

## **First Coast Vision Public Input Summary 3/22/11 (\* frequently recurring issues)**

### **Philosophical background: To vision or not to vision**

- Pro vision
- The regulatory framework will determine the future
- God will determine the future

### **What should First Coast Vision cover?**

- \*Agriculture
- Assets of the region
- \*Attitude (welcoming and “can do” vs. regulatory)
- \*Consensus/Commitment/Communication
- Crime
- Downtown Jacksonville
- \*Equity
- Leadership
- \*St. Johns River
- Working Waterfront

### **Have we gone far enough?**

- \*Education
- \*Jobs
- \*Natural resources
- \*Water

### **Implementation Plans and Observations**

Regional Housing Assistance Mechanism to transition to an all voucher system

- JHA input on Page 6

Housing review methodology for significant developments

- Include public and look for budget neutrality on Page 14

Regional Atlas

- As our only implementation plan related to jobs, is this enough?

Regional Green Infrastructure Plan

- General support

Vulnerability Maps

- Little mention

Determine climate change impact, and, if indicated, mitigation and adaptation plans

- Various, from can't influence-page 1 to good job- page 14

Multi-modal transportation framework for the region

- General support

## **First Coast Vision Public Input Committee Chair Proposed Approach 3/22/11**

1. Margo writes up input summary and includes as a chapter in the first draft of First Coast Vision (below) . RCI Committee Chairs make recommendation to full Board that additional language on the issues related to growth and development (Agriculture, St. Johns River, Working Waterfront) be handled with the Natural Resources and Economic Development committees electronically. No meetings are currently required. Committee Chairs do not recommend any expansion of the scope of First Coast Vision. (March 24, 2011).
2. Results of Board action are described to First Coast Consortium as their input is solicited around April 1, for a May 2 deadline.
3. Committees and/or subcommittee meet if necessary to consider changes or additions based on public and First Coast Consortium input. (May 3-May 31)
4. Second draft of First Coast Vision includes additional committee language, and First Coast Consortium input for consideration at June 23, 2011 Board meeting.

Excerpt from First Draft First Coast Vision:

### **Public Input**

RCI conducted a Town Hall meeting in each of the seven counties in the region to poll the public on possible growth patterns, to get comment on the draft goals and objectives and to assemble public input on where they thought the region should be in 50 years.

About 1,300 people participated in the Grow Smart survey and Town Hall meetings in each of the seven counties in the region conducted in 2008 and 2009 to gather input into the perception of issues facing the region during planning for Reality Check First Coast. More than 200 participated in meetings related to regional issues to be addressed in Reality Check First Coast. More than 500 people were involved in planning for or participated in Reality Check First Coast. Another 350 attended meetings related to the Guiding Principles after Reality Check. Finally, since Reality Check, polling has been conducted to determine which growth pattern best reflects the vision First Coast residents have for the region in 2060. Ultimately, 1,514 were polled, most after discussions related to how we or our children on grandchildren might live if we grew in each of the five patterns. Approximately 41% of those polled preferred the Multiple Growth Centers pattern, followed by 24% who preferred the Urban Compact pattern, 23% who preferred the Corridor pattern, 9% who preferred the Dispersed pattern and 3% who preferred the Trend.

A second set of Town Hall meetings in February and March of 2011 provided an opportunity for residents to tell us what they think about the region and its future, and to allow them to give specific comments on the draft goals and objectives. This resulted in a healthy review of the scope we had set up for First Coast Vision, to see if, given our work and input to date, we wanted to continue to address those issues we had first identified as being related to a vision for growth and development in the region for the next 50 years, or whether changes were warranted. Ultimately, we stuck with the original scope of the vision, to avoid creating expectations in areas that the RCI has little or no ability to influence. That said, however, the public comment is fascinating and all are encouraged to review it at the First Coast Vision Library at [www.FirstCoastVision.com](http://www.FirstCoastVision.com). In addition, it resulted in two major areas of change. Language was added and refined in covering agriculture, the St. Johns River, and working waterfront. In

response to public comment, a section was added to address the critically important issue of how to take First Coast Vision from a document to a movement that will shape growth and development in the region for the next 50 years.

### **What the people said**

Not everyone in Northeast Florida supports a vision, but we were gratified by the fact that residents came to Town Hall meetings and were willing to talk to us about it. While approaches to the future differed in public comment, they supported the theme that has been identified since Reality Check First Coast: a rejection of the status quo and recognition that our region and its assets, especially its people, are worthy of dialogue that will help us to grow in a way that will help us realize our goals. Choice is the other theme that surfaced. Providing a choice of jobs, of recreation, of transportation and generally of how we live is a theme that recurs across all polling and input from meetings. Finally, there was hope expressed by those who support visioning that First Coast Vision will become a movement, and not be “another plan on the shelf”.