

# Southeast Florida 2060



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*South Florida Regional Business Alliance*

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*Florida Department of Community Affairs*

*Institute for Community Collaboration, Inc.*



*Southeast Florida will be home to 8.5 million people in 2030, 2.4 million more than today<sup>1</sup>.*

*We are the 5th most congested region in the United States, costing us more than \$2 billion dollars each year<sup>2</sup>.*



*Greenhouse gas emissions increased 38% between 1990 and 2004 in Florida<sup>3</sup>. New benchmarks target greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.*

*Hurricanes caused \$35 billion dollars worth of losses during the 2004-5 hurricane season<sup>4</sup> - hurricane frequency and intensity is projected to increase<sup>5</sup>.*

*Rising seas due to global climate change threaten millions of people and businesses along the Southeast Florida coast<sup>6</sup>.*



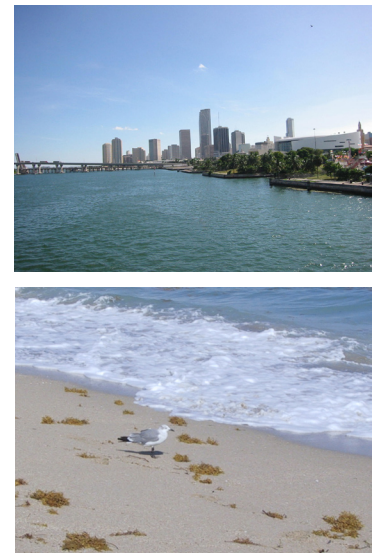
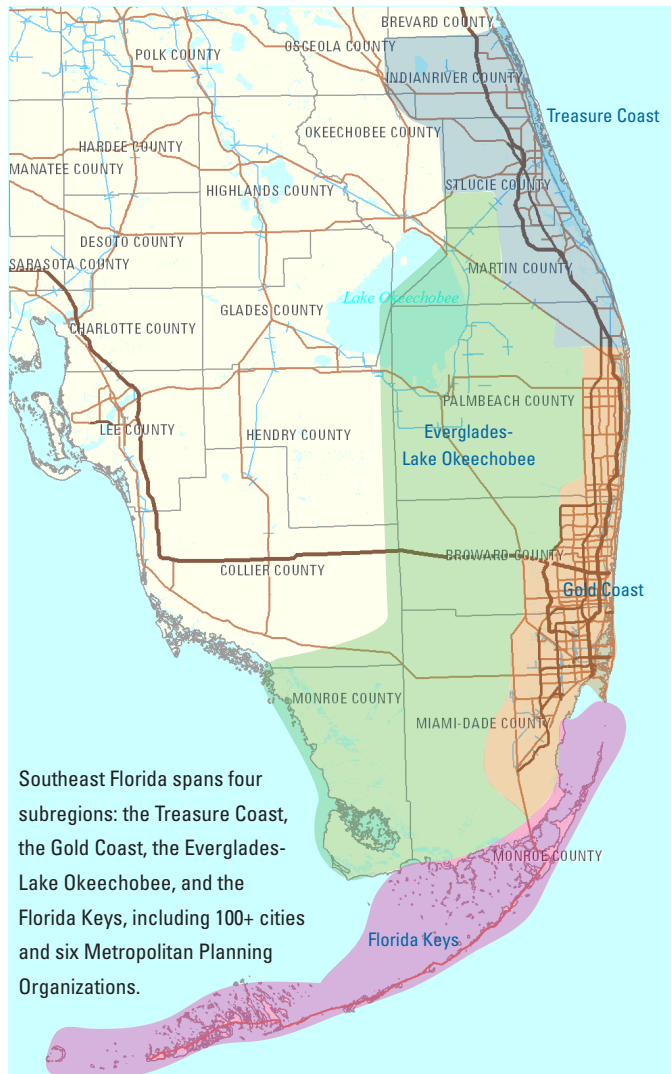
*Fresh water for our communities is limited and projected demand exceeds capacity<sup>7</sup>.*

# Southeast Florida 2060

**S**outheast Florida 2060 is a bold effort to create a long-term vision and strategy for a sustainable Southeast Florida. It will engage the citizens and decision-makers of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River Counties in addressing region-wide challenges, designing a comprehensive vision and plan of action, and setting regional targets to measure the effectiveness of the vision and actions.

