



**CRITICAL REGIONAL PLANNING MEETINGS BEING HELD, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 2012  
TO DEVELOP THE DEO 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FLORIDA YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL!**

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), which absorbed what is left of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), is conducting a series of regional by-invitation-only meetings to flesh out their 5-Year Strategic Plan. They are tasked with completing by April of this year.

**The 5-Year Strategic Plan is an important document with very significant future consequences (good or bad) for our state.** These meetings will give planning and conservation interests an opportunity to influence the outcome. We will be pushing for much greater recognition for Florida's real economic foundation, our environment.

**Please contact the Regional Planning Council (RPC) in your area to try to secure an invitation.** If you are unable to secure an invitation, we encourage you to submit written comments. Attached is the [meeting schedule](#) (which includes contact information for the RPCs) and [invitation letter](#) received by 1000 Friends of Florida.

**This plan will affect every major ecosystem in Florida.** It is critical that the importance of these ecosystems be firmly ingrained in this plan. We appreciate your support for Florida's quality of life and natural resources.

Please consider "liking" 1000 Friends of Florida on [Facebook](#) and following us on [Twitter](#) to stay informed on critical issues facing our state!