## JOINT MEETING OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AND TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

#### **Draft Minutes**

#### October 18, 2013

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC), the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) and the Executive Committee of the Seven50 Project met on this date at the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum, 300 Gulf Stream Way, Dania Beach, FL 33004. The Chair of the SFRPC, Paul Wallace, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

## AGENDA ITEM ONE: Pledge of Allegiance

SFRPC Chair Paul Wallace welcomed the members of the SFRPC, the TCRPC, and Seven50 Executive Committee. Broward County Commissioner Suzanne Gunzburger led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **AGENDA ITEM TWO: Roll Call**

The following Members were in attendance:

Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council:

Jerome Adams, Councilmember, City of Sebastian

Joni Brinkman, Councilmember, Village of Palm Springs

Michael Davis, Palm Beach County Gubernatorial Appointee and Seven50 Executive Committee

JoAnn Faiella, Mayor, City of Port St. Lucie

Samuel Ferreri, Mayor, City of Greenacres and Seven50 Executive Committee

Ed Fielding, Martin County Commissioner and Seven50 Executive Committee

John Haddox, Martin County Commissioner

Alejandra Matos, Aide to Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky, St. Lucie County

Peter O'Bryan, TCRPC Chair, Indian River County Commissioner and Seven50

**Executive Committee** 

Reece Parrish, St. Lucie County Gubernatorial Appointee

Doug Smith, Martin County Commissioner

Bob Solari, Indian River County Commissioner

Priscilla Taylor, Palm Beach County Commissioner and Seven50 Executive

Committee

Steven Weaver, Sr., St. Lucie County Gubernatorial Appointee

Ex-Officio members present:

Kathy LaMartina, South Florida Water Management District Lynda Westin, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

## South Florida Regional Planning Council:

Frank Caplan, Mayor, Key Biscayne

Heather Carruthers, Monroe County Commissioner and Seven50 Executive Committee

Martin Kiar, Broward County Commissioner, (via phone)

Jean Monestime, Miami-Dade County Commissioner and Seven50 Executive Committee

Stacey Ritter, Broward County Commissioner

Xavier Suarez, Miami-Dade County Commissioner

Paul Wallace, Chair, Hinshaw & Culberson, LLC, Miami-Dade County Governor Appointee

Sandra Walters, Sandra Walters Consultants, Inc., Monroe County Governor Appointee

Ex-Officio members present:

Aileen Boucle, Florida Department of Transportation, District VI Laura Corry, South Florida Water Management District

## Seven50 Executive Committee (Non RPC Members):

Art Cobb, Richard Publications

Carla Coleman, Urban Land Institute

Sara Fain, Everglades Law Center

Suzanne Gunzburger, Broward County Commissioner

Susan O'Rourke, Susan O'Rourke Engineering, Inc.

Steve Sauls, Florida International University

Kelly Smallridge, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County (via phone)

Norman Taylor, Norman Taylor & Associates, LLC

Ramon Trias, AICP, City of Coral Gables, Planning and Zoning

Carlos Vidueira, Vice-President of Rybovich, Inc.

James Wolfe, Florida Department of Transportation, District IV Secretary

Dr. Edwin Massey, President Indian River State College (via phone)

SFRPC Chair Wallace stated that this meeting was an important gathering and thanked everyone for their participation.

## AGENDA ITEM THREE: Approval of Agenda

SFRPC Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Norman Taylor seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Joint Council Meeting Summaries – January 18 & April 7, 2008 Approval carried by a unanimous consent.

# AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Introductions of Councilmembers, Seven50 Executive Committee Members and Other Elected and Appointed Officials

SFRPC Chair Wallace introduced Mr. Blake Guillory, Executive Director of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Mr. Guillory gave details on his personal, educational, and business background. He stated he understands the Region's water resource challenges and described the boundaries of the SFWMD as well as the budget, staff and offices. He stated and highlighted the priorities and projects at the SFWMD. He explained his desire to strengthen the relationships and partnerships with local governments. Mr. Guillory stated the regional planning task is very difficult and that regional problems require regional solutions and regional solutions require leadership and compromise. He stated water is a regional problem: stormwater, flood control, water quality, water supply, etc. and does not have political boundaries. He stated the SFWMD understands the regional challenges. He explained that the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) was one of the largest restoration projects in the world and that this multi-component, multi-year, multi-billion dollar plan is the result of compromises with multiple benefits. He reminded those present that CERP continues to be effective because of its adaptive nature. He was thankful for the invitation to speak and was available to answer any questions.

SFRPC Chair Wallace handed the gavel to TCRPC Chair Peter O'Bryan. Chair O'Bryan welcomed everyone. He stated he was excited about the work that was done on the Seven50 Project and that the initial rough draft of the Seven50 Prosperity Plan will be reviewed today. He stated this effort is to produce the best Plan and focus on our efforts moving forward, and he welcomed all comments.

## AGENDA ITEM SIX: Presentation on Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan

TCRPC Chair O'Bryan introduced Marcela Camblor, Seven50 Project Director. Ms. Camblor acknowledged the Partnership Members especially Isabel Cosio Carballo from the SFRPC. She then proceeded to explain the timeline of the Project. She explained how the data was gathered to create the Seven50 Plan. She clarified that the Plan is a draft and that the input from this point forward will be reviewed for the Final Plan. Ms.

