

EI - 20720



Ron Bobay
5944 Windover Way
Titusville, Florida 32780
December 1, 2014

Surface Transportation Board
c/o Dave Nevecky
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Attention: Environmental Filing Docket No. FD 35852

Dear Mr. Nevecky

I had the opportunity to attend the recent public meetings regarding the proposed Port Canaveral rail system. I appreciated the opportunity to speak with you. The objectivity you bring to this task will be important in assessing the impact to the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge.

You obviously will be looking at impacts to the diverse species that call the Wildlife Center home. I wanted to be sure that you know that the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) is also doing an environmental impact study on the north end of the Wildlife Center related to the Shiloah site proposed for a private launch location. I would want there to be some assessment of the aggregate impact on the entire ecosystem as part of your review which would be coordinated with the FAA.

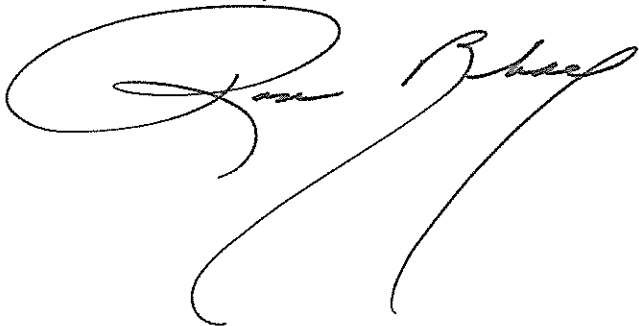
Florida's Governor Scott has established a East Central Florida Corridor Task Force (see attachment). They are concluding their work

identifying areas for further study which is due December 2014. The area most affecting the Port is the potential creation of a multi modal corridor along the Beachline SR 528 (attached). I would like you to consider this work product as you consider options. There is no mention of creating a corridor through the Wildlife Center. There are multiple references to this corridor in the total report and I have only provided the pertinent ones. You would need to consult the entire final work product.

Finally, I would encourage you to consult the document "How Shall We Grow" which was the result of a broad cross section of stakeholders in Central Florida attempting to give shape to further growth(attachment). They address areas related to environmental impact and seem relevant to your study.

Thanking you in advance for your efforts in this important area.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Baez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13-319

WHEREAS, the State Comprehensive Plan, the Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development, the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan, and other statewide plans call for coordinated decision making and investments to address Florida's long-term economic development, environmental stewardship, community development, and infrastructure needs on a statewide and regional basis; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, recognizing the need for innovative planning and development strategies to promote a diverse economy and vibrant rural and urban communities, including sector planning, has tasked the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, in coordination with other state and regional agencies, to assist communities in finding creative solutions for fostering vibrant, healthy communities while protecting the functions of important state resources and facilities; and

WHEREAS, well-planned statewide and regional transportation corridors can improve mobility and connectivity for people and freight, support economic development, promote high-quality development patterns, help preserve Florida's natural resources, and facilitate emergency evacuation and response; and

WHEREAS, enhanced or new transportation corridors should be planned in coordination with long-term land use decisions to ensure the protection of environmental resources, the preservation of agricultural lands, and the planning of areas for future economic development and urban growth; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation has initiated the "Florida's Future Corridors" initiative to plan future transportation corridors for the movement of people and freight on an interregional, statewide, or interstate basis; and

WHEREAS, one corridor study area identified by the Florida's Future Corridors initiative extends from Tampa Bay to the Atlantic Coast across 15 counties in the central part of Florida (hereinafter "Tampa Bay-Central Florida Study Area"); and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Florida Department of Transportation completed a Future Corridor Concept Study for the Tampa Bay-Central Florida Study Area that recommended the Florida Department of Transportation conduct a pilot Evaluation Study to address a regional connectivity gap between the Orlando International Airport and the southern Space Coast and to refine the proposed corridor planning process for future use; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the pilot Evaluation Study include the identification of anticipated future development patterns in the Orlando/Space Coast area, comprised of portions of Brevard, Orange, and Osceola counties, and associated mobility and connectivity needs, as

WHEREAS, eastern portions of the Tampa Bay-Central Florida Study Area include approximately 300,000 acres, commonly referred to as Deseret Ranch, owned by non-profit corporation Farmland Reserve, Inc. (hereinafter "Deseret Ranch"), as well as other large tracts of land under single ownership, and Vierra, a major master planned development; and

