

Launching and Enhancing RDO State Associations

Florida Regional Councils Association

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Partnerships for the Future



Florida Regional Councils Association: Overview

- ***History***
- ***Structure***
- ***Purpose***
- ***Staffing***
- ***Budget***
- ***Adding Value*** ↔



NADO Trailblazer Award 2011



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Florida Regional Councils Association: History

Early 1970s

- RPCs formed through interlocal agreements
- Loosely formed meetings of RPC Executive Directors
- Legislation establishing all 11 RPCs

Early 1980s

- Powers and duties / Regional Plans
- Association of RPC Executive Directors established
- Sharing of ideas, challenges, and best practices
- Policy Board established = One voice in Tallahassee



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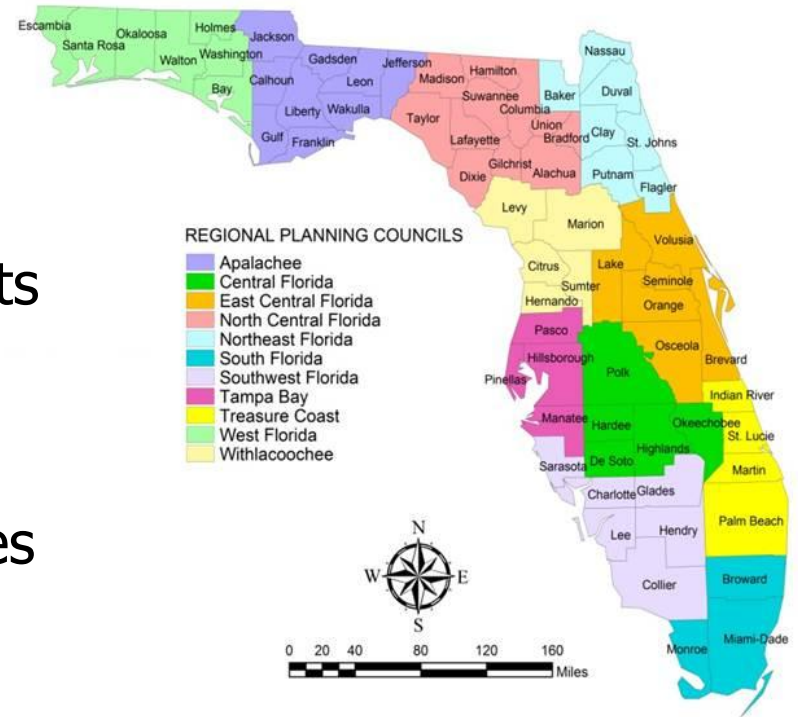


Florida Regional Councils Association: Structure

Regional Planning Councils

- 11 regions
- Association of local governments
- Each RPC Board
 - 2/3 local elected officials
 - 1/3 gubernatorial appointees

Florida Regional Planning Councils



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Structure

Policy Board

- Two elected officials and one Governor's Appointee
- Meets twice a year
- Sets policy and a legislative agenda

Executive Directors Advisory Committee

- Serves as an advisory body to the Policy Board
- Meets eight times a year
- Coordinates statewide initiatives/meets with state partners



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Structure

Guiding Documents

- By-Laws last amended in June, 2009
- Memorandum of Understanding to Provide Technical Assistance
- Draft Code of Ethics and Best Practices
- Incorporation being contemplated: 501(c)(6)



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Purpose

FRCA serves to:

- Strengthen Florida's RPCs
- Enhance Regional Economic Development
- Improve the consistency and quality of RPC programs
- Ensure the RPCs add value to state, regional, and local initiatives
- Ensure the consistent delivery of services around the state
- Support its representative local governments



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Staffing

History

- **1970s through early 1990s**
 - Part-time Contract Executive Director (Lobbyist)
- **1995 – 2002**
 - Part-time Contract Executive Director (Lobbyist) and **Director of Intergovernmental Affairs**
- **2002 - 2011**
 - Part-time Contract Executive Director (Lobbyist)
- **Today (Back to 1995 Model)**
 - Part-time Contract Executive Director (Lobbyist) and **Director of Intergovernmental Affairs**