Southeast Florida 2060 is founded on the recognition that, like other metropolitan regions across the United States and the world, we compete for jobs, investment, and future prosperity on a global playing field that knows no jurisdictional boundaries. The time is now for our communities to come together and decide how to move forward and address the challenges and opportunities of the coming decades. From Indian River to the Keys, this

complex region is composed of four subregions, hundreds of unique communities, distinct cultures, and one-of-a-kind natural treasures. And while each of these peoples and places possess unique qualities, it is clear that all share an intertwined economic and environmental destiny. We all rely on the same aquifers for water; breathe air that moves freely from place to place, travel daily between and through multiple cities and towns, and share common pools of funding for roads, schools, sewers, and the essentials of our modern lives.



Yet while we are bound by a collective future, our communities continue to approach the challenges and opportunities separately, collaborating only as the exception, not the rule. The shared challenges of the 21st century – sea level rise, shifting demographics, worsening roadway congestion, and limited federal and state funding for infrastructure – require that we step back and create region-wide strategies for accommodating the jobs and people of the coming decades. Fractured decision-making reduces our quality of life and limits access to opportunity.

A forward-looking approach that addresses challenges, maximizes opportunities and propels our communities into the coming decades is necessary. We have an unparalleled opportunity to shape our region and define our legacy. We can experience our future by default, without coordination or an understanding of how each local decision impacts the whole. Or we can choose to design a bold future, investing time and energy now to explore the consequences of different decisions before we commit to them.

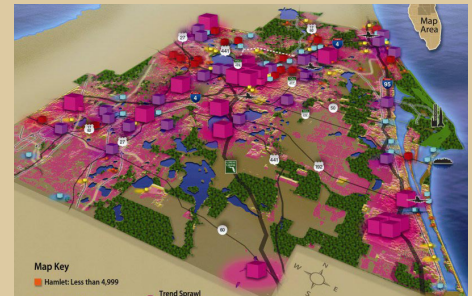


## REGIONALISM ON THE RISE IN FLORIDA AND NORTH AMERICA

Metropolitan regions around the United States and the world have committed time, energy, and fiscal resources into preparing for the future. In Florida, the Orlando metropolitan area recently completed another phase of Florida's first regional visioning project, How Shall We Grow, developing a single set of regional priority goals and actions to address how, where, and in what form the Orlando region should grow over the coming decades. Led by myregion.org—a public-private partnership of government agencies, business interests, and citizens' groups—the process is addressing shared challenges and opportunities through regional collaboration and leadership. It is creating a unified regional agenda with a single vision to secure funding for key regional projects and initiatives.



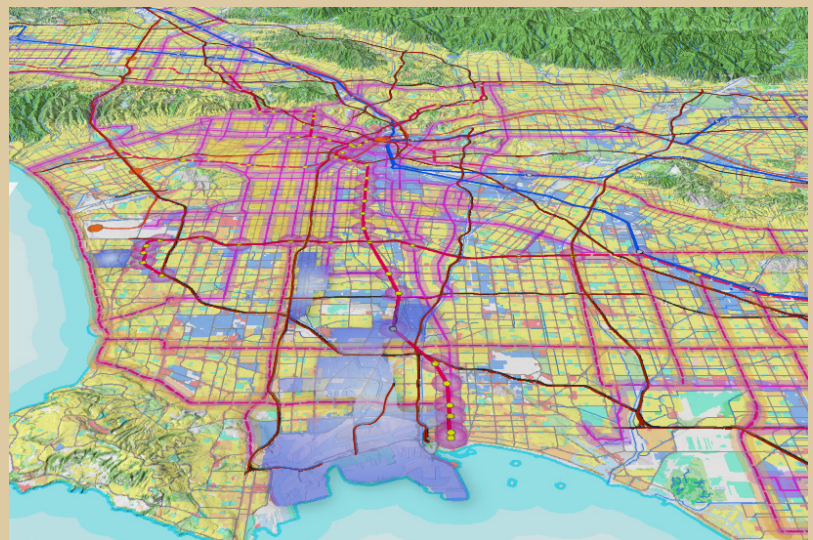
How Shall We Grow Vision Map



How Shall We Grow 2050 Trend Map

The How Shall We Grow (HSWG) process included the creation of several alternative land use and transportation scenarios. The HSWG 2050 Trend Map (above) illustrates what the Orlando regional will look like if current trends continue, and the HSWG Vision Map (left) shows what it could look like if it follows the key themes of the Central Florida Regional Growth Vision. This vision depicts the 4 C's – Conservation, Countryside, Centers, and Corridors.