WHEREAS, transportation corridor planning serves the public interest by preserving the long-term ability to use lands for future multimodal transportation facilities to move people and freight and for other linear infrastructure, improving mobility, increasing connectivity within and outside Florida, and supporting statewide and regional goals for economic development, quality of life, and environmental stewardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of the State of Florida, by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, do hereby promulgate the following Executive Order, effective immediately:

1. There is hereby created the East Central Florida Corridor Task Force (hereinafter "Task Force") for the purpose of evaluating and developing consensus recommendations on future transportation corridors serving established and emerging economic activity centers in portions of Brevard, Orange, and Osceola counties.
2. Members of the Task Force shall include:
 - A. The Executive Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity;
 - B. The Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation;
 - C. The Commissioner of Agriculture;
 - D. A representative from Brevard County, as appointed by the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners;
 - E. A representative from Orange County, as appointed by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners;
 - F. A representative from Osceola County, as appointed by the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners;
 - G. Two individuals to be appointed by the Governor that represent recognized environmental or conservation organizations;
 - H. A representative of Deseret Ranch;
 - I. A representative of The Viera Company;
 - J. Two individuals to be appointed by the Governor that represent the economic development or business community with a presence in the study area; and
 - K. A citizen to be appointed by the Governor that resides in the study area.
3. The members of the Task Force may designate an alternate to attend meetings of the Task Force and exercise voting authority.
4. Consensus recommendations shall not require a unanimous vote of the Task Force members.
5. The Chair of the Task Force shall be the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity or his designee.
6. The charge of the Task Force shall include the following tasks:

9. The Task Force shall work collaboratively with the Local Governments, Deseret Ranch ownership and management, and other landowners and stakeholders to provide data and supporting information for the preparation of transportation corridor plans and related long-term master plan(s), as appropriate for each landholding, that will be available for consideration by the Local Governments as amendments to their respective comprehensive plans pursuant to chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes.
10. The Task Force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor by December 1, 2014.
11. The Local Governments are encouraged to consider possible amendments to their comprehensive plans by September 30, 2015 to reflect and incorporate the recommendations of the Task Force and the long-term master plans prepared for adoption by the Local Governments.
12. The Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, the Osceola County Expressway Authority, MetroPlan Orlando, the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and other agencies, as appropriate, are encouraged to amend and revise their respective plans for future conservation, development, and transportation, as the case may be, by September 30, 2015, to reflect and incorporate the recommendations of the Task Force and the long-term master plans prepared for adoption by the Local Governments.
13. The decision of one or more of the Local Governments not to participate in the tasks set forth in this Executive Order shall not preclude the Task Force and the remaining Local Government(s) from proceeding with such tasks. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and all other agencies under the control of the Governor are directed, and all other agencies are requested, to provide timely review of the products of the Task Force as well as the proposed plan amendments by the Local Governments, the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, the Osceola County Expressway Authority, MetroPlan Orlando, the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and other agencies, as appropriate.
14. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and all other agencies under the control of the Governor are directed, and all other agencies are requested, to render technical assistance to, and cooperate with, the Task Force and the Local Governments in achieving the purposes stated herein.
15. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the Florida Department of Transportation shall be jointly responsible for payment for any operational, administrative, and organizational expenses incurred by the Task Force. All entities with members on the Task Force are encouraged to pay all travel costs for its members. Upon advance notice and approval, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the Florida Department of Transportation may pay travel costs, as authorized by section 112.061, Florida Statutes, for Task Force members from state government entities.

East Central Florida Corridor Task Force Members

Bill Killingsworth	Director of Community Development	Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Rich Biter	Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development	Florida Department of Transportation
John Browne	Land Programs Administrator	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
The Honorable Mary Bolin Lewis	County Commissioner	Brevard County
The Honorable Jennifer Thompson	County Commissioner	Orange County
The Honorable Fred Hawkins	County Commissioner	Osceola County
Charles Pattison	Policy Director	1000 Friends of Florida
Charles Lee	Director of Advocacy	Audubon Florida
Erik Jacobsen	General Manager	Deseret Ranch
Tracy Duda Chapman	Executive Vice-President/General Counsel	The Viera Company
Debbie Harvey	CEO	Ron Jon Surf Shop
Belinda O. Kirkegard	Economic Development Director	City of Kissimmee
Marcos Marchena		Citizen

East-West Travel between Orange/Osceola Counties and Northern Brevard County

An estimated 118,000 person trips occur each day between locations in Orange and Osceola counties and northern Brevard County, defined for this purpose as Titusville, Cape Canaveral, Cocoa, Rockledge, and northern locations in the county. The total number of daily person trips is projected to grow to between 201,000 and 357,000 by the year 2060.⁹

Travel to and from northern Brevard County today primarily occurs using three major highways, each of which involves an existing crossing of the St. Johns River: State Road 528 from Orlando to Port Canaveral; State Road 520 from eastern Orange County to Cocoa; and State Road 50 from Orlando to Titusville.

