

central florida regional planning council



ANNUAL REPORT 2009



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message, mission, profile

PROFILE & MISSION

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC) is a planning and public policy agency which works with public and private leadership in the Central Florida Region to achieve a healthy and sustainable future.

The Council's primary mission is to provide support to the citizens and counties of our region and to seek ways to improve the quality of life of the citizens of the Heartland.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2009, the Council found new ways to serve our local governments while providing leadership on regional and statewide issues. While economic challenges were foremost in the minds of our citizens and the local governments which serve them, the Council's challenge has been to assist 22 of our local governments in meeting a variety of growth management requirements. From facilitating visioning for our smallest village to providing leadership in the vision for our largest county, and providing technical assistance to the Super Region's "connecting for global competitiveness", the Council has sought to deal with today's realities and move us forward toward tomorrow's opportunities.

In seeking to assist our local governments, the Council has expanded our planning services. In 2009 the Council prepared Evaluation and Appraisal Reports (EAR) for 20 local governments, Water Supply Plans, Public Schools Facilities Elements, Capital Improvement Elements, Joint Planning Area Agreements and updated Land Development Regulations. These were in addition to the routine planning and mapping services the Council provides.

As the 2010 US Census effort geared up, we assisted most of our communities in preparing data and mapping. This will result in an improved count of the region's population, critical to many population-based funding revenues for cities, counties and the State of Florida.

Our Heartland 2060 vision effort has continued to convene the region's leaders from businesses, governments, non-profits and the community. Enlarging our view and efforts, we have participated in the planning and placement of our region in a new Central Florida Super Region and in the emerging Florida Megaregion.

The Council strives to meet our state-mandated duties as we work to serve our counties and cities. Maximizing new federal resources which may be available to assist our region will be a focus for our efforts in the coming year. In all our endeavors, the CFRPC will continue to work with all communities in improving the quality of life for the citizens of our region.

Best Regards,

Jeff Carlson
Chairman



Pat Steed
Executive Director



population and statistics

HARDEE

Area: 638 sq mi (land and water)
 Established: 1921
 Population (2009): 28,333
 Largest employment industries:
 Trade, Transportation and Utilities
 County Seat: Wauchula
 Median age (2007): 32.1

Incorporated Communities:
 City of Bowling Green, City of
 Wauchula, Town of Zolfo Springs.

Hardee County has a total land area of 637 square miles. The population grew from 19,499 persons in 1990 to 28,333 persons in 2009, yielding a density of 44 persons per square mile. Between 1990 and 2009, the average annual growth rate was 2.38% per year. BEBR projects that the County will grow to 29,500 persons by 2020 and 30,700 persons by 2030.

HIGHLANDS

Area: 1,106 sq mi (land and water)
 Established: 1921
 Population (2009): 99,713
 Largest employment industries:
 Trade, Transportation and Utilities
 County Seat: Sebring
 Median age (2007): 50.8

Incorporated Communities:
 City of Avon Park, Town of Lake Placid, City of Sebring.

Highlands County has a total land area of 1,029 square miles. The population grew from 68,432 persons in 1990 to 99,713 persons in 2009, yielding a density of 97 persons per square mile. Between 1990 and 2009, the average annual growth rate was 2.41% per year. BEBR projects that the County will grow to 116,300 persons by 2020 and 130,700 persons by 2030.

OKEECHOBEE

Area: 892 sq mi (land and water)
 Established: 1917
 Population (2009): 39,703
 Largest employment industries:
 Trade, Transportation and Utilities
 County Seat: Okeechobee
 Median age (2007): 37.3

Incorporated Communities:
 City of Okeechobee.

Okeechobee County has a total land area of 774 square miles. The population grew from 29,627 persons in 1990 to 39,703 persons in 2009, yielding a density of 51 persons per square mile. Between 1990 and 2009, the average annual growth rate was 1.79% per year. BEBR projects that the County will grow to 44,500 persons by 2020 and 48,200 persons by 2030.

	2000	2009	2020	2030
DeSoto	32,309	34,792	38,400	41,800
Hardee	26,938	28,333	29,500	30,700
Highlands	87,366	99,713	116,300	130,700
Okeechobee	35,910	39,703	44,500	48,200
Polk	483,924	584,343	679,600	774,300
Region	666,447	786,884	908,300	1,025,700

Chart Source:
 Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida, 2009
 All population projections were based on the medium value.

In 2009, the Council held hearings on two (2) Development of Regional Impact Applications for Development Approval.

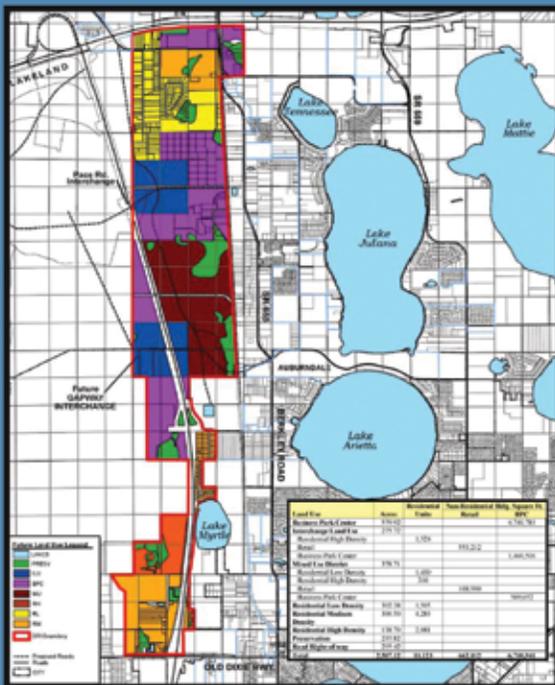
These DRIs include:

Hardee Phosphate Complex (Hardee County):

The Council held a public hearing in June 2009 on this Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) and forwarded the conditions of approval to Hardee County. On July 16, 2009, the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners approved the NOPC with the Council's recommended conditions of approval. Located in west central Hardee County, this NOPC to the existing DRI allowed for modifications to existing mining operations.

Polk Commerce Center (Polk County):

The Council held a public hearing in September 2009 on this Substantial Deviation and forwarded recommended conditions of approval to Polk County. The County approved the Substantial Deviation in January 2010. Polk Commerce Center is an Area-wide DRI located north of Auburndale along the Polk Parkway.



STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN (SRPP)

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) for the Central Florida Regional Planning Council and its constituent jurisdictions, provides a long range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of the region. The SRPP is a direction-setting tool rather than a regulatory document. Its focus is to strategically address certain systems which make up the region. The systems or elements in the SRPP are mandated by the Florida Legislature. The SRPP is not merely a plan for the Regional Planning Council, it is a plan for all the cities and counties within the Region; those communities who are active participants in shaping a healthy and sustainable future.

The SRPP contains the following five elements:

- Natural Resources
- Economic Development
- Regional Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Emergency Preparedness

Another major component of the SRPP is the documentation of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and Significant Regional Facilities. These materials document the Region's network of natural systems as they relate to developing urban and agricultural areas. They also document historic resources and critical infrastructure; resources that preserve our heritage and provide the foundation of our future development.

Each local government comprehensive plan amendment in the region is evaluated for consistency with the SRPP. In 2009, a total of 65 amendments were reviewed by the Council. No amendments were found inconsistent with the SRPP.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

The Central Florida Regional Planning serves 30 local government jurisdictions including five counties and 25 municipalities. The CFRPC provides assistance to those jurisdictions through a number of services and special tasks as listed below:

Planning Advisory Services:

In 2009, the CFRPC provided Planning Advisory Services to 15 jurisdictions. Planning Advisory Services include technical assistance in the review and preparation of small and large-scale comprehensive plan amendments as well as rezonings and development proposals. In many jurisdictions, the CFRPC was designated as the City or Town Planner. The CFRPC provided an on-site planner one to two days per week for two of the cities.

Ten Year Water Supply Plans:

In 2005, the Florida Legislature made significant changes to Chapters 163 and 373 of Florida Statutes to strengthen the link between land use and water supply planning. Local governments must amend their comprehensive plans to be consistent with the Water Management District's Regional Water Supply Plan. The Council assisted four local governments in the preparation of required water supply plans and amendments.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Mapping Services:

The CFRPC provided GIS Mapping Services to 16 municipalities within the Region in 2009. The GIS mapping services included updates to the Future Land Use Map and Zoning Map of each jurisdiction as well as requested maps such as the delineation of Community Redevelopment Areas, Utility Service Areas, and of natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas.

Annual Capital Improvement Element Updates:

Florida Statutes mandate that, by December 1st of each year, local governments must update and adopt the Capital Improvement Element (CIE), including the CIE 5-Year Schedule of Improvements, after adoption of the Annual Budget and CIP. The Council assisted 10 local governments in the preparation and adoption of CIE's in 2009.

Evaluation and Appraisal Reports (EARs):

Section 163.3191, Florida Statutes require that all local governments in the State of Florida prepare an Evaluation and Appraisal Report of their comprehensive plan every seven years. The EAR provides a review of the comprehensive plan and recommendations on how the plan should be amended to better serve the community in future years. Most of the jurisdictions in the Region have EAR due dates between the years of 2008 and 2010. EAR preparation and completion is approximately an 18-month process. In total, the CFRPC completed 19 EARs in 2009.

Comprehensive Plan Updates (EAR-Based Amendments):

Section 163.3191, Florida Statutes requires that all local governments in the State of Florida, following preparation of their Evaluation and Appraisal Report, update their comprehensive plan based on recommendations in the EAR. In 2009, the CFRPC assisted two counties in the preparation of the EAR-Based Amendments.

Land Development Regulations (LDRs):

In 2009, the Council assisted one local jurisdiction in re-writing its Land Development Regulations. The Council provided ongoing technical assistance regarding LDRs to the 15 cities for which it provides Planning Advisory Services.

Public School Facilities Elements:

In 2005, Senate Bill 360 was passed by the Florida Legislature initiating changes to Florida's growth management laws to include requirements for public school facility planning. In response, all local governments in Florida containing public school facilities are required to adopt a Public School Facilities Element (PSFE) into their Comprehensive Plans. The Council assisted one County in the preparation and adoption of the Public School Facilities Element and interlocal agreement.

comprehensive economic
development strategies
(ceds) priority projects



**SOUTH CENTRAL RACEC CATALYST
PROJECT**

Includes Healthcare Services, Life Sciences, and
Environmental Industries and Science

SEBRING AIRPORT RUNWAY EXTENSION
(Highlands County)

ALTERNATIVE FUELS

(Highlands County and other suitable district
locations)

INCUBATOR

University of Florida Institute of Food and
Agricultural Sciences (Polk County)

GREEN BUILDINGS/PRODUCTS

(DeSoto County and other suitable Industrial areas
throughout the district)

INCUBATOR

Small Business Development Center (VIRTUAL)
(Highlands County)

POLK STATE COLLEGE

Corporate College - Clear Springs Campus
(Polk County)

INCUBATOR

University of South Florida Polytechnic (Lakeland
Campus) (Polk County)

**FLORIDA INSTITUTE FOR NEUROLOGICAL
REHABILITATION (Expansion)**

(Hardee County)

INCUBATOR

Small Business Development Center (Okeechobee)
(Okeechobee County)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The US Economic Development Administration (EDA) designated the Central Florida Regional Planning Council as an Economic Development District (Region IV) in 1976. The district is a mix of urban and rural areas and includes the counties of DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee and Polk. The Council receives funding from the EDA to provide assistance to local governments and economic development agencies in securing Economic Development Administration funding for viable projects, and to develop Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs). The CEDs is an economic development plan designed to bring public and private sectors together to create an economic road map to diversify and strengthen the regional economy. It serves as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action and identifying investment priorities and funding sources. It also assigns responsibilities for execution of the plan to lead organizations. The Council submitted its 5-year plan to the EDA in 2007. Amendments were submitted in 2008. There were no amendments to the plan in 2009.