Other regions around North America including Los Angeles, Toronto, South Louisiana, Austin, Salt Lake City, Portland, Chicago, and the San Francisco Bay Area have developed their own unique visions and plans to address regional challenges. As a result, these regions are now more competitive in securing state and federal funding, and are better poised to outperform their peers on the national and global economic stage. These regions confront a diverse range of common and unique issues, from pollution and traffic congestion in regions such as Los Angeles and Atlanta, to South Louisiana's complex rebuilding and risk management challenges after hurricanes Katrina and Rita.



Extract from the Southern California Compass Vision Map



Southeast Florida 2060 will employ the most advanced public engagement techniques, a broad and impacting media campaign, and the latest technological innovations in planning, to produce a relevant plan and a clear set of actions and policies to move the region towards its vision of the future.

## WHAT WILL SOUTHEAST FLORIDA 2060 ACCOMPLISH?

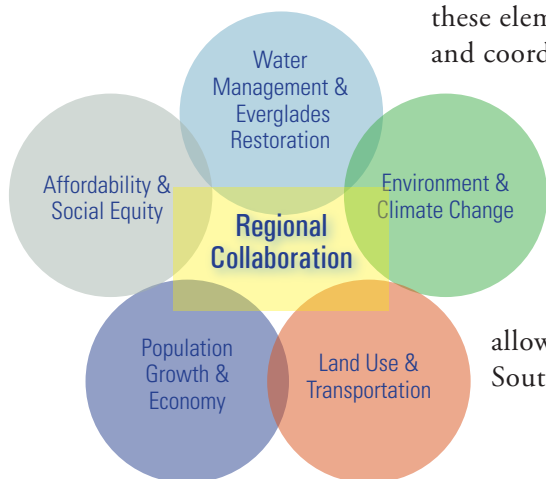
Southeast Florida 2060 will produce a concrete regional Vision and Action Plan that builds upon an existing foundation of planning and policy to create a sustainable and smarter future for the region. The vision will illustrate where Southeast Florida wants to be in 2060, and it will be coupled with a clear set of actions and policies to move the region towards this vision. Southeast Florida 2060 will work towards comprehensive, adaptable solutions to our challenges. Working with local, regional, and state officials, business leaders, urban planners, economists, and Everglades restoration scientists, this collaborative effort will forge partnerships across all levels of government, the non-profit sector, and the business community.

Southeast Florida 2060 will provide a critical framework for evaluating major investment decisions, ensuring that public dollars are moving the region towards its collective vision and stimulating private investment to further regional goals and address shared challenges. Too often, plans disappear in the cloud of inter-agency infighting and jurisdictional competition. This will not be one of those plans. Southeast Florida 2060 will take on the tough issues associated with coordinating federal, state, county, and local investments, and it will engage the many governmental and agency players in developing solutions that work for Southeast Florida.

## ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES FACING SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

Southeast Florida 2060 will develop a unified vision around six interconnected elements: Population Growth & the Economy; Affordability & Social Equity; Water Management & Everglades Restoration; Environment & Climate Change; Land Use & Transportation; and Regional Collaboration.

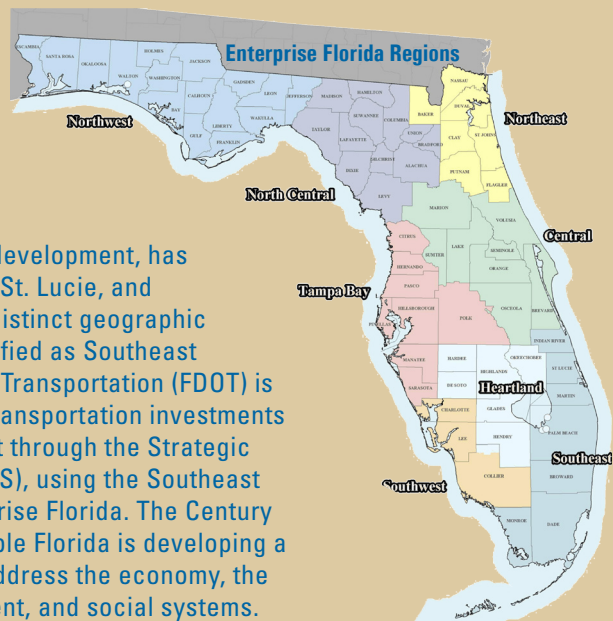
The plan will clearly address the challenges and opportunities within each of these elements, building upon a solid base of planning in Florida and leveraging and coordinating existing policies and planning efforts to develop an effective and achievable regional vision (see inset). Benchmarks will be developed within each of the major elements, setting quantifiable targets by which progress can be evaluated and adjustments made to plans, actions, and policies. Specific indicators, or metrics, will measure progress towards benchmarks. These benchmarks and indicators will allow for a critical assessment of current trends as well as defensible comparisons of alternative scenarios. This will allow citizens and decision makers to make informed decisions about how Southeast Florida should grow over the coming decades.