Plans that include long-range projections of available revenues, developed by FDOT and the metropolitan planning organizations, have identified future improvements to portions of State Road 528 and State Road 50, but funding to add capacity at the Brevard County line on any of these corridors has not yet been identified.

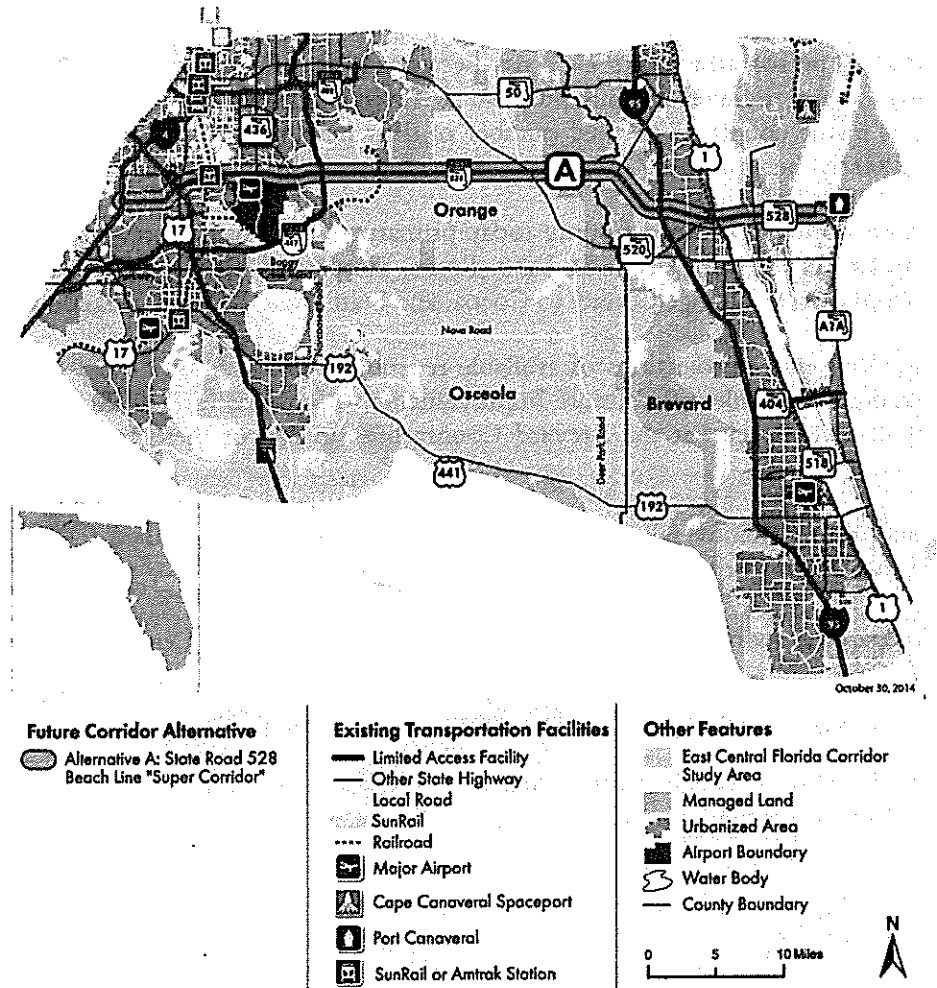
In addition to supporting this overall growth in travel, the Task Force identified the following long-term transportation needs in this portion of the study area:

- Support anticipated growth in trade through Port Canaveral serving the Central Florida market;
- Support continued growth in personal and visitor travel, including cruise passengers using Port Canaveral and visitors traveling between major attractions in the three counties;
- Improve connectivity between high-technology research and employment centers including the University of Central Florida, Innovation Way, Lake Nona, and Cape Canaveral;
- Strengthen connectivity between major transportation hubs and corridors in five modes, including the Cape Canaveral Spaceport; Port Canaveral; Orlando International Airport; the planned multimodal passenger terminal for All Aboard Florida, SunRail, and other regional transit services at Orlando International Airport; additional SunRail stations; and the Taft intermodal freight yard; and
- Enhance the transportation system's ability to support emergency evacuation, response, and post-disaster recovery activities.