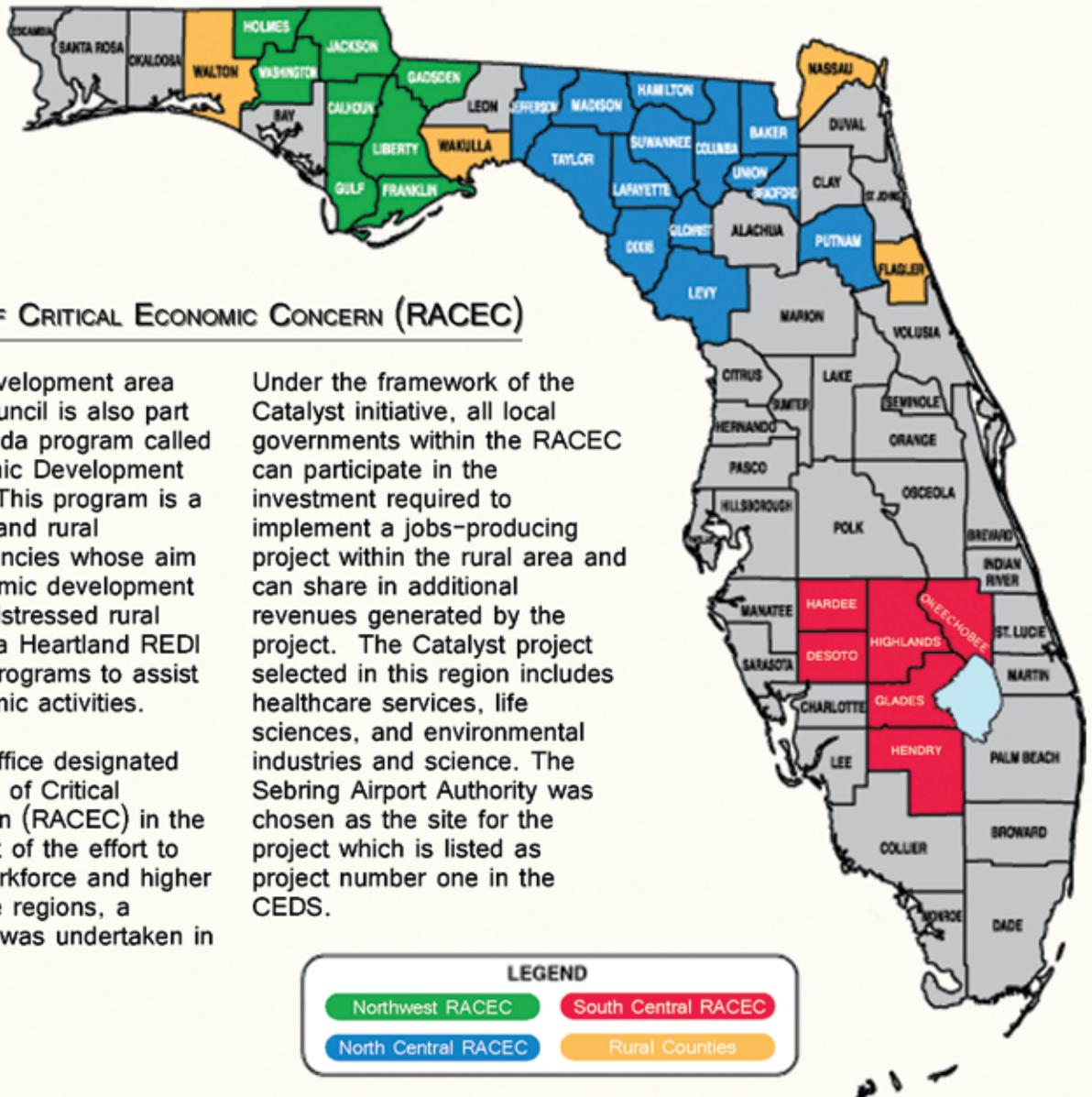


Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Economic Development District (EDD) for the Central Florida Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

This year was a busy year for economic development activity and grant queries in the Region, as well as across the Country. The Central Florida Regional Planning Council assisted in the preparation of several EDA grant applications in an effort to continue to plan for and stimulate economic development in our Region. The Council itself successfully applied for an EDA grant for an Economic Analysis and Disaster Resiliency Study of the effects of a future Catastrophic Event in the Central Florida Region.

The information provided by the Study will assist in improving decision making in preparation for and during future catastrophic events. It will also assist in maintaining business continuity whereby businesses may avoid, or can quickly recover from a disaster. If these areas can become more resilient and prepared, less damage may be incurred and there could be a faster recovery period in the aftermath of a future disaster.



RURAL AREAS OF CRITICAL ECONOMIC CONCERN (RACEC)

The economic development area served by the Council is also part of a State of Florida program called the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI). This program is a coalition of state and rural governmental agencies whose aim is to foster economic development in economically distressed rural areas. The Florida Heartland REDI has an array of programs to assist the area's economic activities.

The Governor's office designated three Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC) in the state, and as part of the effort to bring a skilled workforce and higher paid jobs to these regions, a "Catalyst" project was undertaken in each region.

Under the framework of the Catalyst initiative, all local governments within the RACEC can participate in the investment required to implement a jobs-producing project within the rural area and can share in additional revenues generated by the project. The Catalyst project selected in this region includes healthcare services, life sciences, and environmental industries and science. The Sebring Airport Authority was chosen as the site for the project which is listed as project number one in the CEDS.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

passenger trips provided

153,275

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELLED

2,206,047

TOTAL ACCIDENTS

2

TOTAL LOCAL MATCH

\$80,465

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE

\$3,326,934

Florida Commission for the



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

transportation disadvantaged

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency (DOPA) for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program (Chapter 427, Florida Statutes) in Hardee, Highlands, and Okeechobee Counties. The Council provides planning services and staff support and implements the program for the TD Commission at the local level. The TD Commission ensures the availability of safe, efficient, cost-effective and quality transportation services for individuals throughout the State.

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council created a multi-county service area which is served by a Local Coordinating Board (LCB) comprised of members from each of the three counties. This Board provides oversight and recommendations to the CTC for transportation operations, conducts evaluations of the CTC and its operators, sets local standards and develops the service area plan called the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP).

The Council selected a Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for the three-County service area to serve for the next five years. The CTC for the service area is a total brokerage system and contracts with local transportation providers who provide the actual transportation service.

TRIPS PROVIDED PER COUNTY

County	People Served	Total Trips	Unmet Demand for Trips
Hardee	450	18,885	823
Highlands	2,419	98,165	3,359
Okeechobee	590	36,225	456
Region	3,459	153,275	4,638

PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE PROGRAM

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council administers the Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 program for the Multi-County Transportation Disadvantaged service area of Hardee, Highlands and Okeechobee counties. These funds are designated to be used in rural communities throughout the United States. The area is without public transit service and the FTA 5311 funds are used to enhance mobility to the general public in the service area.

In FY 2008/2009 approximately 20,100 trips were provided to the general public through this program.

FUNDING SUPPORT

In addition to the FTA Section 5311 funds, the Council also applies for FTA 5310 Capital funds to procure vehicles that are used in the Multi-County Transportation Disadvantaged service area of Hardee, Highlands and Okeechobee counties. Vehicles awarded through this grant are titled to the Council which then leases them to the Community Transportation Coordinator. The Council was awarded funds to procure two wheelchair accessible mini vans through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This award saved the service area approximately \$85,000 in waived local match.