## A STRONG FOUNDATION

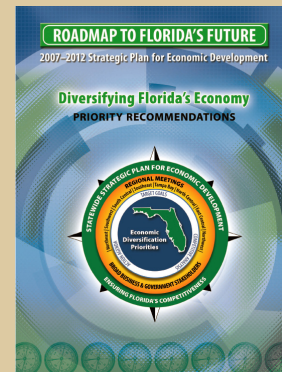
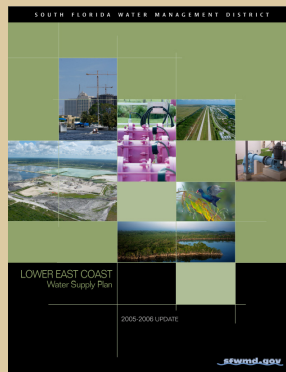
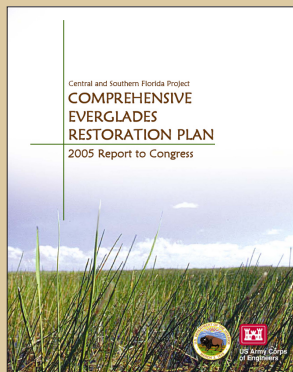
State and regional agencies in Florida are beginning to address macro-regional scale challenges because individual jurisdictions recognize they can no longer address complex issues alone, and state-level solutions do not provide the necessary flexibility or geographic specificity. State organizations are spearheading efforts to coordinate interagency and multi-jurisdictional plans. Enterprise Florida, the state's primary organization devoted to statewide economic development, has designated Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and

Indian River Counties as a distinct geographic and economic region identified as Southeast Region. The Department of Transportation (FDOT) is integrating inter-regional transportation investments and economic development through the Strategic Intermodal System Plan (SIS), using the Southeast Region identified by Enterprise Florida. The Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida is developing a coordinated approach to address the economy, the natural and built environment, and social systems.



In Southeast Florida, the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils (SFRPC and TCRPC) have developed a collaborative approach to policy planning and urban design - the SFRPC shares policy expertise with the TCRPC, which in turn provides urban design services to the SFRPC. And county-level metropolitan planning organizations conduct inter-regional planning and project prioritization through the Southeast Florida and Treasure Coast Transportation Councils. The South Florida Water Management District manages regional water resources across six of the seven counties.

For a more detailed review and critical assessment of planning studies and regional efforts, see Appendix D.



## Key Questions

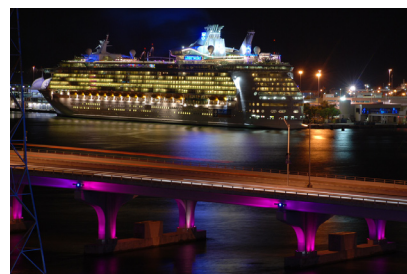
How and where will we grow?

Which industry sectors will define our economy?

### Population Growth & Economy

Population growth is a key factor in many of the challenges facing Southeast Florida – from housing affordability and water supply, to worsening traffic congestion and limited infrastructure funding. The seven-county region houses one-third of Florida’s total population. The current population of 5.9 million is expected to swell by another 2.5 million people by 2030<sup>8</sup>. Much of this growth will be the result of international migration from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe.

The economy of Southeast Florida is expected to continue growing at a pace above the national average. The region’s economy will build on existing strengths such as professional and technical services and the tourism and recreation sectors, while also expanding into emerging sectors such as health care and services, and biotechnology<sup>9</sup>.



## Key Questions

How and where will we provide workforce and affordable housing?

Are there comprehensive steps that can reduce housing, insurance, and transportation costs for all households?

What actions can we take to enhance regional equity?

### Affordability & Social Equity

Affordability is a primary concern in Southeast Florida. Between 2002 and 2005, housing prices rose 77% in South Florida, while average wages rose only 1.4%<sup>10</sup> – most people are no longer able to live near where they work, placing increasing demands on families, household budgets, and the strained roadway system as commute times steadily grow. Unchecked, these trends will persist into the future and further the rising disparity between rich and poor in Southeast Florida.

