

**SOUTH FLORIDA BROWNFIELDS PARTNERSHIP
Meeting Summary**

**September 24, 2010
10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

South Florida Regional Planning Council
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021

The following were in attendance:

Partnership Members

Mr. Art Torvela, Brownfields Coordinator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Mr. Earl Hahn, Planning & Zoning Director, City of Lauderhill
Ms. Bettina Rodriguez-Aguilera, Economic Development Coordinator, City of Doral
Mr. Bill Kyrinkakis, Manager, Economic Development, Broward County
Ms. Valerie Amor, Principal/Owner
Mr. Gabino Cuevas, CEO, Cherokee Enterprises, Inc.
Ms. Deborah Storch, Planning & Zoning Director, City of Hialeah
Ms. Janet Peterson, Senior Project Manager, Bureau Veritas
Ms. Arlene Hampton, Director, Business & International Tools, City of Hollywood
Mr. Bob Daniels, Community Development Director, City of Dania Beach
Ms. Nadia Locke, Senior Engineer, E Sciences

On the Phone:

Ms. Kim Walker, Florida Brownfields Liaison, DEP
Barbara Lenczewski, Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
Sheri Coven, DCA

Staff

Mr. Bob Cambric
Ms. Cheryl Cook
Ms. Karen Hamilton
Ms. Rachel Kalin
Ms. Isabel Moreno
Mr. Eric Swanson
Ms. Z. Jeanne Tan

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:

Mr. Bob Cambric of Council staff gave a brief overview on Eastward Ho! the Partnership and the Brownfield Program.. The South Florida Regional Planning Council (*SFRPC*) was the first agency in Florida to receive grants for Brownfields Redevelopment Activity.

UPDATE OF LOCAL BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES:

Ms. Cheryl Cook, Economic Development Specialist, gave a status update on the Brownfield Revolving Loan Program. The recipients were Dedicated Transportation, Executive Trust and Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). Dedicated Transportation is the only loan that has been paid in full. The other two loans are still active. Mr. Art Torvela, Brownfields Coordinator, DEP Southeast District, spoke about the West Palm Beach areas' clean-up efforts.

UPDATE OF 2010 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES AND FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS:

Ms. Kim Walker, Florida Brownfields Liaison, DEP discussed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding opportunities. She stated that EPA grants were due October 15th, 2010 and that letters of acknowledgement are required from DEP before the deadline. EPA Region IV is hosting a grants webinar on September 28, 2010. Ms. Walker also discussed the differences between state and federal Brownfields programs. Ms. Walker noted the tax credit program provides \$2 million per year, but presently owed \$7.2 million in tax credits.

Ms. Walker suggested contacting Mr. Greg Vaday, Economic Development Coordinator of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, who has successfully received EPA grants. Ms. Walker asked to be contacted, to be placed on her email list. Her contact information is kim.walker@dep.state.fl.us

Janet Peterson of Buerau Veritas, indicated the Florida Brownfields Association would be approaching the Legislature to request a change in the funding level for the tax credit program. Ms. Peterson also noted the Association was seeking ideas for alternative ways to fund the tax credit program.

RENEWABLE ENERGY REUSE OPTIONS FOR BROWNFIELDS SITES IN SOUTH FLORIDA:

Mr. Michael Goldstein Esq, Contaminated Lands Practice, Akerman Senterfitt was scheduled to speak about renewable energy reuse options for Brownfields in South Florida; however he was not in attendance. Janet Peterson gave a brief synopsis of Mr. Goldstein's presentation. Ms Peterson also discussed EPA's "Brownfields to Brightfields" program. Renewable energy is increasingly being incorporated into Brownfield projects. Ms. Arlene Hampton, Director of Business and International Tools for the City of Hollywood discussed the potential for including renewable energy production in a Brownfield site on Park Road South.

OPPORTUNITIES TO REACTIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Ms. Karen Hamilton, the Council's Brownfield Coordinator, acknowledged the lull in Brownfield activities in the past few years. It was determined that meetings will be held quarterly and that Partnership agreements will be updated. Members noted they would like training sessions to be available at future meetings. The Florida Brownfields Association Conference is another opportunity to receive training on various aspects of Brownfields Redevelopment. The conference will be held November 14-17, 2010, at the Jacksonville Omni Hotel. Ms. Peterson gave an update on Florida Brownfields Association activities.

BROWNFIELDS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Ms. Hamilton also discussed the following Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding opportunities.

- Revolving Loan Funds
- Job Training Grants
- Site Specific Clean Up Grants
- Assessment Grants

There was a brief discussion as to which type of assessment grant would be most useful. It was decided to apply for the Community-Wide Assessment Grant and to allocate \$200,000.00 for petroleum and \$200,000.00 for hazardous waste.

MEMBER AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Municipal representatives from Doral, Lauderhill, Hialeah and Dania Beach discussed their experiences with Brownfield Redevelopment activities.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meetings

Meetings will be held on a quarterly basis starting in 2011.