As I end my two-year term as Chairman of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, I am proud of the depth and breadth of the TPO’s work in improving our region. Each effort involves rigorous analysis and as important, collaboration with partner agencies, stakeholders and the public. The theme of this Annual Report is the “Art of Collaboration.” Collaboration is indeed an art, as well as a skill and it is part of the North Florida TPO culture as you will see on the following pages.

Having large geographic areas with dispersed communities make it challenging to provide needed transit services. Our Nassau County Transit Study recommended cost-effective solutions and was recognized as the Outstanding Study by the Florida Planning & Zoning Association First Coast Chapter. In 2015 our Bicycle and Pedestrian Subarea Studies focused on the Riverside/San Marco and Beaches areas. As we enter 2016, we are tackling Orange Park and Amelia Island.

The Clean Fuels program is providing many tangible benefits including education and awareness events throughout the year. The most visible investment is in 25 ChargeWell EV charging stations that were installed this year and I’m excited to announce that more are coming. Our public CNG station at JTA is open and the St. Johns County CNG station is under construction.

Enhancing economic development, while balancing quality of life has always been an important part of our mission. To that end we continued the North Area/JIA Rail Corridor Study with an alternatives analysis. The St. Augustine Truck Parking Study was completed with strategies to meet the needs of our historic city’s businesses, residents and tourists. The Port of Fernandina Truck Circulation Study evaluated truck traffic coming from the Port to ensure minimal impacts.

The capstone for the year was opening the North Florida Regional Transportation Management Center. I was honored to participate in the ribbon-cutting for the RTMC and new TPO offices. I want to thank the many TPO board members who worked with and before me to advance this project, as well at the TPO staff and partner agencies. It has been an honor to serve and I look forward to collaborating with the North Florida TPO, agencies, officials and communities as we continue to enhance our region’s transportation system.

Nancy Sikes-Kline
Commissioner
2015 North Florida TPO Chairman

“COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING; KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS; WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS.”

– HENRY FORD
2015 BOARD MEMBERS

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ANNA BROSCHE
Jacksonville City Council
Representative for Lenny Curry, Mayor, City of Jacksonville

TERESA DAVLANTES
Jacksonville Aviation Authority

SCOTT MCCALEB
Jacksonville Transportation Authority

JAMES BENNETT
Baker County Commission
Ex Officio Member

GREGORY EVANS, P.E.
District 2 Secretary Florida Dept. of Transportation
Non-Voting Advisor

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CARL YOUUMAN
St. Augustine/St. Johns Airport Authority

MATT SHELLHORN
USN Retired
Representative for Capt. Howard Wanamaker, U.S. Navy, Ex Officio Member

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## Transportation Improvement Program

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a staged multi-year program of transportation project improvements to be implemented during the next five-year period in the North Florida TPO area. The 2015/16 – 2019/20 TIP includes $2.27 billion in projects over the five-year period. Major capacity projects in process include Blanding Boulevard, First Coast Expressway, I-10, I-295, I-95, JIA North Access Road, SR 313, SR 9B, SR A1A and US 301.

### COLLABORATORS:
The North Florida TPO staff and Technical Coordinating Committee worked closely with the Florida Department of Transportation and partner agencies in creating the draft TIP. The City of Jacksonville Citizens Planning Advisory Committees (CPACs), the City and/or County Commissions and Zoning Boards in Duval, Clay, St. Johns and Nassau counties, the cities of Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach, St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach, Callahan, Fernandina Beach and the towns of Orange Park and Baldwin, the North Florida TPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the North Florida TPO Citizens Advisory Committee participated in the review and development of the final program.

### FUNDING

#### North Florida TPO Funding Sources for Fiscal Year 2015/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>LOCAL</td>
<td>$377,826</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
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<td>FEDERAL</td>
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<td>OTHER</td>
<td>$42,116</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,374,070</strong></td>
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</table>
Nassau County
Transit Study

About 650 square miles, Nassau County covers a fairly large geographic area and is home to over 75,000 residents. The driving distance from the beach on the east to the westernmost portion of the county is over 50 miles. Similar to many places in Florida and across the country, there are people within the county who either do not have good access to transportation or would prefer additional transportation options.