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Staffing

Contract Executive Director

- A/K/A Lobbyist
- Hired in 1982 in response to legislative action to strip funding and regulatory powers
- Primary function is legislative
- Primary responsibility is to preserve the annual appropriation
- In the substantive arena, trend is to play defense



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Staffing

Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

- Objectives
 - Implement FRCA's programs, policies, and priorities
 - Serve as FRCA's representative when engaged with other entities
 - Seek strategic and funding opportunities to further RPCs
 - Serve as a source of information on issues and initiatives affecting RPCs
 - Strengthen the consistency and quality of RPC programs



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Staffing

Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

- Organizational Relationships
 - Reports to the Policy Board and Executive Directors
 - Supervised by the Chair of the Executive Directors Advisory Committee
 - Works with the contract Executive Director
- Duties and Responsibilities
 - Outreach and relationship building
 - Resource Development / Capacity Building
 - Legislative (not lobbying)
 - Administrative



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Budget

2012-13 Annual Budget

- \$275,000
- Dues: 70% equally and 30% per capita
- Budget Categories
 - Executive Director and Expenses
 - Intergovernmental Services
 - Policy Board Expenses
 - RPC Directors' Meetings
 - Miscellaneous



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Adding Value

Single Point of Contact Service Delivery

- Lead Regional Planning Council
- Subcontractor Regional Planning Councils

Cooperative Statewide Projects

- Statewide Regional Evacuation Study
- Emergency Management / Homeland Security
- Regional Economic Modeling
- Regional Broadband Planning



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Adding Value

Florida's Future Economy

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies
- Statewide alignment

Partnerships

- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Over 40 other state and regional agencies and entities
- Currently serve on or participate in 12 statewide initiatives



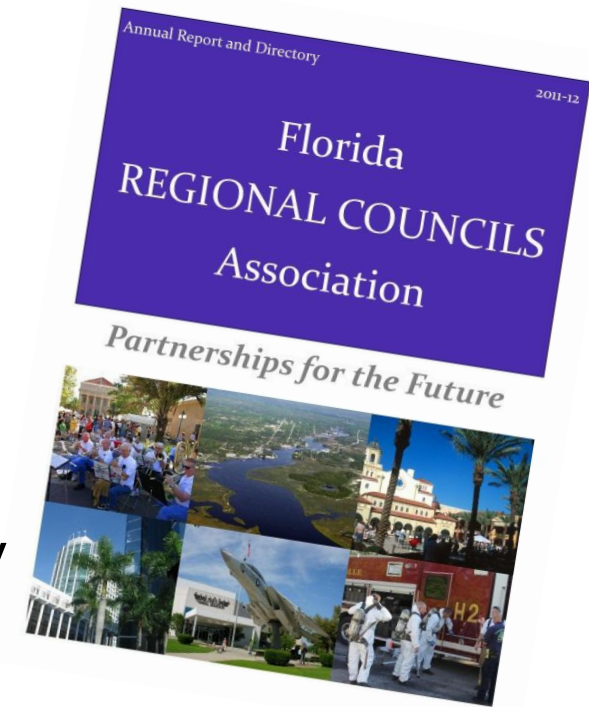
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Florida Regional Councils Association: Adding Value

Recent Examples

- Florida Energy Office Outreach = Energy Assurance Funds
- Value of Board Members
 - Florida League of Cities
 - Florida Association of Counties
 - Small County Coalition
- Redesigned Annual Report and Directory
- Website



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Adding Value



The screenshot shows the website for the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) at www.fregionalcouncils.org. The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, About FRCA, RPCs, Meetings, Publications, Advocacy, and Links. A prominent banner encourages users to "Take the Florida-Energy Survey!". Below this, a welcome message is displayed. The main content area is divided into three columns: "Welcome" with a paragraph about FRCA's role; "Trailblazer and Other Awards" featuring a photo of award recipients and a caption identifying them; and "Contact FRCA" with a contact form including fields for Name, Email, Phone, and Message, along with a CAPTCHA and a Send button.



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Take Away

- ***Budget Commitment***
- ***Active Participation***
- ***Full-Time Staff***
- ***Consistent Presence***
- ***Relationship Building***
- ***Internal Alliances***



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Florida Regional Councils Association: Questions?

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