The Task Force evaluated a range of potential corridor investments to help address these needs, and recommends four alternatives for further study. While not part of the study area, the Task Force also discussed the long-term potential for improvements to State Road 46, which connects Interstate 4 and State Road 417 near Sanford to Interstate 95 north of Titusville.

⁹ Estimates of daily person trips in each travel shed are intended to serve as order of magnitude representations of current and future travel demand within the study area irrespective of mode choice or route choice. Trips with an origin and/or destination outside the study area are not included in the person trip estimates presented in this section.

Figure 15. Alternative A: Develop State Road 528 into a Multimodal, Multi-Use “Super Corridor”



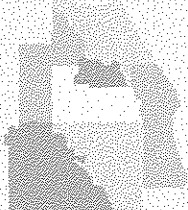
Alternative A: Develop State Road 528 into a multimodal, multi-use “super corridor” from Interstate 4 in Orlando to State Road A1A in Port Canaveral.

State Road 528 (the Beach Line Expressway and the Bennett Causeway) is the principal east-west corridor in the study area, connecting Interstate 4 and the Orlando International Airport with Interstate 95 and Port Canaveral. State Road 528 primarily is a limited-access tolled highway. It is part of the Strategic Intermodal System. The existing facility is owned and operated by Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise (Interstate 4 to State Road 482 near the Orlando International Airport; State Road 520 to Interstate 95); the Central Florida Expressway Authority (State Road 482 to State Road 520); and FDOT (Interstate 95 to State Road 401 near Port Canaveral).

Improvements to this corridor could include: general purpose lanes; managed express lanes or truck-only lanes; infrastructure for autonomous vehicles and alternative fueled vehicles; freight, intercity passenger, and regional passenger rail services; trails for nonmotorized transportation; pipelines; and electricity transmission and communications infrastructure. Such improvements could address the full list of needs identified in this part of the study area, with particular emphasis on supporting the planned expansion of Port Canaveral, the Cape Canaveral Spaceport, the Orlando International Airport, and other major transportation hubs.

Because this corridor already is limited access, future improvements could occur with modest impacts on surrounding communities, agricultural lands, and environmental lands. However, the width of the current Beach Line Expressway right of way may not be sufficient to accommodate multiple transportation modes as well as non-transportation uses, particularly west of the Econlockhatchee River and east of Interstate 95. Finally, while additional capacity in the corridor would enhance the transportation system's ability to support emergency evacuation and response activities, efforts must be made to ensure that the proposed concentration of modes and uses in this single corridor is resilient during emergencies.

DRAFT



That was the message presented on August 10, 2007, as the Shared Growth Vision for Central Florida (http://mregion.org/Portals/0/HSWG/HSWG_final.pdf) was unveiled before an audience of more than 500 Central Floridians at the "How Shall We Grow?" Regional Summit held at the Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate.

"How Shall We Grow?" was an 18-month campaign to Create a Shared Growth Vision for Central Florida where nearly 20,000 Central Florida residents were involved in creating a shared vision for how our region can grow between now and 2050, when the population is expected to double from 3.5 million to 7.2 million people.

Sixteen elected officials representing city and county governments and school boards of the seven Central Florida counties, spent a year developing a [regional compact](http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=199) (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=199>) and [policy framework](http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=93) (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=93>) that takes the shared vision and identifies specific policies that can be implemented to ensure we move toward achieving the vision. As part of the Summit, they relayed their pledge, made on behalf of elected officials from throughout the region, to continue working together to address the key regional issues facing Central Florida. They also outlined the [key principles](http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=202) (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=202>) and [themes](http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=198) (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=198>) articulated in the vision.

The vision embraces a future that is different than our current path where the amount of developed land in Central Florida will double by 2050 to more than 5,200 square miles.