Funds received through the FTA 5311 and 5310 programs bring additional resources to the service area in the amount of approximately \$550,000.



PERFORMANCE MEASURES

passenger trips provided
20,100

VEHICLES available THROUGH
awarded funds
2

service area funds saved
THROUGH award
\$85,000

value of service provided
\$550,000



WWW.FTA.DOT.GOV

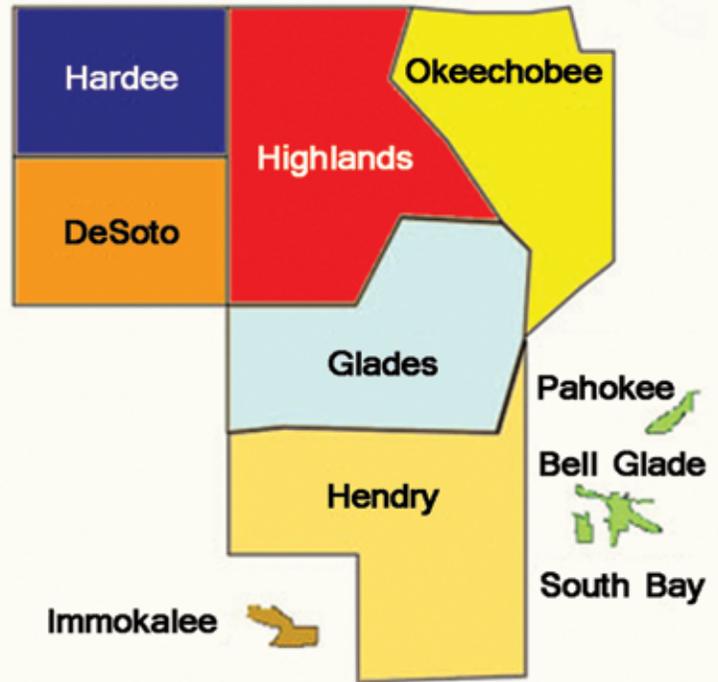


Heartland rural mobility study

Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff participated as a Steering Committee member in the development of a Florida Department of Transportation, District One, Heartland Rural Mobility Plan (HRMP). FDOT partnered with the Florida Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative, Inc. (FHREDI) to develop an overall mobility improvement process for the six counties and four communities in the FHREDI region, which includes the Central Florida Regional Planning Council's rural member counties. The HRMP is a comprehensive planning effort that:

- Outlines a strategic approach to providing mobility services to residents of the region
- Provides a sound business foundation for mobility services in the region
- Meets the mobility needs of the region and employers
- Identifies mobility service concepts based upon a needs analysis that included significant public outreach and participation
- Recommends a governing structure and finance plan for new Heartland mobility services
- Enables access to all potential funding from federal, state, and local sources

The Council will continue to participate in this effort as a member of the Regional Mobility Working Group.



Florida Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative Study Area encompasses four of the CFRPC's five counties: DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands and Okeechobee and Polk

STATEWIDE REGIONAL EVACUATION STUDY

The Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program is the first comprehensive attempt to develop a fully integrated evacuation plan to serve the needs of the entire state. This plan, while targeted toward hurricane evacuation, can be used to manage and coordinate evacuations for any natural or man-made disaster. While many counties and regions had evacuation studies in the past, they were not fully coordinated with adjacent regions. Therefore actions taken in one area that would have significant effects on another area were not coordinated.

This study will provide planning tools that will allow for fully integrated, seamless planning across counties and regions to manage the movement of large numbers of citizens safely out of the areas in danger. Completion of this study is anticipated by June of 2010. Once accepted and approved by the Florida State Department of Emergency Management, training will be provided to each county's emergency management personnel on how to use this tool to better plan for and manage evacuations.

emergency management

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE, DISTRICT 7

The CFRPC is the coordinator for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) that is responsible for increasing hazardous materials safety and awareness. The LEPC accomplishes this by assisting in planning for chemical spill mitigation, supporting and providing training events, designing, conducting and evaluating emergency exercises, and educating the public on how to react to a hazardous materials release.

The LEPC is made up of individuals from diverse occupations. Members represent the various groups of first responders (Law Enforcement, Fire, Emergency Medical Services) while others represent corporate partners such as Publix, Mosaic and Coca-Cola. The goal of the LEPC is twofold. First, to establish smooth working relationships so that when an agency responds to an incident, they have already worked with and trained alongside the other responders. Second, to educate the public and professional responders on how to react to incidents in an "all hazards" environment.

HAZARDOUS ANALYSIS INSPECTIONS

The Hazards Analysis (HA) program monitors facilities that have extremely hazardous substances held in stock or used in their day to day operations. Some of these chemicals include Anhydrous Ammonia, Paraquat Dichloride, Sulfuric Acid and Chlorine. CFRPC conducts inspections in Okeechobee and DeSoto Counties under the HA inspection program. Each year the Council assesses approximately 15 sites as directed by the State of Florida. The data collected is used by the LEPC and local first responders to develop hazardous materials emergency plans for use in responding to and recovering from a release or spill of hazardous or toxic substances.

CITY OF LAKELAND ANHYDROUS AMMONIA EXERCISE

In October the CFRPC executed a Table Top Exercise focused on the potential response to a major anhydrous ammonia leak in Lakeland. This exercise evaluated the policies, plans and procedures that would be used to manage the response techniques should a similar accident occur. The exercise was planned and conducted with Polk County Emergency Management, the City of Lakeland and Lakeland Electric staff. The exercise scenario assumed a release of ammonia from the Larson Power Plant with a downwind plume that isolated many medical offices and assisted living facilities. Over 100 first responders, including city and county leaders, participated in the exercise. It was their responsibility to ensure that if confronted with an event such as this, they would be fully prepared. While this exercise was conducted in Lakeland, the lessons learned will apply to any facility within our region that uses anhydrous ammonia. This exercise will serve as the model for the LEPC Biennial Hazardous Materials Exercise to be conducted in Spring 2010.

SMALL QUANTITY GENERATORS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Small Quantity Generators (SQG) program identifies and monitors facilities that produce some form of hazardous waste either as a product or a by-product of their day to day business. This includes, but is not limited to, automotive repair facilities, dry cleaners, medical facilities that use x-ray machines, and many manufacturing businesses. The CFRPC conducted 285 inspections in three counties. All facilities are inspected every five years. The CFRPC maintains records of active businesses and historical data concerning the type of businesses that have occupied a given address in the past.

