

**How Shall We Grow?
Congress of Regional Leaders
Organizational Structure and Purpose**

Represented Counties: Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole and Volusia

Committee Name:

On December 10, 2007, committee members approved a change in the official committee name from the Central Florida Joint Policy Framework Committee to the **“How Shall We Grow?” Congress of Regional Leaders.**

Webster’s Dictionary defines Congress as:

con·gress *n. v.* - [*n.* **kong-gris**; *v.* **kuhn-gres**, *kuhng*-] A formal meeting or assembly of representatives for the discussion, arrangement, or promotion of some matter of common interest.

The “How Shall We Grow?” Congress of Regional Leaders will be guided by the Central Florida Regional Growth Compact, which was developed by the collective efforts of 20,000 Central Florida residents to ensure that the region remains a great place to live, learn, work and play.

Committee Structure:

The committee will include the following 16 members:

- County Chair/Mayor from each of the Seven County Commissions or Councils. If necessary, the Chair/Mayor may designate another commissioner or council member to serve on his/her behalf.
- One City Mayor from each of the seven counties representing all the Mayors within the county.
- Two Representatives of the Central Florida Public School Boards Coalition.

A Chair and Vice Chair will be elected from among the 16 members.

When joining the committee, all new members will be asked to sign a copy of the Central Florida Regional Compact. A list of all elected officials who have served on the committee, and who have signed the regional compact, will be maintained on the *myregion.org* web site.

Committee Purpose:

In July 2007, the representative members of the Central Florida Joint Policy Framework Committee approved and signed the Central Florida Regional Compact and Central Florida Policy Framework on behalf of all cities and counties in Central Florida. These two documents support what matters most to Central Florida residents as identified during the “How Shall We Grow?” campaign to create a Shared Growth Vision for Central Florida.

As part of the Regional Compact, the committee pledged to continue working together to:

- Develop appropriate regional policies;
- Promote understanding and support of the Vision;
- Monitor progress toward the Vision, and;
- Develop a process for updating the Vision to respond to evolving regional trends

Meetings:

The committee will meet four times annually. The 2008 meetings are tentatively scheduled for:

- Friday, February 1, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – noon
- Friday, May 2, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – noon
- Friday, August 1, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – noon
- Friday, November 7, 2008 – 10:00 a.m. – noon

The 2008 meetings will be held at the METROPLAN ORLANDO Offices (315 E. Robinson St., Suite 355, Orlando, FL 32801).

The agenda for each meeting will be developed to focus on the primary missions of the committee to:

- Develop appropriate regional policies;
- Promote understanding and support of the Vision;
- Monitor progress toward the Vision, and;
- Develop a process for updating the Vision to respond to evolving regional trends

Each meeting will also serve as an opportunity for elected officials from across the region to learn about and discuss “best practice” examples on how communities across the region are working toward moving their community from the trend to a shared vision. The meetings will also provide committee members with an opportunity to discuss “hot button” topics with other regional leaders. Members are encouraged to suggest agenda items and potential guest speakers.

Coordinating Organization:

myregion.org will serve as the convening and support organization for the Congress of Regional Leaders.

myregion.org will compile and maintain the list of “best practice” examples occurring across Central Florida and also monitor “best practice” examples from around the state, nation and world.