buffered bicycle lanes, pedestrian-scale lighting, landscaping, intersection improvements, and a multi-use path to connect the "village center" to the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area, which is a nationally recognized historic landmark. Council assisted the Village in securing more than \$610,000 in state and local funding to build the street improvements. The plan was completed in February 2015, with engineering through 2016, and construction scheduled for 2017. For more information, please contact Kim DeLaney, [kdelaney@trpc.org](mailto:kdelaney@trpc.org).

## FRCA Announces New Director to the Tampa Bay RPC

## North Florida Medical Reserve Corps Receives Award



The North Florida Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) housed with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, was honored with a "Public Health Thank You Day" Award and the North Florida MRC Coordinator, Denise Imbler, was presented with the "Public Health Hero" Award from the Florida Department of Health in Leon County. The North Florida MRC is made up of more than fifty trained and credentialed medical volunteers who assist with public health events and disaster response. Throughout 2015 the North Florida MRC volunteers have assisted Leon County with various public health events including monitoring duties for the Ebola virus, influenza vaccination clinics and school health screenings at elementary and middle schools. Denise Imbler has served as the Coordinator of the North Florida MRC for the last seven years. Her efforts and the donated hours of the volunteers have accounted for more than \$8,000 worth of savings to Leon County. For more information, please contact her at [dimbler@theaprc.com](mailto:dimbler@theaprc.com).

## NEFRC Conducts Regional HazMat Exercise

The Northeast Florida Regional Council and the District 4 Local Emergency Planning Committee conducted a full-scale hazardous materials exercise at the Clay Port/Reynolds Park in Green Cove Springs. This HazMat exercise brought together four regional HazMat teams (Clay County Fire/Rescue, Gainesville Fire/Rescue, Jacksonville Fire/Rescue and St. Johns County Fire/Rescue),



***HazMat Responders Exercise  
in Northeast Florida***

along with Nassau County Fire/Rescue and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to exercise their capabilities and coordination in response to a major HazMat incident. The scenario for the exercise was a major transportation accident on US 17. In the scenario, several of the vehicles involved in the accident were carrying various types of hazardous materials, which all posed different risks to the public and the environment. This type of accident resulted in a call for all regional HazMat resources to assist in the response. A "BIG" thank you goes out to Gate Petroleum for donating a tanker truck used in the exercise, AA Propane for donating LP gas and props, the Red Cross for donating food and refreshments, and Ron Hildum for donating drone filming services. A brief video of the exercise is posted on Council's YouTube Channel. To view the 2015 Regional

HazMat Exercise Video go to our Website at [www.nefrc.org](http://www.nefrc.org) and click on the YouTube icon. For more information, please contact Eric Anderson, [eanderson@nefrc.org](mailto:eanderson@nefrc.org).

## Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Facility Visit

**Hyundai - "New Thinking, New Possibilities"**



The South Florida Regional Council's (SFRC) Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) provides low-interest rate loans to small and medium-size businesses that are not entirely served by conventional lenders. These loans range from \$50,000 to \$300,000 and are available to profitable businesses for expansion and job creation. Since 2002, Council's RLF program has serviced over 100 loans for a total over \$56 million in total project investment. In addition, 2,200 jobs have been created or retained in the Region by the financing of these projects. Building upon the success of their RLF, the SFRC recently formed a partnership with the Urban League of Broward County (ULBC) to administer its \$4 million Small Business Loan Fund. The SFRC/ULBC Small Business Loan Fund offers businesses and non-profit organizations loans from \$25,000 to \$250,000 that may be combined with other financing from conventional or community lenders. This partnership not only increases access to capital for businesses and entrepreneurs, but it offers technical assistance and other capacity building services to businesses and entrepreneurs. Together, the SFRC and ULBC will be able to maintain a performing loan portfolio that can provide access to financing for many years to come. For more information, please contact Isabel Cosio-Carballo, [isabelc@sfrpc.com](mailto:isabelc@sfrpc.com).

## Kissimmee Arts District Strategic Plan

In partnership with the City of Kissimmee, the East Central Florida RPC developed the Kissimmee Medical Arts District Strategic Plan. This plan will guide the City as it develops its hospital/medical arts district early next year in an effort to attract and incentivize doctors and medical industries to locate within the district. The district includes two hospitals and the future SunRail station in downtown Kissimmee. Within the district, medical businesses will have flexible development options, and the concept is to create a convenient center for patients to receive a full array of care from doctor visits, lab work and imaging all in one visit. Well-paid job creation is also a focus of the district. For more information, please contact Fred Milch, [fmilch@ecfrpc.org](mailto:fmilch@ecfrpc.org).

