

ADD ON ENCLOSURE

SUBJECT: Update on Regional Transportation Finance Authority

ORIGIN OF SUBJECT: Escambia County

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTION NEEDED: None

BACKGROUND: The members of the Northwest Florida Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) are the Florida - Alabama TPO and the Okaloosa - Walton TPO. Each organization appoints eight representatives to the Regional TPO, for a total of sixteen voting representatives. Non-voting representatives are the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation District 3 and the Chairman of the Eglin Air Force Base Encroachment Committee.

In 2009, the NWFRTPO passed Resolution NWFL 09-02 to Support Completion of a Feasibility Study of Advance Funding of Capacity Projects. House Bill 5013 authorized the NWFRTPO to study the feasibility of advanced funding of capacity projects in its member counties. In 2010, the Florida-Alabama TPO and the Northwest Florida Regional TPO adopted resolutions (attached) indicating their intention to pursue legislation that allows the establishment of a Regional Transportation Finance Authority per HB 5013. Okaloosa-Walton TPO passed Resolution O-W 10-34 not to pursue legislation.

Legislation is currently being considered by Escambia County's lobbyist that would be suitable for sponsorship in the upcoming Florida legislative session. The legislation would either create or modify the definition of an "authority" so that the pursuit of completing projects through bonding, tolling or other innovative financing methods may be achieved.

Partnerships with other transportation entities such as the NWFTCA are being explored and there will be a presentation at the next Northwest Florida Regional TPO meeting on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at the Navarre Visitors' Center in Navarre.

Mary Robinson, Director of Transportation, West Florida Regional Planning Council (WFRPC) will give a brief presentation. Mr. Colby Brown, Escambia County, will be available for questions.

The following schedule is planned to pursue this legislation:

- Informational Update to FL-AL TPO – October 12, 2011
- Informational Update to O-W TPO – October 20, 2011
- Information Update to the NWFTCA – October 27, 2011
- Review Proposed Legislation at NWFRTPO – November 2, 2011
- Legislative Update to FL-AL TPO – January 11, 2011
- Legislative Update to NWFRTPO – January 18, 2011
- Legislative Update to O-W TPO – February 16, 2011

Attached are the following:

- Resolution FL-AL 10-47
- Resolution NWFL 10-06
- Resolution O-W 10-34
- Resolution NWFL 09-02

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This item is for information and discussion only. For more information contact Mary Robinson, Director of Transportation, WFRPC at 850-332-7976 x 229 or mary.robinson@wfrpc.org.