

February 2013

## NFTCA Master Plan Update

As part of the business case analysis process, the project team has conducted a regional needs assessment, reviewed existing plans and transportation programs completed for the region, developed and refined a list of candidate projects, built an economic model to analyze and rank these projects and held a series of workshops to gather feedback and ensure transparency and stakeholder buy-in. On December 6th and 7th in Navarre and Panama City, the team held a third series of stakeholder workshops on the Master Plan update process. The main objective of the workshop was to review and to discuss the most recent project list along with the preliminary analysis results. The updated project list now includes 36 projects, of which 14 are new facilities, 20 involve increasing capacity on existing roadways and two are multi-modal projects.



**Four public meetings have been scheduled to review the projects proposed for inclusion in the Master Plan:**

## Upcoming Public Meetings

### MEETING 1

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**6:00pm to 8:00pm (CST)**

*Pensacola Civic Center  
Room C-1  
201 East Gregory St.  
Pensacola, FL 32502*

### MEETING 2

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**6:00pm to 8:00pm (EST)**

*Robert Moore  
Administration Building  
Room 302  
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd.  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456*

### MEETING 3

**Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 2013**

**6:00pm to 8:00pm (CST)**

*City of Destin Annex  
4100 Indian Bayou Tr.  
Destin, FL 32541*

### MEETING 4

**Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 2013**

**6:00 pm to 8:00 pm CST**

*Bay County Public Library  
898 W. 11th St.  
Panama City, FL 32405*

## Our Mission

Created by the Florida State Legislature in 2005, the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority (NFTCA) is authorized to **plan**, fund, construct and operate transportation projects which **improve** mobility to **enhance** traveler safety, provide for hurricane evacuation routes, and **promote** economic development through the efficient and effective movement of people, goods and services throughout the northwest Florida region.

On January 5, 2012, the NFTCA approved the preparation of a major update to the Master Plan originally developed in 2007.

## Business Case Analysis Framework

The NFTCA is applying a new approach to the Master Plan update as discussed in previous newsletters. The Business Case approach involves estimating the market and non-market benefits of candidate projects. Market benefits are accounted for through an Economic Impact Analysis (EIA), which studies the effects of a change in demand for goods and services as a result of the transportation investment. Non-market benefits are quantified and measured within the framework of Benefit-Cost Analysis, using high-level estimations based on average cost to build and to maintain per mile or acre and likely average benefits over the life of the project. The end result of the Business Case Analysis is a set of risk-based performance metrics that result in a Benefit-Cost Ratio. This ratio provides a measure of benefits for each dollar spent on project-related costs and is expressed as a quotient. If the benefit-cost ratio is greater than 1.0, the benefits exceed costs and the project is economically favorable.



## NFTCA Welcomes New Board Member for Santa Rosa County

Gordon Sprague was appointed to the board on August 2012 by Governor Rick Scott and represents Santa Rosa County. Mr. Sprague was a member of the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1961. In 1965 he received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Florida State University. In 1975 he earned his Masters degree in Allied Health Sciences from the University of North Florida.

Mr. Sprague has been an active member of several boards including Florida State University Boosters and Foundation boards, Florida State University Panama City Campus Community Partners board, President Emeritus of Gulf Breeze Area Historical Society, Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, University of West Florida Foundation board and Chairman of Florida State University National Alumni board.

In 2001, Mr. Sprague received the Florida State University Outstanding Alumni Award (College of Education). He wrote and published his autobiography, Flash Back, and also raced Winston Cup Stock cars for 3 seasons. Presently he is involved in his family dairy and forest activities in Vermont. He owns and operates a Rock Quarry. Mr. Sprague has been married to Bette for 50 years and has 2 children and 4 grandsons.



## NFTCA Welcomes New Board Member for Wakulla County

Mr. Scott Gaby was appointed to the Board in August 2012 by Governor Rick Scott and

represents Wakulla County. Mr. Gaby graduated from Chipola in 1971. In 1973, he graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. He is also a graduate of the Louisiana State University Banking School of the South.

Mr. Gaby has been active in civic organizations in Wakulla County for the past several years. He has served on the Tallahassee Community College Board and was president of the Wakulla Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Gaby has been in the banking industry since 1974. He is currently Vice President with Farmers & Merchants Bank of Monticello. Mr. Gaby has been married to Julie for forty years and has three children.

## First Annual Transportation Symposium

The West Florida Regional Planning Council and the Northwest Florida Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) hosted the First Annual Transportation Symposium at the Emerald Coast Convention Center in Fort Walton Beach on January 16, 2013. The purpose of this symposium was to discuss financing the transportation network in the Florida Panhandle including Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton counties. The special guest speaker was Ananth Prasad, **Secretary of Florida Department of Transportation** who presented an overview of his legislative initiatives for the coming year. The symposium discussed the vision for transportation in the Florida Panhandle, provided discussion of collaborative and innovative funding mechanisms, discussed transportation's role in economic vitality, and aimed to build regional partnerships. Master of Ceremonies was Commissioner Gene Valentino as the Chairman of the Northwest Florida Regional TPO. Speakers included Ron Howse, Chairman, **Florida Transportation Commission**; Lisa Bacot, Executive Director, **Florida Public Transit Association**; Bob Montgomery, Chairman, **Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority**; and Jason Peters, Director of Development, **FDOT District 3**, among others.

