



## Council Highlights

**April 1999**

### 2nd annual Regional Summit set May 20

Florida Department of Community Affairs Secretary Steven Seibert will be the keynote speaker at the 2nd Annual Northeast Florida Regional Cooperation Summit which will focus on transportation. The summit, sponsored by St. Johns County with Council assistance, is scheduled 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thurs., May 20, at the World Golf Village Convention Center.

Each county will receive 50 invitations. Agenda topics include 1) transportation funding issues facing the state and region; 2) overview of findings from the transportation analysis of the 1998 regional Hurricane Evacuation Study; 3) outcomes from the Council's stakeholder meetings (story below) identifying ideas for Florida's review of its growth management system.

For more info, call Mike Brown (904) 363-6375 X135.

### Council seeks input on growth management

The Council convened the region's growth management stakeholders in a series of meetings to develop regional input for the state's growth management system under review by Florida's new administration under Gov. Jeb Bush.

(Department of Community Affairs Secretary Steven Seibert has created an internal DCA working group to examine Chapters 163 and 380 and to develop recommendations by early summer.)

Six 3-hour meetings were facilitated by the staff in April/early May with local government and agency staff; citizens and environmental interests; developers/landowners/realtors; local elected officials/planning board members; business/economic development interests; private sector consultants/lawyers.

A final, collaborative meeting of all stakeholder groups will be held 9 a.m.-noon on Fri., May 7, at the Council to develop a consensus of the region's growth management perspective.

Participants discussed problems in the current system, and the appropriate roles for state, region, local government, and citizens. Among other topics were concurrency, land use availability vs. demand, urban sprawl, planning vs. regulation, intergovernmental coordination, sustainable communities, thresholds, pipelining, and existing DRI special features.

Staff drafted summaries of each meeting and forwarded them to all participants. A final report will be developed and sent to participants and DCA Secretary Seibert by May 12. For info, call Brian Teeple (904) 363-6375 X103.

### Preapplication conference held for Bartram Park DRI

The preapplication conference for the Bartram Park DRI—a proposed multi-use community in Jacksonville, with a small portion in St. Johns County—was held April 9.

The project, which is bisected by I-95, calls for 2,577 single-family dwelling units, 3,435 multi-family units, 1,173,000 square feet of commercial

development, 4,700,000 square feet of office development, and 850 hotel rooms, with a proposed buildout year of 2015. For more info, call Ed Lehman (904) 363-6375 X130.

### Staff participates in state Ocean committee meeting

The Florida Governor's Ocean committee held a focus group meeting on April 14 on the economic development aspects of the ocean. Council Executive Director Brian Teeple was invited to participate.

The meeting was facilitated by the Conflict Resolution Consortium. One gap identified in the committee's draft final report was the limited treatment of tourism as an ocean-related economic development issue. For info, call Brian Teeple (904) 363-6350.

### Transportation committee examines funding policies

Members of the Council's Transportation Committee met April 29 at the St. Augustine City Hall Council Chambers to discuss regional transportation issues.

On the agenda:

- An overview of transportation funding and the need for an adequate revenue stream to meet the region's needs. Additional information will be provided on an ongoing basis to help the committee develop a regional transportation funding policy position.

- An update on the I-95 rule variance and sector plan in St. Johns County by County Planning Director Scott Clem. Noting the amount of development proposed for southern Duval/northern

St. Johns counties, Clem stressed the need for continued regional coordination in developing a connection to S.R. 9B in Jacksonville and the possibility of the eventual construction of a South Outer Beltway.

• The transportation analysis from the recently completed regional Hurricane Evacuation Study.

For info, call Ed Lehman (904) 363-6375 X130.

## KidCare launches newsletter for partners

*Inside KidCare*, a regional newsletter designed by Council public relations staff and aimed at KidCare's community outreach partners, was launched this month by Northeast Florida KidCare.

Northeast Florida KidCare is also administering the "Covering Kids" Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant for the region. Grant activities will focus on hard-to-reach populations. Healthy Start is implementing KidCare, the state's low-cost health insurance for children, in Northeast Florida. For info, call Steve Gutos (904) 363-6375 X128.

## Clay studies transit issues

Following on the heels of its highly successful Economic Development Committee, Clay County has established a Transit Committee to examine the feasibility of transit opportunities.

Council Executive Director Brian Teeple and FDOT's Aage Shroder III (Council ex-officio member) serve as ex-officio members of the committee,

which met for the first time on April 28. Council Member and Orange Park Mayor Earl Harrington is a full member. For info, call Brian Teeple (904) 363-6350.

## Regulatory streamlining focus group meets

Council Executive Director Brian Teeple participated in a JCCI focus group on regulatory streamlining on April 8. Also participating was Council Ex-Officio Member and Director of the Northeast District of DEP Ernie Frey.

JCCI's inquiry into streamlined permitting was a response to a recommendation from the Jacksonville Mayor's Growth Management Task Force. Mike Hartman of Jacksonville University facilitated the group. For info, call Brian Teeple (904) 363-6350

## 'Back-to-Sleep' T-shirts aim to reduce SIDS risks

The Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition has teamed with Duval County Medical Society Alliance to fund 3,500 T-shirts which will be given to newborns at University Medical Center this year.

Featuring the Back-to-Sleep logo, the T-shirts are part of Healthy Start's SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) community awareness project.

Back-to-Sleep, a national campaign which promotes putting babies to sleep on their back to reduce the risk of SIDS, announced April 26 that Pampers will print the logo across the diaper-fastening strips of its newborn diapers. For info, call Dawn Clarke (904) 363-6352.

## NEWS & NOTES

... Staff assisted **Putnam County** in reviewing its hazard mitigation grant application.

... Georgia Pacific Mill in Palatka hosted the **Local Emergency Planning Committee** meeting April 21 and treated members to a plant tour. Outgoing chair John Peavy received a Certificate of Appreciation from DCA.

... A new half-time position for contract management was approved by the Northeast Florida **Healthy Start** Coalition at its quarterly meeting.

## IN THE NEWS

... St. Johns County growth was a hot media topic. **Executive Director** Brian Teeple was interviewed on the subject by *Florida Trend* Magazine (April issue); TV 12, Florida Times-Union, and for Deborah Gianoulis' in-depth news segment on TV-4's Sunday morning news program.

... The **Hurricane Study** was in the news again with a front page story in the TU's Insight section April 4 on the evacuation study's impact on land use. The Nassau County Record also interviewed project manager Jeffrey Alexander on the study.

... Healthy Start's partnership with Duval County Medical Society Alliance in a SIDS awareness project using "**Back-to-Sleep**" T-shirts for newborns received attention from TV 12 and 25 when the shirts were presented to University Medical Center on April 16.



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