RESOLUTION NO. 92-119

Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida Supporting the Designation of Said County and Its Subdivisions as Part of the Region's Overall Economic Development District

Whereas, Nassau County is an active and financial member of the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council;

Whereas, Nassau County supports the recent majority vote by members of the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (which consists of elected officials and Gubernatorial appointees from Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties) which adopted a resolution on the 7th day of May 1992 that designated Northeast Florida as "An Overall Economic Development District;"

Whereas, Nassau County recognizes the need to support and promote economic development to provide jobs for its citizens through local initiatives and combined local/regional programs;

Whereas, Nassau County supports and promotes economic development to improve the infrastructure needed to sustain systems and economic development;

Whereas, Nassau County recognizes that long-range economic development planning is mutually beneficial to its political subdivisions, the subdivisions of Northeast Florida and is a prerequisite to sound decision making in economic development;

Whereas, any responsible economic development policy involves, among other things, the identification of areas which are economically distressed, economic growth centers, emerging growth centers and pockets of poverty where the County finds that available regional or federal resources may be used;

Whereas, Nassau County also agrees that there is a need for greater economic development planning and assistance to help areas to overcome roadblocks to economic progress;

Whereas, Clay and St. Johns Counties have already adopted resolutions in support of the Regional Planning Council's efforts to have Northeast Florida designated as an Overall Economic Development District;

Whereas, Nassau County wishes to join its companion counties in supporting the Council in its attempt to have the Region designated as an "Overall Economic Development District" to procure additional available state and federal funds or assistance for local economic development needs;

Therefore be it resolved that Nassau County hereby officially supports the Council in its preparation of an "Overall Economic Development District Plan" for the Region and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council as part of a package to Governor Lawton Chiles, the appropriate State of Florida Departments and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

Hereby stated and approved this 22nd day of June, 1992.

Nassau County Board of County Commissioners

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Nassau County Clerk



June 22, 1992

The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners Nassau County Courthouse Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

Dear Commissioners:

The Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (RPC) has approached the Nassau County Committee of 100 about its plans to create an Overall Economic Development District for our region of Florida.

The RPC is in the process now of completing its application to the State of Florida and the federal Economic Development Administration. If our region is granted Overall Economic Development District status and Nassau County is included in this district, our county would be eligible for an increased amount of federal funds for economic development projects in our area. For example, the Ocean Highway and Port Authority applied for federal funds for the development of the Tradeplex. If this district designation had been in place at the time of their application for federal money, the project would have obtained 60% matching funds from the federal government as opposed to the 50% in matching funds that was received. The increase in money would be substantial.as \$1.5 million was received from the federal government for this project.

In order to be included in the Overall Economic Development District, Nassau County **must** pass a resolution of support for the district designation. Clay and St. Johns Counties have already passed similar resolutions and will be included in the RPC's application. If Nassau County does not pass a resolution of support for the district, it will be excluded from the district designation and will not be eligible for increased federal funding.



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A sample resolution is included with this letter. The **only** action that is required to be included in the district is your vote of support for this resolution.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Josette Butera Community Development Director