Affordability is inextricably linked to economic opportunity. The region’s economy is expected to continue growing at a pace above the national average. However, despite steady job creation, attracting higher wage jobs and meeting the educational needs of the global economy remains a challenge. By 2010, aging residents will create a talent shortage estimated to leave 15 of every 100 white collar jobs unfilled<sup>11</sup>. Many current residents do not have the necessary education or skills to compete for these opportunities - Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties lag behind Florida in high school graduation rates, with a significant achievement gap between white and minority communities in all counties<sup>12</sup>.



## Water Management & Everglades Restoration

Southeast Florida is blessed and bound by the waters and resources of the Atlantic to the east, the Everglades to the west, and a rich network of rivers, streams, lakes and marshlands. Sustained economic and population growth are dependent on the long-term viability of these water resources. Fresh water for our communities is limited and projected demand remains



strong. To protect critical water and habitat resources, Congress authorized \$1.375 billion dollars in 2000<sup>13</sup> and another \$2 billion in 2007<sup>13</sup> to facilitate the estimated \$7.1 billion dollar Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)<sup>14</sup>. The plan is focused on restoring the Everglades while providing for other water-related needs within the region. The effort includes

hundreds of individual projects and will be implemented over the next 40+ years<sup>15</sup>. Everglades ecosystem restoration replenishes essential natural systems and protects the water supply for existing and future users.

## Environment & Climate Change

Our changing climate is altering how we must plan for the future of Southeast Florida. Shifting weather patterns, increased hurricane intensity, and rising seas threaten millions of people and businesses along the Southeast Florida coast. Greenhouse gas emissions, a major contributor to global warming, increased 38% between 1990 and 2004—primarily due to an increase in auto and truck travel in the region<sup>16</sup>. Recent Executive Orders signed by Governor Charlie Crist require GHG emissions to be



The image of Miami Beach shows the extent of inundation caused by 1 meter of sea level rise. (Source: Architecture 2030)

reduced to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Climate change jeopardizes Southeast Florida's economy, threatening potential losses in regional citrus, commercial fisheries, and tourism due to projected beach loss. Moreover, the increase in hurricane intensity since the 1970s significantly impacts Southeast Florida. Over

\$35 billion in losses from the devastating 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons<sup>17</sup> led to significant insurance premium increases region-wide<sup>18</sup>.

## Key Questions

What actions can we take to expedite Everglades restoration?

Can we provide water resources to support our future population and economic growth?

## Key Questions

What series of actions comprehensively reduce greenhouse emissions?

Are there steps we can take that will make us safer from future storms?

## Key Questions

How can we reduce future congestion?

What types of transportation systems should we invest in?

Where do we reinvest in our communities?

How do we efficiently use our transportation system to balance goods movement with passenger travel?

### Land Use & Transportation

Southeast Florida's roadways are the 5th most congested among American metropolitan areas<sup>19</sup>. Decades of relatively unconstrained growth along highways and roads has led to longer commutes and a near complete reliance on the automobile for commute, work, household and recreational trips. The Southeast Florida transportation system faces severe capacity constraints. Annual travel delay now exceeds 150 million hours, costing the region over \$2 billion dollars<sup>20</sup>. This congestion and its impact on quality of life, greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, and household transportation costs threatens to strangle the region's long-term economic growth.



Roadway congestion also threatens to impede freight movement. All the major ports utilize the roadway systems and two primary rail corridors to move goods into and out of Southeast Florida.

The constrained geography of Miami-Dade and Broward counties require creative strategies for coordinated reinvestment in existing communities. Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties need realistic approaches for both reinvestment and new growth.

## Key Questions

How can we better align our planning efforts?

How do we strengthen our institutions to better address and adapt to regional challenges?

### Regional Collaboration

While Florida planning efforts continue to progress, there are significant obstacles to addressing and aligning planning across agencies and jurisdictions. These include institutional barriers, such as a lack of authority



to enforce compliance with regional policies, and fragmented planning across multiple agencies. The challenges Southeast Florida faces require collaborative and coordinated solutions to highlighting regional priorities and leveraging political influence to obtain state and federal funding for these initiatives.

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Southeast Florida 2060 will be driven by an ambitious public engagement effort that reflects the region's diversity and has a strong commitment to reaching out to all parts of the community. The region's residents will be directly involved in developing regional vision alternatives, exploring the consequences of different alternatives, and in crafting the policies and actions included in the final vision and action plan. We will not be simply bringing a plan to the people for approval. This will be a plan based on public input and consistent with the needs and desires of the residents of Southeast Florida.