Heartland brownfields revitalization program

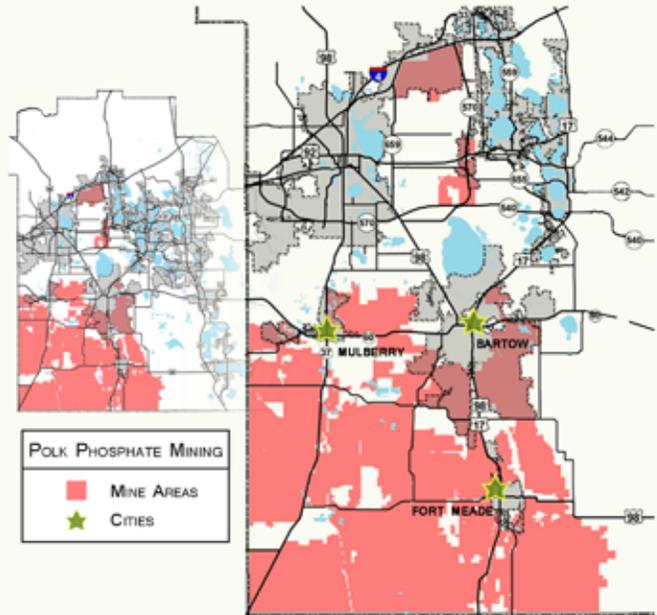


THE GRANT

The CFRPC received a one million dollar, three-year Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to undertake a pilot program known as the Heartland Brownfields Revitalization Partnership (HBRP). The grant will assist Polk County, and the Cities of Fort Meade and Mulberry conduct environmental assessments and reuse planning to put economically-obsolete properties back into productive use.

BARRIERS TO REDEVELOPMENT

Brownfields are defined as abandoned or under used industrial and commercial facilities and sites where redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Generally, brownfield sites exist in a community's industrial section, such as abandoned factories or commercial buildings. Small brownfields sites may also be found in many older residential neighborhoods. Former dry cleaning establishments or gas stations often produced high levels of subsurface contaminants during prior operations. Some agricultural and mining uses also produced potential brownfields. Many brownfield sites sit idle and unused for decades because of fears that the cost of cleaning them is more than the land would be worth after remediation of contaminants.



OUR ROLE

The CFRPC serves as the project manager for the County and Cities and provides planning services, manages the environmental consultants, coordinates the program activities, conducts public outreach activities and handles grant administration and reporting. The Grant will enable the HBRP Coalition to:

- Identify and create an inventory of potential brownfields sites
- Select sites for Phase I and Phase II Assessment and fund the assessments
- Carry out public outreach and provide information and involvement opportunities
- Conduct Phase I and Phase II Assessments for contamination
- Establish state-designated brownfields areas and sites to access incentives
- Plan for remediation and reuse of the brownfields sites
- Work with the Polk Health Department on public health monitoring
- Coordinate with economic development agencies to market the brownfields properties

avon park Joint Land Use Study

THE RANGE

The Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) is the largest bombing and gunnery range east of the Mississippi River. With approximately 400 square miles of restricted airspace and 1,000 square miles of military operating area, it is the second largest military installation in Florida. Located in Highlands and Polk Counties, APAFR's 106,000 acres provide an important training facility for active and reserve military units from all services and civilian public safety organizations.

Situated on a geological formation known as the Bombing Range Ridge, the Range also plays an important role in the protection of the environment and the threatened and endangered species that live on the Range. The Range has an extensive environmental program designed to preserve and protect the scrub habitat that provides a home for these and many other native Florida Species.



THE STUDY

The Council is conducting a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) in collaboration with APAFR and the four Counties of Highlands, Okeechobee, Osceola and Polk, and the three cities of Avon Park, Frostproof and Sebring that are affected by the military training activities on the Range.

The study is analyzing planned future land uses and military activities for compatibility and will make recommendations based on this analysis. A JLUS Working Group of staff from each jurisdiction meets to review and approve the data that is being developed by the Study Consultants.

To provide policy guidance, the partner jurisdictions have each named an elected representative to serve on the JLUS Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will review the study recommendations and take them to their jurisdictions' elected bodies for consideration and implementation.

FUTURE PLANS

During 2008-2009, Study Consultants were selected and land use and military data was gathered, mapped and analyzed. During 2009-2010 it is anticipated that:

- Two public workshops will be held in each County to get public input
- Recommendations will be made by the Study Consultants for consideration by the Policy Committee and each Jurisdiction

During the final, implementation stage of the Study, Council staff will be working with each jurisdiction to help them implement the adopted recommendations.

For more information on the Range and the Joint Land Use Study, visit the website at www.avonparkjlus.com.

TASK FORCES & KEY ISSUES

envisioning our future

Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)

Key Issues: Water, Sustainable and Viable Natural Systems, Agriculture, & Climate and Energy Change

Education, Workforce and Economic Development (EWED)

Key Issues: Economic Diversification, Infrastructure to Support a Diversified Economy, & Early Learning, K-16 and Lifelong Education



Community Resources (CR)

Key Issues: Health Care & Cultural Resources

Transportation and Land Use (TLU)

Key Issues: Integrating with Natural Resources Planning, Supporting Economic Development, Creating a Multimodal Transportation System, & Enhancing Existing and New Sustainable Communities



THE VISION

We have referred to 2008-2009 as the Year of the Task Force, and what a year it was! Four Task Forces met beginning in 2008 and throughout 2009. These task forces worked throughout the year on identification of Key Issues and Draft Goal Setting.

