

**Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Northwest Florida State College, Student Services Building**

**March 12, 2025**

John Schuliger of Delonix Professional Consulting and TCPI facilitator, and Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC Associate Director provided opening comments. Attendees and respective representatives were welcomed and introductions were provided.

Agenda overviewed.

**TCPI Structure & Responsibilities**

- TCPI flow chart provided and overviewed
  - Advisory Board Members
    - New Board member, President Mel Ponder, Northwest Florida State College
  - LOE Champions
  - Working Group Co-Chairs
  - Work Group Members and Community Partners

**Successes to Date**

- Over of 23 partnership successes accomplished since the TCPI inception in 2014
- Partnerships can take time to develop and finalize
- Collaborations include MOU, MOA, IGSA, easements, and EUL's

**Work Group Workshop**

- The 12Feb25 work group workshop was overviewed
- Overall, there was excellent engagement across the community partners
- Assisted by the LOE Champions, all six work groups engaged in break-out sessions to define goals and objectives, and to finalize their respective co-chairs
- Work group charters are being finalized and executed

**Work Group Updates**

An outcome from the September 2024 Advisory Board Strategic Planning Session was for each work group brief to not only address the topic and progress but to also communicate how the AB may provide assistance; as needed. Each work group presented their co-chairs and current members.

- Career Readiness Assistance: Co-Chair Kelly Jordan briefed
  - Mission: Assist transitioning service members and military spouses in understanding local employment opportunities and in obtaining gainful employment in the civilian workforce
  - Objectives:
    - Increase tri-county area employers' awareness of available skillset pipeline
    - Increase military transitioners' civilian career readiness
    - Increase % of individuals planning to stay in the area
    - Increase % of available skilled workforce
    - Decrease time drawing unemployment compensation
  - Will continue TAP surveys, which are now mandatory, and will provide data
  - Assistance Needed: Survey Monkey is utilized as the platform for the TAP survey. Would like to add questions but not lose previous data.

- Childcare Workforce: Co-Chairs Sharon Brown and Angie Strumeyer briefed
  - Mission: Development, attraction and sustainment of childcare workforce in collaboration with the Emerald Coast Children's Movement, to include education, training and student behavior
  - Objectives:
    - Provide behavioral support and resources for Early Childhood Professional to reduce frustration and burn out.
    - Incentives for length of employment in the Early Childhood Field
    - Collaborate with community partners to enhance and increase opportunities for families to utilize non-traditional care (Examples: weekends, after hours, emergency care)
    - Government downsizing will result in trained employees seeking employment outside the gates.
    - Hiring freeze impacts due to lack of backfill for departing employees resulting in service impacts
    - Creation of the Emerald Coast Early Learning Taskforce
  - The current Federal hiring freeze is impacting efforts
  - The Crestview CDC ROD was signed in February; Army and Air Force
  - "Come Grow With Us" is a Department of Defense child and youth development program, offering a portable career working with military children and youth, with opportunities ranging from entry to management level. A Come Grow With Us Learning Academy has opened in Crestview at the old skating rink offering 300 slots
  - The Eglin "Bubble" CDC facility renovations are nearing completion and will support infants
- Workforce Housing: Co-Chair Uriah Matthews briefed
  - Mission: Identify and champion community and private sector affordable workforce housing developments in partnership with the local Housing Coalition; create asset map of future developments
  - Objectives:
    - Understand needs of housing types
    - Develop scorecard of characteristics/housing types needed to meet both military mission and overarching community
    - Provide education to inform the local community of the need for development
    - Explore ways to create housing opportunities with existing stock
  - Walton County Superintendent Hughes is considering joining the Advisory Board
  - Transportation infrastructure is a key component to obtainable, affordable housing
  - Municipality comp plans need to support developments
- MIRR Support: Co-Chair Jeff Fanto briefed
  - Mission: Support ECRC MIRR project recommendations for land use, resources and infrastructure
  - Objectives:
    - Support Mission Assurance. Protect and preserve military readiness and defense capabilities through funded interventions to supporting infrastructure
    - Promote Resilient Communities. Improve the public health, safety, and general welfare of those living and working at or near the installations through implementable, maintainable interventions which better prepare our communities for future impacts and faster recovery from disasters.
    - Foster Regional Cooperation. Increase public awareness of the military missions through closer communications and interventions that are integrated with ongoing community resilience planning.

- Regularly coordinate with the Emerald Coast Area Resilience Collaborative (EC-ARC). Provide updates to and receive updates from EC-ARC on ongoing MIRR projects within the region.
- Provided work group fact sheet
- This work group will be very comprehensive and focused on community projects
- An awareness campaign may be initiated
- Advocacy for each resiliency project will be provided
- Separate task forces may be developed to support specific projects
- Will plan to work with Enabling WG for resources to support projects
- Appendix D, page 498 of the MIRR report provides a list of funding options
- No WG issues have been identified
- Talent Pipeline: Co-Chair Emily Dahm briefed
  - Mission: Support Mission Assurance. Protect and preserve military readiness and defense capabilities through funded interventions to supporting infrastructure
  - Objectives:
    - Analyze military and community workforce needs to determine area of focus
    - Identify opportunities and gaps based on the identified areas of focus and develop strategies to enhance talent pipeline
    - Implement strategies and initiatives to address identified opportunities and gaps
    - Evaluate and report on results and if they have achieved desired outcomes
  - While these are currently unprecedented times, the current freeze on hiring is not anticipated to impact objectives
  - Potential loss of workforce at Hurlburt and Eglin as a result of the Federal reduction efforts could be 6-8K
  - The community needs to support the objectives to be successful
- Enabling Tools: Co-Chair Steve Loken briefed
  - Mission: Identify available local, state and federal funding resources AND additional partnership tools such as Inter-Governmental Support Agreements (IGSA)
  - Objectives:
    - Identify subject matter experts in the tri-county area
    - Expand current funding resource spreadsheet to encompass additional tools
    - Provide spotlight briefings at Advisory Board meetings to ensure resource awareness
    - Embed one Enabling Tools WG member on each Workgroup
  - The current funding spreadsheet is available on the website: [www.floridapartnerships.com](http://www.floridapartnerships.com)
  - Hurlburt leadership was hosted by Representative Maney in Tallahassee yesterday to discuss traffic infrastructure and mission readiness impacts
  - Multiple IGSA's are currently being considered as a result of the MIRR and their consultants

### **Where We Are**

- Timeline progression overviewed
- The Eglin-Hurlburt CPP meeting will be held April 22
- The next Advisory Board meeting will be June 10

### **Emerging Topics**

- Mr. Dale Marks has been nominated to Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment; confirmation hearing is pending
- Mr. Gabe Laramie is serving as the 96TW Interim Executive Director

- Installation encroachment threats have been identified and all-domain protective measures are being implemented
  - Eglin Coastline Restrictions
  - Unauthorized Drone Activity
  - Range Road
- The East Pass recreation area is planned to be reopened with County improvements and oversight

**Meeting adjourned.**