



LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COMMISSIONERS
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February 21, 2023

Jimmy Norris, Chairman
North Florida Economic Development Partnership
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Suite 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Dear Mr. Norris,

On behalf of the Levy County Board of County Commissioners, this letter is being sent in support of the North Florida Economic Development Partnership's (NFEDP) request for the 14-rural counties in the North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity (RAO) to be re-designated for another 5-year term. The North Central Florida RAO is comprised of the following counties: Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union Counties. Additionally, we request the continuation of all rural development staffing grant funding for the NFEDP on behalf of the RAO because it serves a vital role for our region and this funding is significant to the NFEDP's sustainability and continued effectiveness.

Notwithstanding the progress that has been made in our region since the original RAO designation, there is still much work to be done to build on the progress to improve the economic development and job growth objectives for this region. Levy County is looking forward to Governor DeSantis Executive Order which will re-designate the region for another 5 years.

Sincerely,

Matt Brooks, Chair
Levy County Board of County Commissioners