The purpose of the Nassau County Transit Study was to determine public transportation needs and opportunities, and to explore and recommend bus transit options. The study began with analyzing existing conditions and trends, including population and employment, land use and development, and transportation characteristics. Public and stakeholder participation helped guide the study and was an essential component. A 19-member committee of stakeholders, an online survey with nearly 600 responses and a public meeting helped shape the study’s findings and recommendations. The study concluded with recommendations for transit routes and service improvements; potential governing structures and funding opportunities for the transit system; and suggested marketing and branding actions.

April Bacchus, ETM, Nassau County Transit Study consultant project manager.

THE NASSAU COUNTY TRANSIT STUDY WAS RECOGNIZED AS THE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC STUDY FOR 2015 BY THE FIRST COAST CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA PLANNING & ZONING ASSOCIATION.

COLLABORATORS: Nassau County, AIFBY Chamber, City of Fernandina Beach, Council on Aging of Nassau County/NassauTRANSIT, Nassau County Economic Development Board, Jacksonville Transportation Authority, Northeast Florida Regional Transportation Commission, Northeast Florida Regional Council, Florida Department of Transportation and the North Florida TPO.
The North Florida TPO’s Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan identifies priority subareas for further study. These subarea studies help us identify specific bicycle routes, bicycle parking requirements, intersection and mid-block crossing needs and family friendly route opportunities. In 2015 we conducted two subarea studies.

**Riverside/ San Marco Subarea Study**

This study focused on improving access to the new pedestrian and bicycle path that will cross the St. Johns River on the I-95 Fuller Warren Bridge between the Riverside and San Marco neighborhoods. It identifies potential non-motorized connections and improvements to the transportation network in the neighborhoods surrounding the landside connections of the new bridge.

The recommended network identifies the most comfortable and most direct options for travel between major community destinations within these neighborhoods, as well as the best existing connections between the neighborhoods via the Acosta Bridge, the best connections via the proposed Fuller-Warren Bridge, and connections from each neighborhood.

**Beaches Subarea Study**

The Duval County beaches, encompassing Mayport, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach and Jacksonville Beach are a major tourist attraction. These communities are also home to over 40,000 residents and Naval Station Mayport adds a population of over 30,000. The primary goal of this study is to make these areas a better place to bike and walk.

The study identifies designated biking and walking routes, facilities and recommended safety improvements. It also highlights opportunities for improving bicycling conditions through small, short-term interventions, which will not require significant new construction or reconstruction of existing roadways to maximize the usefulness of existing infrastructure.

**COLLABORATORS:** Staff and elected officials from cities of Atlantic Beach, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach and Neptune Beach; Florida Department of Transportation; Jacksonville Transportation Authority; Department of Environmental Protection; San Marco Preservation; Riverside Avondale Preservation; North Florida Bicycle Club; Florida Bicycle Association; Duval County BPAC; Concerned Citizens of Atlantic Beach; and East Coast Greenways Alliance.
This has been a big year for our Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) program. In addition to ongoing investments in deploying ITS devices along our region’s roadways, we finally saw the culmination of a 12-year partnership among the North Florida TPO, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) as we opened the North Florida Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC).

The RTMC was funded by the North Florida TPO as part of their ongoing investment in Intelligent Transportation Systems which totals over $30 million since 2003. The building is owned and operated by the FDOT on land leased from the Florida Department of Management Services.

Here are a few RTMC features:

- **FOOTPRINT** - 20,000 square feet office space including 6,572 square foot RTMC floor.
- **STAFFING** - Houses FDOT, FHP, JSO and other personnel needed to coordinate planning and response for major events and incidents. This is the first TMC in Florida to co-locate staff across agencies.
- **MONITORS** - Main video wall is 24’ x 6’9” - equivalent to 300” TV. There are also six smaller four-monitor video walls.
- **WORKSTATIONS** - Total of 32 RTMC floor workstations, costing $30,000 each. Each workstation has its own ergonomic adjustments and climate control.
- **CABLES** - Roughly 23 miles of communications cable within building.
- **ENERGY EFFICIENCY** - LED lighting to save energy and reduce worker fatigue; redundant HVAC systems with low energy usage; and potential LEED silver certification in process.
- **STRENGTH** - Capable of withstanding a Category 3 hurricane and sustaining itself for seven days through a power outage.
- **SECURITY** - Secure floor that requires State Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) clearance.
- **SAFETY** - South wall comprised of bulletproof windows per FHP requirements for officer safety.
- **FAR REACHING** - FHP provides dispatch for 10 state law enforcement agencies.
- **HOMELAND SECURITY** - The first facility in Florida to be interconnected to FDLE for combined response to Homeland Security threats.