Four key themes (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=198>) emerged from the How Shall We Grow? campaign demonstrating how the future of Central Florida can be different if future policies and practices are based on the 4 C's: Conservation, Countryside, Centers and Corridors:

- Conservation - Establish a "Green Areas" conservation footprint.
- Countryside - Preserve countryside outside of centers.
- Centers - Promote growth in current city, town or village centers and encourage the development of additional population centers to counter the current pattern of sprawling development.
- Corridors - Connect centers with a balance of roads, light rail, streetcars and buses planned by county transportation planners cooperating regionally.

To achieve the four themes, citizens and leaders have identified six principles (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=202>) that should guide future growth decisions region wide:

- Preserve Open Space, Recreational Areas, Farmland, Water Resources, and Regionally Significant Natural Areas.
- Provide a Variety of Transportation Choices.
- Foster Distinct, Attractive, and Safe Places to Live.
- Encourage a Diverse, Globally Competitive Economy.
- Create a Range of Obtainable Housing Opportunities and Choices.
- Build Communities with Educational, Health Care, and Cultural Amenities

The following partners (<http://myregion.org/Default.aspx?tabid=200>) supported the How Shall We Grow? Project and regional collaboration efforts in Central Florida: Florida Department of Community Affairs (FDCA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Central Florida MPO Alliance, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC), myregion.org and the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Shelley Lauten to

he Recognized

Index.php?

[sic=news&srctype=detail](#)

**"Open for
Business"**

index.php?

[src=news&srcType=detail](#)

"Open for
Business"

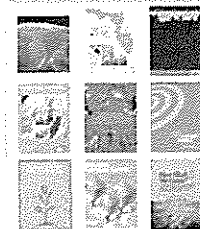
finder.php?

get new research data

More News:

(index.php?src=main)

PUBLICATIONS



[index.php?](#)

src=fba&srcType=click&id=11



2012 Executive Board of Advisors

Chair

George W. Walton, P.E.
Parsons Brinckerhoff
420 South Orange Avenue, Suite 400
Orlando, FL 32801-4908
407.587.7800
walton@pbworld.com

Mr. Oscar Anderson*
Southern Strategy Group
78 West Church Street, Suite 200
Orlando, FL 32801
407.650.5052
anderson@sostrategy.com

Kristin L. Bakke, CAE
LEAD Brevard
123 Barton Boulevard, Suite 101
Rockledge, FL 955-2703
321.632.8222
Kristin@LEADBrevard.org

Mr. Allie L. Braswell, Jr.
Central Florida Urban League
2804 Belco Drive
Orlando, FL 32808
407.841.7654, Ext. 331
abraswell@cful.org

Rodney L. Carson, CECD, CBA
Central Florida Development Council, Inc.
2701 Lake Myrtle Park Road
Auburndale, FL 33823-9360
863.551.4719
rcarson@cfcdc.org

Mr. Thomas C. Chatmon, Jr.
Downtown Development Board
400 South Orange Avenue, 6th Floor
Orlando, FL 32801
407.246.3361
thomas.chatmon@downtownorlando.com

Ms. Deborah A. Clements*
Progress Energy
452 East Crown Point Road
Winter Garden, FL 34787
407.905.3319
Debbie.clements@pgnmail.com

Ms. Nancy Clutts
The Corbin Group
4429 Antietam Creek Trail
Leesburg, FL 34748
352.314.9119
nancy@thecorbingroup.com

Ms. Cheryl Coxwell
International Speedway Corporation
One Daytona Boulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
386.681.6517
ccoxwell@iscomotorsports.com

Duane E. De Freese, Ph.D.
AquaFiber Technologies Corporation
4750 New Broad Street, Suite 125
Orlando, FL 32814
407.898.2782
duane.defreese@aquafiber.com

Ms. Carmen Dominguez
Carmen Dominguez Construction, LC
P.O. Box 1955
Winter Park, FL 32790-1955
407.999.9002
carmen@carmendominguezconstruction.com

Noranne Downs, P.E.
Florida Department of Transportation
719 South Woodland Boulevard, MS 503
DeLand, FL 32720
386.943.5475
noranne.downs@dot.state.fl.us

Mr. Sean C. Eckhardt
Florida Distributing Company
3964 Shader Road
Orlando, FL 32808-3133
407.532.8709
seckhardt@reyesholdings.com

The Honorable Gow B. Fields
City of Lakeland
228 South Massachusetts Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801
863.834.6005
Gow@Gowfields.com