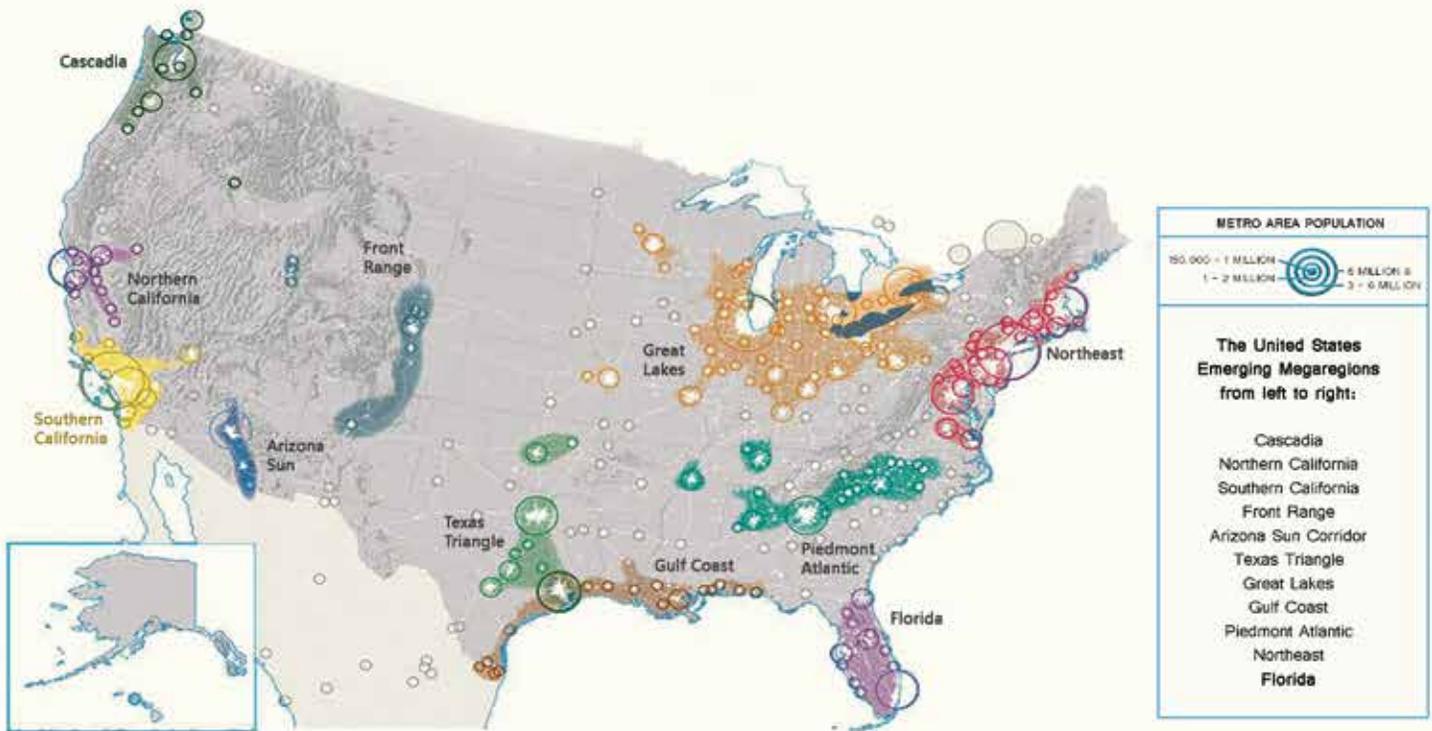
Throughout 2009, the Central Florida Regional Planning Council continued its visioning effort for Florida's Heartland Region, entitled Heartland 2060, which began in September 2007. The Heartland Region encompasses seven Counties in Central Florida, including DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Okeechobee and Polk. These Counties have substantial rural and agricultural areas that are being impacted by growth pressures.

The objective of Heartland 2060 is to create a vision for the future that enables growth while preserving natural areas and protecting wildlife and agricultural production, supporting healthy communities large and small, and ensuring a vibrant economic and social life. The Heartland Region is unique in natural habitat, rural lifestyle, and agricultural heritage while areas are regionally changing due to growth and development. The Core Values of the vision were established by the Leadership Team and address the key concerns of the Region. These values are:

- Stewardship of Natural Resources
- Our Water Resources
- Respect for Agriculture
- Our Communities
- Future for Our Children
- Sustainable Growth



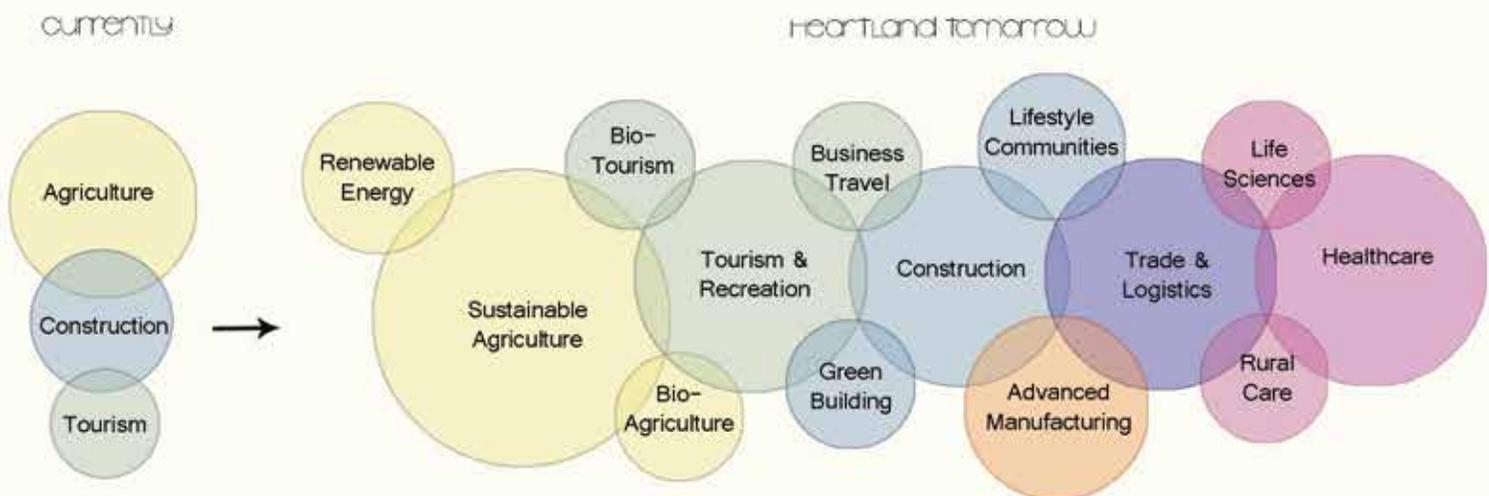
emerging megaregions



As the Florida Mega-Region continues to emerge (Miami/Tampa/Orlando/Jacksonville), the Heartland Region is poised to reap great rewards in the future, with proper planning now. The Heartland 2060 Visioning effort has been exploring Florida's potential as a Global Gateway, and how the Heartland Region can be a hub in the logistics chain. The composition of the Heartland's industry is

changing at the same time that these trends are forming. Cooperative Regional Planning is an essential part of realizing the opportunities that have been presented to the Region and the State. As the Florida Mega-Region continues to develop, we will continue driving the vision to support the economic development opportunities that allow our communities to have a thriving future.

