

RESOLUTION 92-98

RESOLUTION OF

SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS INCLUDING

GREATER AUTHORITY FOR LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW

AND INCREASED STATE FUNDING

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County values the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (NEFRPC) and its role as a member of the NEFRPC; and

**WHEREAS**, the NEFRPC was created in an Interlocal Agreement, pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, between the seven-member governments of Baker, Duval, Duval, Nassau, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County has continually had active representation on the NEFRPC Board and has taken an active role in the NEFRPC through monthly Board meetings and regular Committee meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, membership in the NEFRPC is an invaluable resource and has provided Nassau County with numerous benefits through continued technical assistance, including, but not limited to, DRI Review, Local Comprehensive Plan Review, Emergency Management Plans, and special studies related to solid waste, hurricane evacuation, hazardous materials, transmission line siting and public land acquisition; and

**WHEREAS**, the NEFRPC provides Nassau County with an active forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental disputes and promotes intergovernmental coordination between its municipalities, neighboring counties, and other State and regional agencies, through informal mediation and the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County views continued active involvement of the NEFRPC in the planning process as an important cost-effective way of addressing the critical planning functions facing this County and other local governments in the region; and

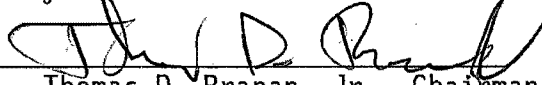
**WHEREAS**, Nassau County believes the responsibilities of the NEFRPC should be expanded to include more authority to review local government comprehensive plan amendments;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Nassau County wholeheartedly supports the continuation of Regional Planning Councils, including all current State funding levels.

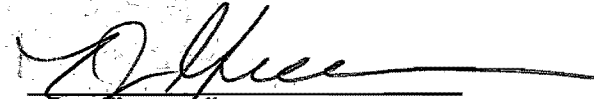
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners supports expanded authority for Regional Planning Councils through the delegation of the review of local government comprehensive plan amendments to Regional Planning Councils from the Department of Community Affairs and increased funding levels to support the expanded review responsibilities.

ADOPTED: 4-27-92

Nassau County Board of  
County Commissioners

By:   
Thomas D. Branan, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

  
T.J. "Jerry" Greeson  
ITS: Ex-Officio Clerk



DATE: 4-27

TO: 92

ACTION: 3

INFO:

## Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council

Baker • Clay • Duval • Flagler • Nassau • Putnam • St. Johns

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April 20, 1992

Hon. Thomas D. Branan, Jr., Chairman  
Nassau County Commission  
P.O. Box 1010  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

Dear Commission Chairman Branan:

The Regional Planning Councils in the state have had a great challenge in the legislature this last session and face an even greater one next year. HB 1061 passed and became law without the Governor's signature, and accordingly, we will undergo legislative review, sunset, in the 1993 regular session. In brief, this means that the legislature must pass legislation at the next regular session to continue state recognition of regional planning councils and maintain our role in the state growth management system. The role of the Regional Planning Councils will be reviewed by the Environmental Land Management (ELMS) III Committee and the Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations (this was going to happen, with, or, without the sunset provision) which will report their recommendations to the legislature. It is anticipated that the legislature will base their decision on these two reports and on local government and public input.

We feel strongly that the RPCs, and the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council, in particular, serve a critical role in working with the local governments. A short list of the types of assistance that are available from the NEFRPC to its member local governments includes:

- \*\*\* A forum to communicate and coordinate with neighboring counties and municipalities on areas of regional interest and importance--this occurs at the elected official level, local government staff level, and agency level;
- \*\*\* An opportunity to perform common programs with fewer staff (e.g., the NEFRPC provides staffing for 6 counties' transportation disadvantaged program--1 1/2 RPC staff members rather than 6 county staff members);
- \*\*\* Available professional staff to provide technical assistance in various areas of expertise including, but not limited to, transportation, comprehensive planning, land development regulations, grants preparation and management, emergency response, GIS mapping capabilities, census data and informal mediation;
- \*\*\* Knowledge of state requirements relating to the comprehensive plan process, the Developments of Regional Impact process, and others; and

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\*\*\* A local office to receive training, exchange information, or to discuss problems with the Council policy body.

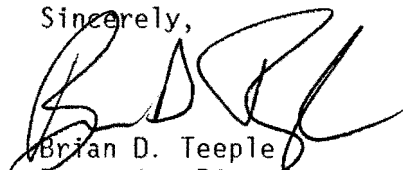
\*\*\* In addition, we provide a necessary interface and buffer between the Department of Community Affairs and the local governments.

The Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council is very concerned that the legislature, ELMS III and ACIR may not be aware of the services that the RPCs provide to their member local governments. Methods to communicate this information were discussed at the April 2, 1992 monthly meeting of the NEFRPC. The NEFRPC sees you and Nassau County as an important participant in this effort. We are requesting that the Nassau County Commission approve a resolution supporting the role of the NEFRPC in this region.

A draft resolution is enclosed for your consideration. Please feel at liberty to change it to meet Nassau County's needs. We would be happy to work with you to provide any additional information you may need in this effort. Please let us know when this will be on the agenda and, if you so desire, we will be glad to attend that meeting to respond to questions. We also ask that you send a copy of the resolution to the NEFRPC offices.

Thank you for your consideration and support in this effort. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Brian D. Teeple  
Executive Director

BDT:bah:fc

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Samuel Taylor, Chairman