Successful realization of Southeast Florida 2060 Vision will rely on strong support from a cross-section of the region. The project team will work closely with state, regional, and local planners to integrate state, regional, and local priorities into final plans and actions and build organizational support for its implementation. Furthermore, a group of influential citizens, or "Champions," will be organized to build and maintain support for Southeast Florida 2060 throughout the four subregions and in local communities from Key West to Vero Beach. The ongoing involvement of local planners and project Champions will be essential in converting visions and plans into concrete actions.

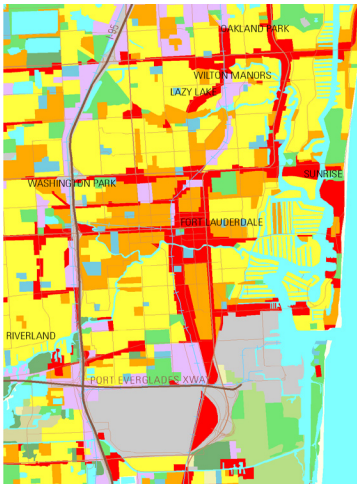


## CASE STUDY: LOUISIANA SPEAKS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan, adopted in May 2007, built on the input of nearly 27,000 Louisianians and stakeholders participating in three distinct phases of public outreach during 2006 and 2007. People from all walks of life were engaged throughout the process with surveys and hands-on workshops, as well as an outreach effort in which people across the state and in diaspora communities learned about choices for the future via radio, TV, newspaper, the Internet, and community meetings. Louisianians weighed in using paper polling forms, the Internet, a toll-free number, and a statistically valid outbound survey. This input reflected a truly representative cross-section of the people that call South Louisiana home.



More than 1,000 stakeholders participated in six hands-on workshops in summer 2006. This input, and more than 100 in-depth phone interviews, provided direction on coastal restoration and protection, growth and transportation, and economic development. The results fed the recovery and development scenarios that helped create the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan.



Southeast Florida 2060 will use sophisticated computer databases and modeling techniques to measure the consequences of alternative futures.

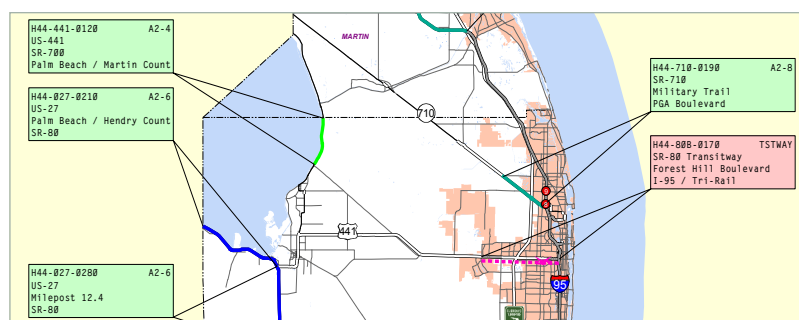
This rich database and library of advanced modeling techniques will be an invaluable resource to communities and organizations across Southeast Florida and will facilitate ongoing regional efforts.

## SCENARIO PLANNING

The Southeast Florida 2060 process relies on cutting-edge scenario-planning techniques. Rather than simply projecting trends into the future and then accommodating them, scenario planning models the differing impacts of policy decisions and investments. By comparing the costs and benefits of future scenarios, the process allows policymakers and the public to make educated decisions about the future.

The planning team will utilize sophisticated computer modeling to test the future impacts of different options for future land-use, transportation systems, restoration strategies, and other planning approaches on Southeast Florida. The scenarios will be analyzed according to a number of measures, including indicators related to roadway congestion, transportation choice, housing choice and affordability, infrastructure cost, water supply, sea rise, and hurricane susceptibility (see inset on scenario modeling for the recent Louisiana Speaks regional planning process).