CHANGING INDUSTRY COMPOSITION



our regional council members

DeSoto County



Buddy Mansfield
DeSoto County
Commissioner



Lorenzo L. Dixon Ph.D.
Arcadia City
Council Member



Jacqueline Tucker
DeSoto County
Gubernatorial
Appointee

Hardee County



Minor L. Bryant
Hardee County
Commissioner



Clarence Bolin
Wauchula City
Commissioner



VACANT
Hardee County
Gubernatorial
Appointee

Highlands County



Jeff Carlson
Highlands County
Commissioner



Scott Stanley
Sebring City
Council Member



Andy Tuck
Highlands County
Gubernatorial
Appointee

Okeechobee County



Noel Chandler
Okeechobee County
Commissioner



Clayton Williams
Okeechobee City
Council Member



William "Bill" Keene Sr.
Okeechobee County
Gubernatorial
Appointee

Polk County



Jean Reed
Polk County
Commissioner



Howard Wiggs
Lakeland
City Commissioner



Jeff Potter
Winter Haven
City Commissioner



Pat Huff
Bartow
City Commissioner



Dr. Marshall Goodman
Polk County
Gubernatorial
Appointee



Erlinda Rada-Pilkington
Polk County
Gubernatorial
Appointee

EX OFFICIO

BEN WALKER
PLANNING AND PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION,
DISTRICT ONE

BILL ROYCE
PLANNING DIRECTOR
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

JASON GREEN
PLANNING MANAGER
DeSoto County
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

JOANNE McCELLAN
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
WATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

LYNN TOPEL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FLORIDA HEARTLAND RURAL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE

serving our region

COUNCIL STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION



PLANNING

PATRICIA M. STEED
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PH. EXT. 130

JENNIFER CODO-SALISBURY
MPA, AICP PLANNING DIRECTOR
PH. EXT. 178

HELEN SEARS
PRINCIPAL PLANNER
PH. EXT. 124

ALAN KLOSE AICP
SENIOR PLANNER
PH. EXT. 177

SHANNON BRETT
SENIOR PLANNER
PH. EXT. 132

MARISA BARMBY AICP
SENIOR PLANNER
PH. EXT. 110

RON BORCHERS
PLANNER
PH. EXT. 112

KATHERINE PURCELL
GIS COORDINATOR
PH. EXT. 108

MARLENE SANCHEZ
PLANNER
PH. EXT. 106

LISA THOMPSON WEIGERS
SENIOR PLANNER

PROGRAMS

MARCIA STASZKO
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
PH. EXT. 103

CHUCK CARTER
PROGRAM MANAGER
PH. EXT. 107

KATHRYN HALL
PROGRAM COORDINATOR
PH. EXT. 129

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION & TECHNOLOGY

EVA HALL CPA
ADMINISTRATIVE / FINANCE DIRECTOR
PH. EXT. 105

PATRICK BRETT
TECHNOLOGY MANAGER/SENIOR PLANNER
PH. EXT. 104

MELISSA ZERTH
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PH. EXT. 101

REGINA LAUSELL
PUBLICATIONS AND GRAPHIC DESIGN
PH. EXT. 102

LARRY PENDARVIS
WEBMASTER

MARK HILL

DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES DIRECTOR
HIGHLANDS COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MISSIE BARLETTO

SOUTH FLORIDA
WATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

TOM DEARDORFF

POLK COUNTY
GROWTH
MANAGEMENT

VACANT

HARDEE COUNTY
PLANNING
DEPARTMENT

VACANT

DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

“you make a
 Living by
 what you
 get, but you
 make a Life
 by what
 you give”

sir winston
 churchill

volunteering our service

The spirit of volunteerism is exemplified not only by the CFRPC's Council members, but its staff as well. Volunteering is about active citizenship. From local athletic teams to national non-profits, giving our time and resources is another way we are able to actively participate in building our region's communities. In addition to supporting our local schools and parishes through growth, leadership and program sponsorship, here is a list of the organizations our CFRPC team has volunteered with this year:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Heartland for Children | Little Leagues |
| Leadership Programs | Humane Society |
| Community Visioning | Sports Coaching |
| Habitat for Humanity | Parent Associations |
| Rotary International | Reading is Fundamental |
| The Salvation Army | Chambers of Commerce |
| Catholic Charities | USGBC Emerging Green Builders |
| Polk Vision | School Supply & Collection Programs |
| Kiwanis | Keep Winter Haven Clean & Beautiful |
| SPCA | School, Church Community Volunteers |

guardian ad litem

THOMAS YATABE AWARD

Each year one person from each region is selected for recognition by the State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials. This recognition is through the Thomas Yatabe Certificate of Outstanding Achievement representing outstanding achievement in implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act.