**COLLABORATORS:** Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Highway Patrol and the North Florida TPO.
The RTMC team manages a wide array of fiber optic cable and wireless communication ITS devices including closed circuit television cameras, dynamic message signs, traffic signal controllers, vehicle detection sensors, travel origin and destination sensors, wind sensors and the 511 system. Being co-located, they can now more easily coordinate with responders and dispatch law enforcement, fire/rescue and Road Rangers as needed.
**CLEAN FUELS**

**Event Highlights**

The North Florida TPO and the North Florida Clean Fuels Coalition hosted the 2015 Florida Alternative Fuel Vehicles Expo at the University of North Florida’s Adam W. Herbert University Center in February. More than 100 attendees gathered to experience the latest AFV’s, learn about alternative fuel and electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure investments, and hear success stories from companies who have switched to alternative fuels.

Amerigas opened a new propane autogas station at 9836 Beach Boulevard in March. The grand opening event provided an opportunity for Clean Fuels coalition members to learn about propane applications in a variety of fleets.

As part of National Drive Electric Week, the North Florida TPO, JEA and Whole Foods hosted a Drive Electric Rally at Whole Foods Market in September. Over 100 EV drivers, dealerships and the EV-curious came together to discuss their experiences and test out the latest electric vehicles.

In October, the North Florida TPO participated in the 2015 Florida Energy Summit at the Hyatt Regency, moderating a panel on “Transportation: Driving the Energy Revolution.” Our clean fuels and intelligent transportation systems initiatives dovetailed at the 2015 Florida Automated Vehicles Summit in December. Several alternative fuel vehicles participated in the exhibition and test drives at the Cruise Terminal. As automakers are improving technology to incorporate alternative fuel sources, they are also adding autonomous driving features to improve safety and convenience.

**Master Plan Update**

Projects from the North Florida Alternative Fuels, Vehicles and Infrastructure Master Plan are now coming to fruition.

With funding from the North Florida TPO, the Jacksonville Transportation Authority opened its public compressed natural gas (CNG) station at 100 North Myrtle Avenue. The St. Johns County CNG station is under construction. Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) is testing their new LNG locomotives and fuel cars purchased in part with TPO funding.

**Clean Truck Program**

Marrying our freight mobility and clean fuels efforts, the Clean Truck program will provide a process and funding to assist truck owners in converting to more fuel efficient and cleaner burning engines to reduce port truck emissions.

The initial truck survey asked drivers about travel distance; trips to Talleyrand, Blount Island and JAXPORT; and vehicle age. From over 1,000 trucks identified in the survey, we learned that 78 percent are at least a decade old, 10 percent are at least 20 years old and 5 percent are nearly 30 years old. Clearly, opportunity exists to reduce emissions through this program that extends into 2016.

**COLLABORATORS:** JAXPORT, truck drivers/owners and the North Florida TPO.
The North Florida TPO has funded 25 ChargeWell EV charging stations, which are now up and running. You can keep track of station availability and details via PlugShare or ChargePoint phone and web apps. The North Florida TPO is expanding the ChargeWell program across the four-county region in 2016. To learn more about the ChargeWell program visit [www.ChargeWell.net](http://www.ChargeWell.net).