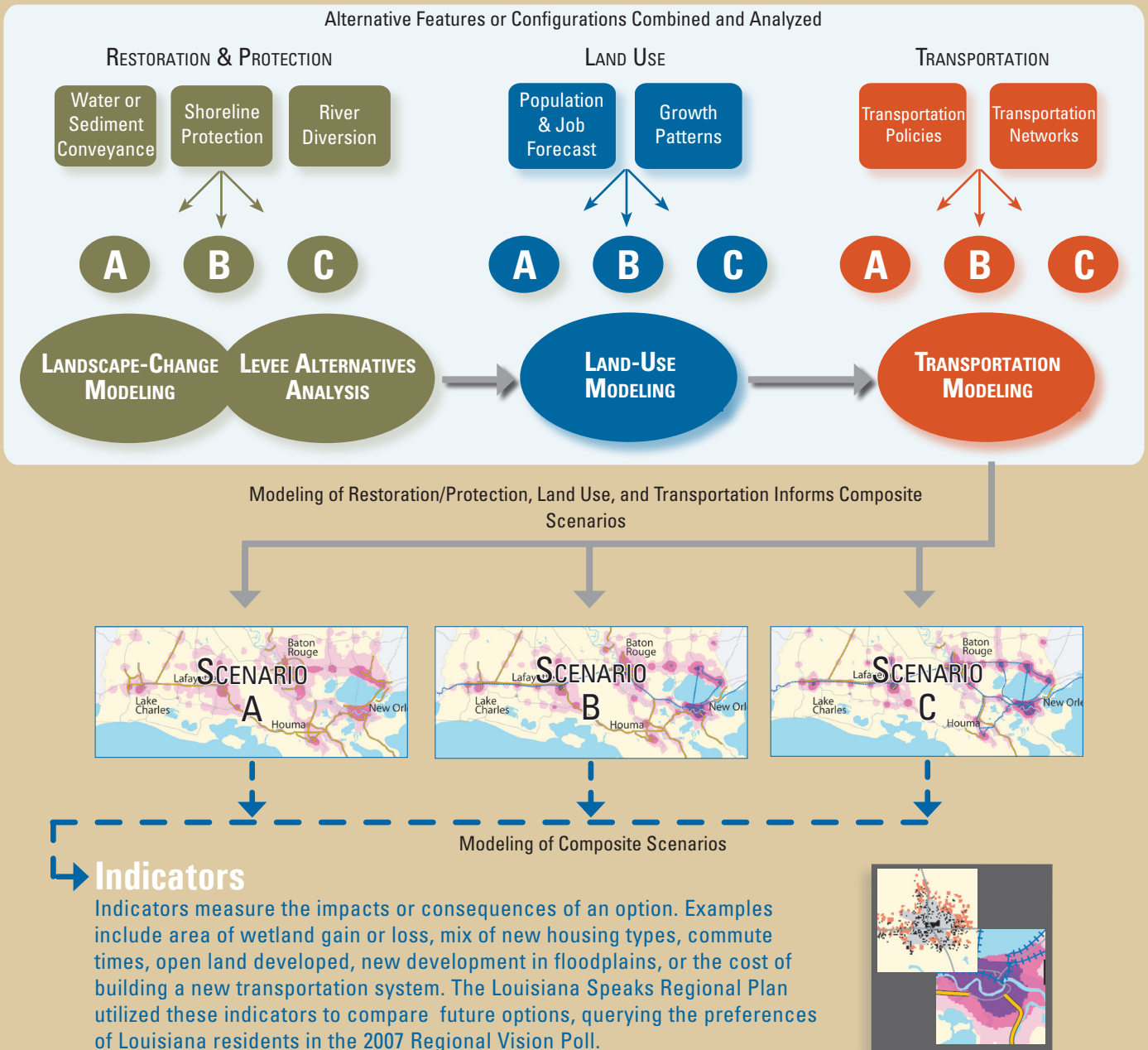
Throughout the Southeast Florida 2060 process, the people of the region will be faced with clear and critical choices about their future, including comparisons between the costs and benefits of different futures. The scenarios will be compared according to their ability to meet benchmarks or targets set by the region in this and other planning and legislative processes. Armed with this tangible data, they will be able to make the meaningful choices that drive the ultimate Southeast Florida 2060 vision.



**Modeling Transportation Impacts In Southeast Florida:** Transportation modeling will play a critical role in Southeast Florida 2060, providing an essential tool to measure the mobility, air quality, and climate impacts of alternative land use scenarios. Southeast Florida 2060 will build on the significant resources available through the Florida Department of Transportation, the Southeast Florida and Treasure Coast Transportation Councils, the Regional Transit Authority, and the metropolitan planning organizations.

## CASE STUDY: MODELING OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE IN SOUTH LOUISIANA

The Louisiana Speaks Regional Planning process utilized computer modeling to test the effects of different land-use, transportation, storm protection, and restoration scenarios for a variety of safety, livability, and transportation indicators. A series of scenarios represent possible futures based on historic patterns, emerging trends, and different policy directions. The following diagram shows some of the key variables and technical models used to develop the scenarios and their modeled consequences.



