



Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

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Florida Regional Councils Association Unveils New Economic Scorecard Website Utilizing Six Pillars Metrics

Ft Myers, FL (April 1, 2014) — Florida’s Regional Planning Councils received a new suite of economic development tools recently, as the Florida Regional Councils Association launched a new website on regional metrics. Each of Florida’s eleven regional planning councils will now be able to compare statistics ranging from high school graduation rates and trade imports to employment by industry and relative housing prices.

“This new website enables Florida’s Regional Planning Councils—as federally designated Economic Development Districts—to see our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies in action,” said Brian Teeple, Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee. “It’s our responsibility to be good stewards of economic growth across Florida and by partnering with the Florida Chamber Foundation and aligning our metrics to the Six Pillars we’re able to show where we are making progress in each region and where we need to close gaps.”

Regional Planning Councils and their state, regional and local partners are now able to view measurable results in 21 separate metrics that align to the Six Pillars framework developed by the Florida Chamber Foundation’s Six Pillars Plan. The original plan was developed in 2010 to secure Florida’s future into the year 2030 and beyond. The aggregate data allows regional and statewide comparisons. Each regional planning council became an official Six Pillars Community last year and began developing their future strategies to strengthen economic opportunities.

“Our partnership with the Florida Regional Councils Association is pivotal to our mission of statewide solutions,” said Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice President with the Florida Chamber Foundation. “The ability of each Regional Planning Council to evaluate their trends and data within their own region will help serve their own strategic planning efforts moving forward. We are excited that we can continue to secure Florida’s future alongside this important group.”

Website: <http://floridarpcscorecard.com/>

Florida’s Eleven Regional Planning Councils: Apalachee, Central Florida, East Central Florida, North Central Florida, Northeast Florida, South Florida, Southwest Florida, Tampa Bay, Treasure Coast, West Florida, and Withlacoochee.

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The Florida Chamber Foundation is the business-led, solutions development and research organization working in partnership with state business leaders to secure Florida’s future. The Foundation’s “Six Pillars” serve as a visioning platform for developing the first-ever, long-term strategic plan for the state. The Foundation’s work focuses on: 1) Talent Supply and Education, 2) Innovation and Economic Development, 3) Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, 4) Business Climate and Competitiveness, 5) Civic and Governance Systems, and 6) Quality of Life and Quality Places. Founded in 1968, the Foundation is a voice for improving the state’s pro-business climate to enable Florida to grow and prosper. For more information, visit www.FloridaChamber.com.