**COLLABORATORS:** JEA, NovaCharge and the North Florida TPO.

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### ChargeWell Stations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UNF</td>
<td>4892 First Coast Tech Pkwy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Town of Orange Park</td>
<td>2042 Park Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MOSI</td>
<td>1025 Museum Circle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>San Marco Merchants Association</td>
<td>4446 Hendricks Ave., #141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>City of Jacksonville Library Garage</td>
<td>13 West Duval St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>City of Jacksonville Yates Garage</td>
<td>200 East Adams St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>JTA Kings Avenue Garage</td>
<td>1000 Kings Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>JAX Chamber</td>
<td>3 Independent Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>A1A Solar Contracting</td>
<td>10418 New Berlin Rd Unit 223/224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The 900 Bunting</td>
<td>300 University Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Larry’s Giant Subs Corporate Headquarters</td>
<td>4470 Deerwood Lake Pkwy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Native Sun Baymeadows</td>
<td>11830 Baymeadows Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ramco Parkway (River City Marketplace)</td>
<td>14984 Max Leggett Pkwy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cummer Museum</td>
<td>854 Riverside Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>A Child’s Place Montessori School</td>
<td>3718 Salisbury Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Environmental Services, Inc.</td>
<td>7220 Financial Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Boile City Brewery</td>
<td>2676-7 Rosselle St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Brooks Rehabilitation</td>
<td>3599 University Blvd. South</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Fidelity/Black Knight</td>
<td>901 Riverside Ave. Bldg. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>North Florida TPO</td>
<td>1608 N. Jefferson St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jacksonville Zoo</td>
<td>2780 Zoo Pkwy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Whole Foods Market</td>
<td>10601 San Jose Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>JAX Metro Credit Union</td>
<td>9360 Hutchinson Park Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Native Sun Credit Union</td>
<td>10000 San Jose Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Fairfield Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>1300 Airport Rd.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See www.ChargeWell.net for most current information.*
North Area/JIA Corridor Rail Alternatives Analysis Study

This latest phase of a multiyear effort involves conducting an alternative analysis study for locating a new rail corridor. This corridor would serve east/west rail movements connecting marine terminals and the new Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) east of I-95 to the mainline located west of US 1.

Three alignments were evaluated in terms of operations and environmental issues. Specific attention was given to the need for roadway bridges and grade crossings. A new corridor would provide 28 fewer at-grade crossings to the Port of Fernandina and 20 fewer at-grade crossings to JAXPORT facilities. The study will be completed in early 2016. The next step will be to work with fellow collaborators to determine how the project will advance.

Collaborators: Florida Department of Transportation, JAXPORT, Port of Fernandina, Jacksonville International Airport, CSX, landowners, federal agencies and the North Florida TPO.

St. Augustine Truck Parking Study

This study recommends a commercial vehicle management plan that addresses parking, traffic and historic preservation needs in the city of St. Augustine. Strategies include: implementing time restrictions in loading zones; redesigning existing parking areas; using smart parking management systems; restructuring permits, fines and loading zone fees; and signifying truck routes.

Collaborators: City of St. Augustine, Florida Department of Transportation, St. Augustine delivery companies and local businesses, and the North Florida TPO.

Port of Fernandina Truck Circulation Study

The purpose of this study was to update and evaluate the existing traffic and truck movements through the study area. The existing traffic data shows that a majority of the daily truck traffic at the entry location of the study area uses 8th Street/SR A1A and is destined for two local mill industrial sites. The study results indicate that truck traffic generated by the Port of Fernandina is minimal.

Collaborators: Port of Fernandina and the North Florida TPO.

Photo courtesy of JAXPORT. The JAXPORT ICTF will facilitate the direct transfer of containers between ships and trains - making us a more competitive port while also reducing the number of trucks on the road locally.
NEW OFFICE

The TPO’s new offices cover 5,000-square feet adjacent to the RTMC, but within the same building. This enables us to share reception and conference space and realize cost savings. Our area includes an expansive Board Room featuring advanced communications and environmental controls, small conference space and individual offices designed for environmental efficiency.
Working with HAS Art Solutions and local artists, our walls are clad with works that inspire contemplation, collaboration and motion as we plan, fund, mobilize!

- **Shawn Meharg**  
  Eyes Roll, Level 7 and Vertical Commute

- **Henrik Abedian**  
  Abstracts 60, 56 and 85

- **Ted Johnson**  
  Color Splashing

- **Jonathan Keller**  
  Blue Skies 1-3