### SAMPLE INDICATORS

*Open Land Developed*

*New Development in Floodplain*

*Commute Time*

*Housing Mix*

*Annual Household Expenses*

*Highway Congestion*

*Transit Ridership*

*Automobile Emissions*

*Wetland Gain & Loss*

*Infrastructure Costs*

*Housing Density*



## SOUTHEAST FLORIDA 2060 WORK PLAN

The Southeast Florida 2060 work plan details a multi-track process to develop a comprehensive regional Vision and Action Plan. It is organized into three distinct but interrelated tracks:

### Track 1: Early Actions for the Southeast Florida 2060

This track details near-term actions to develop broad based support and the institutional infrastructure for Southeast Florida 2060. Key actions include the creation of a sponsor organization, the formulation of a plan for coordinating the involvement of key agencies, the identification of potential project “champions”, the development of marketing materials, and the creation of a funding plan.

### Track 2: Southeast Florida 2060 Regional Vision and Action Plan

Track 2 encompasses the development of the Regional Vision and Action Plan. Key tasks include data compilation and model development, benchmark and indicator creation, region-wide public workshops, alternative scenario development and modeling, and major public outreach on vision alternatives.

### Track 3: Community Technical Assistance and Demonstration Projects

This track represents an important complement to the Regional Vision and Action Plan developed in Track 2. It focuses on a series of demonstration projects that highlight the principles of smart, sustainable growth. Planning and design services are provided to help support and further community planning efforts and to promote regional strategies “on the ground” by engaging a number of communities in detailed planning and implementation projects. The resulting series of plans and implementation prototypes can be used as models for other communities and can reveal the changes to local, regional, and state development policies that may be necessary in order to create the communities desired by the public.



## NEXT STEPS

Priority near-term actions focus on developing the necessary support and institutional infrastructure to launch and maintain Southeast Florida 2060. A successful project will require early and ongoing support from numerous organizations, leaders, and project champions. As detailed in Track 1 of the project Work Plan, near-term tasks essential to building support for the planning effort include:

### Designate the “Home” Organization for Southeast Florida 2060

This sponsor agency or organization will guide and manage all aspects of the project. Sponsors can range from non-profit public-private partnerships specifically created to sponsor a regional effort (such as that created for the Orlando regional vision) to regional governmental bodies.

### Create a Regional Vision Advisory Committee

This group will supply strategic oversight throughout the planning process, and should include representation from the diverse communities throughout Southeast Florida.

### Identify Vision Champions and Primary Stakeholders

This group of on-the-ground leaders includes influential individuals with proven leadership capabilities from the public, private, and non-profit sectors. They will be essential supporters and advocates for Southeast Florida 2060 and the Actions required to implement the Vision.

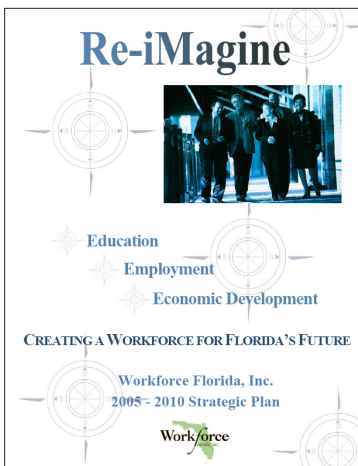
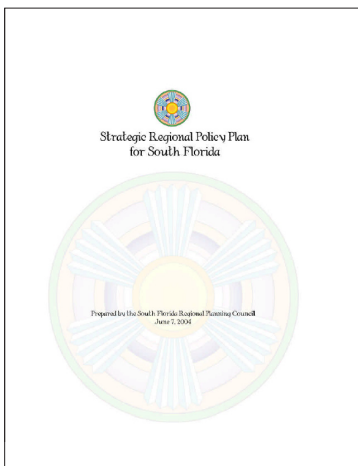
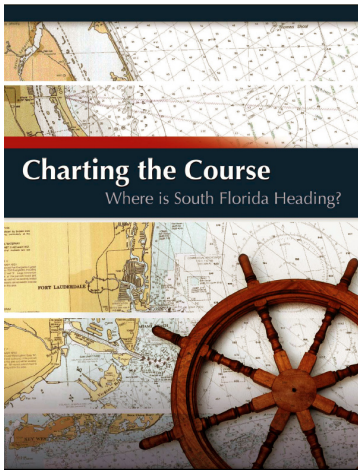
### Create Vision Marketing Package and Branding

A clear and effective marketing strategy is essential to develop and solidify support for Southeast Florida 2060. The package should summarize the project and describe the need for Southeast Florida 2060.

### Identify and Secure Funding Sources for Southeast Florida 2060

A strategy will be developed to fund the many components of the Southeast Florida 2060 process. Potential funders will be identified and a process developed to solicit financial support for the process. Funders can range from government agencies, to private entities, to non-profit organizations and foundations.





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