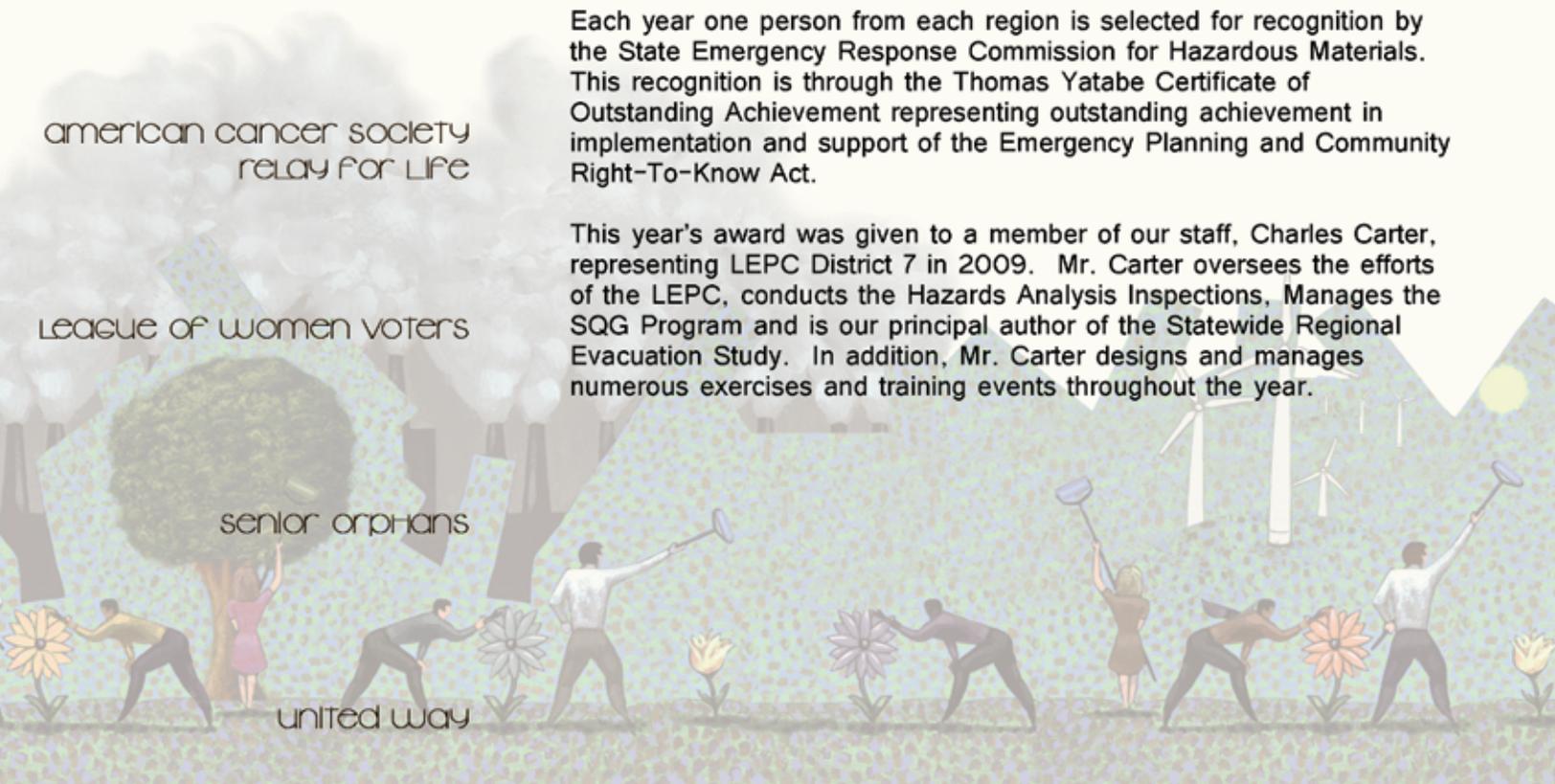
This year's award was given to a member of our staff, Charles Carter, representing LEPC District 7 in 2009. Mr. Carter oversees the efforts of the LEPC, conducts the Hazards Analysis Inspections, Manages the SQG Program and is our principal author of the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study. In addition, Mr. Carter designs and manages numerous exercises and training events throughout the year.

american cancer society
 relay for life

League of women voters

senior orphans

united way



Financial report

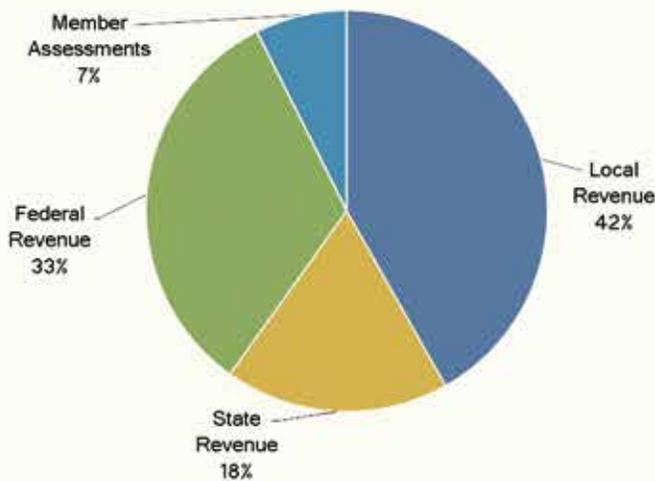
The financial statements of the CFRPC are audited each fiscal year.

The following information was extracted from the financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2009.

REVENUE BY PROGRAM:

Local Government Assistance	\$ 1,084,461
Developments of Regional Impact	\$ 336,266
Transportation Programs	\$ 658,969
Joint Land Use Study	\$ 212,087
Emergency Management Programs	\$ 222,107
Other Programs	\$ 124,068
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,637,958

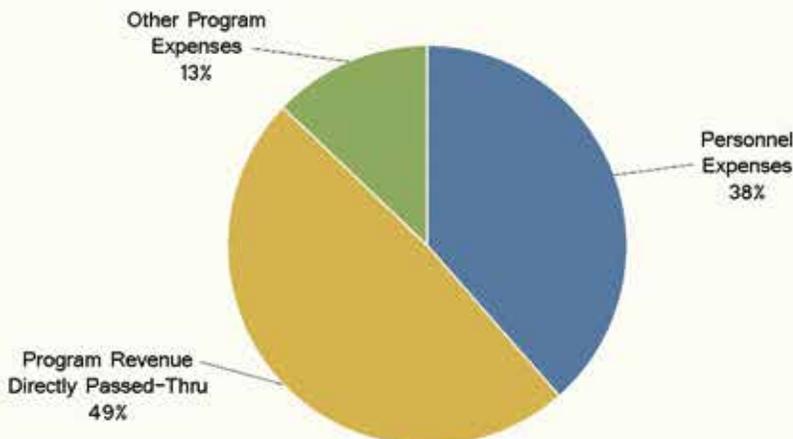
FY 2008/2009 REVENUE SOURCES



REVENUE SOURCES

Local Revenue	\$ 1,103,086
State Revenue	\$ 476,518
Federal Revenue	\$ 863,274
Member Assessments	\$ 195,080
TOTAL	\$ 2,637,958

FY 2008/2009 EXPENDITURES



EXPENDITURES

Personnel Expenses	\$ 1,081,509
Program Revenue Directly Passed-Thru	\$ 1,364,331
Other Program Expenses	\$ 360,696

program contact information

Joint Land Use Study (JLUS)

WEBSITE: WWW.AVONPARKJLUS.COM

PROJECT MANAGER: HELEN SEARS

TEL: 863.534.7130 x124

EM: HSEARS@CFRPC.ORG



Heartland Brownfields Revitalization Project

PROJECT MANAGER: HELEN SEARS

TEL: 863.534.7130 x124

EM: HSEARS@CFRPC.ORG



Heartland 2060

WEBSITE: WWW.HEARTLAND2060.COM

PROJECT MANAGER: SHANNON BRETT

TEL: 863.534.7130 x132

EM: SBRETT@CFRPC.ORG



central florida
regional planning council

ANNUAL REPORT 2009



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