The Honorable Michael E. Harford
Osceola County Commission
One Courthouse Square, Suite 4700
Kissimmee, FL 34741
407.742.2000
michael.harford@osceola.org

Mr. Larry Henrichs
Visit Orlando
6700 Forum Drive, Suite 100
Orlando, FL 32821
407.363.5829
larry.henrichs@visitl Orlando.com

Mr. Eric A. Jackson
TTR Systems
2014 Edgewater Drive, Suite 302
Orlando, FL 32804
ejackson@ttrsystemsusa.com

The Honorable Sam Johnson
Polk County Commission
P.O. Box 9005, Drawer BC01
Bartow, FL 33831-9005
863.534.6049
samjohnson@polk-county.net

Mr. Charles Lee, Sr.
Audubon of Florida
1101 Audubon Way
Maitland, FL 32751
407.539.5700, Ext. 108
chlee2@earthlink.net

Ms. Kathleen Gallagher McIver
Orlando Regional REALTOR Association
RE/MAX Town & Country Realty
1315 Tuskawilla Road, Suite 101
Winter Springs, FL 32708
407.718.2049
kathleen.gallagher@remax.net

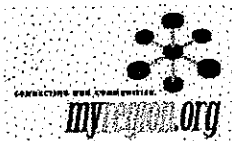
The Honorable Jack R. Myers
City of Auburndale
P.O. Box 186
Auburndale, FL 33823
863.965.5530
jackmyers@tampabay.rr.com

Ms. Debbie Orr
PNC Bank
201 East Pine Street, Suite 102
Orlando, FL 32801
407.803.4143
debbie.orr@pnc.com

The Honorable Sean Parks
Lake County Commission
P.O. Box 7800
Tavares, FL 32778
352.343.9850
sparks@lakecountyfl.gov

Mr. D. Travis Proctor
Artemis International Technologies
1427 Aurora Road
Melbourne, FL 32935
321.757.8909
proctor@artemisit.com

Mr. Jon B. Rawlson
The Rawlson Policy Group, LLC
9953 Lake George Drive
Orlando, FL 32817
321.436.0836
jrawlson@gmail.com



2012 Executive Board of Advisors

Mr. Troy Sands
North Highland
1000 Legion Place, Suite 950
Orlando, FL 32801-1006
407.622.8642
troy.sands@northhighland.com

Captain Winston E. Scott*
Florida Institute of Technology
150 West University Boulevard
Melbourne, FL 32901
321.674.8000
wscoff@fit.edu

Mr. H. Paul Senft, Jr.
Haines City Economic Development Council
608 Ingraham Avenue, 2nd Floor
Haines City, FL 33844
863.242.0459
paul@hainescityedc.com

The Honorable Jennifer Thompson
Orange County Commission
201 South Rosalind Avenue, 5th Floor
Orlando, FL 32801
district4@ocfl.net

Diane H. Trees, Ed.D.
University of Central Florida
36 West Pine Street, Suite 106
Orlando, FL 32801
407.235.3935
diane.trees@ucf.edu

The Honorable Thomas W. Wefnberg
Canaveral Port Authority
404 South Banana River Boulevard
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
321.258.8002
dgreenslade@portcanaveral.com

Mr. Jay Wheeler
Boys and Girls Club of Osceola County
1524 Four Winds Boulevard
Kissimmee, FL 32746
407.973.4141
jaywheeler@embargo.com

Mr. William J. Winder
Nemours
9145 Narcoossee Road, Suite 205
Orlando, FL 32827
407.650.7006
bwinder@nemours.org

TBD
Volusia County Council
123 West Indiana Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720-4612
386.736.5920

Chair's Council

Mr. Ed Timberlake
Seaside National Bank & Trust
700 West Morse Boulevard, Suite 100
Winter Park, FL 32789
407.571.7995
etimberlake@seasidebank.com

Mr. Joel Hass
922 Lotus Vista Drive, Unit 202
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
407.718.0546
whcommunication2@gmail.com

Mr. R. Randolph Lyon, Jr.
Central Florida YMCA
433 North Mills Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803
407.896.9220
RLyon@cfymca.org

Staff

President
Ms. Shelley Lauten
myregion.org
P.O. Box 1234
Orlando, FL 32802-1234
407.835.2444
shelley.lauten@orlando.org

Ms. Beverly A. Grant
myregion.org
P.O. Box 1234
Orlando, FL 32802-1234
407.835.2522
beverly.grant@orlando.org