Camblor asked everyone to make comments on the Plan today as well as via <a href="https://www.Seven50.org">www.Seven50.org</a>. She thanked the Executive Committee for their continuing cooperation, attendance and reviewing all the various types of information gathered. She explained that the Executive Committee represents all the county governments as well as civic, public and private organizations from Key West to Sebastian. Ms. Camblor introduced Victor Dover from Dover Kohl Partners.

Mr. Dover stated there were many participants involved in the Plan: the Executive Committee, citizens, staff and consultant teams. He explained that the day-to-day work was prepared by Jason King, Project Director at Dover Kohl. Mr. Dover stated this Project is a data driven process and explained the process of creating the draft Plan: formatting, data, informational graphics, companion documents, links, etc. Mr. Dover stated in looking at the other Super Regions around the country and abroad, in our country, our Region is first. He stated this Region is the only Super Region in the United States where exports are bigger than imports and is at the top of the list on tourism. He explained the various trends, both positive and those trends that could be improved. Mr. Dover explained in detail the process, the four scenario models and the Summary Chart. He acknowledged Dr. Robert Burchell, Rutgers University, who helped develop the trend scenario and forecast alternatives that could unfold. He explained the Seven-County data warehouse. Mr. Dover introduced Jason King.

Mr. King explained two sections of the Plan: the Today Section and the Tomorrow Section. He explained the various parts of the Tomorrow Section had the same distinctions that were prepared for the different support/work groups, Summits and Workshops. He identified the distinctions: Growing Economy, Livable Region, Celebrating Arts and Culture, Evaluating the Environment, Adaptation Mitigation and Regional Leadership. He stated this Plan describes the scale of the Region to the scale of local municipalities. He stated that in the Growing Economy and Education areas, the Plan includes career pathways that are the coupling of our educational systems; shared workspaces and regional economic develop assistance groups. He stated that included in the Economic Development portion of the Plan is the Quality of Life and used the example of the Miami Beach investment that was an infrastructure investment that exemplifies the Quality of Life Element. He stated that the Plan talks about the next generation, transit oriented development and great streets, and considers the arts as a critical part of our economy. He spoke about saving the farmlands of the northern counties, water farming, and investment in the Everglades. Mr. King described the Adaptation and Mitigation Section and the two approaches. He stated the biggest consensus issues and tools are part of the Plan. He stated that the Seven50 Prosperity Plan will become available to all the municipalities throughout the Region.

Ms. Camblor stated Seven50 emphasizes the question of who is in charge and the answer is no one group. She clarified that there are over 100 municipalities and counties and that the local decisions will remain at the local level. She stated there are many individual organizations involved in this process and each one will probably have an important role and she hopes that by the end of this process they will start to understand the roles we play. She stated there are three key points that this Plan aims to provide: 1) identifying those trends; 2) taking advantage of those upward trends and making sure the proper tools are available; and, 3) accountability. Ms. Camblor reminded everyone that the Final Summit will be held on January 15, 2014, at the Broward Convention Center.

TCRPC Chair O'Bryan thanked Ms. Camblor, Mr. King, and Mr. Dover for the completion of the Draft Plan and opened the floor for comments.

Carla Coleman, Executive Director of the Urban Land Institute Southeast Florida/Caribbean (ULI), recognized the ULI Regional Leadership Chair Marc Kopelman and Immediate Past Infrastructure Chair David Orshefsky. She stated their committees contributed greatly, including information for the Plan. She stated that the Draft Plan will be reviewed by ULI's broader membership and hopes to have more comments by the November 2013 Executive Committee Meeting. She then explained that ULI is a not-for-profit land use and redevelopment think tank that has been around for 75 years and it is international in scope but most members are in the United States. She stated the District Council in Southeast Florida has 700 members. She explained that the members are planners, architects, engineers, developers, real estate financiers from both the public and private sides, they do not lobby, and ULI is an organization that develops best practices on building and maintaining thriving, sustainable communities.

Sara Fain, Senior Staff Counsel for the Everglades Law Center stated that it is an honor to be part of the Executive Committee for the past years working with incredible people. She stated that as the one voice representing the environmental community it has been exciting to see how the final plan shows consideration for our natural resources and the importance of the Everglades that is recognized in terms of the services it provides and the quality of life.

Ramon Trias, AICP, Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Coral Gables, stated he has been working on this project for about four years. He stated his preference and recommendation are that all the information be placed into one document as a reference and that this information is valuable for all of us.

Susan O'Rourke, President/Traffic Engineer of Susan E. O'Rourke, PE, Inc. stated she has read the document numerous times and wanted to clarify that she has been part of the Executive Committee and has enjoyed working with the Committee Members and the staff. She stated that as an Executive Committee Member she wanted to state for the record she feels there is a little bit of misrepresentation. She stated she feels the document has a bit of a negative view of the world today. She stated they were presented with the business side of the document but it does not have many tools for enhancing a business opportunity or providing opportunities for employment. She stated she liked the creative class and arts and culture but that the nine indicators provided in the scenario plan were not necessarily the nine indicators of the Executive Committee. She stated it is important to have a business plan, whether it is a pass through or not, and that costs need to be reflected in the Plan. She wanted to make sure that there are hub indicators as opposed to indicators of the people of the community. Ms. O'Rourke stated there are regional issues that are critical, like transportation and water issues, and sharing information across valleys is very important. She stated that the document is biased regarding the section on the lack of unions being the reason the middle class is failing and this should be stricken from the document. She commented there is a section on food and energy supply sustainability within the Region; she does not think we need to supply the seven counties. She also does not think that the mix of energy should be part of the document since it was not discussed at length. Ms. O'Rourke stated there are too many issues in the Plan that seems to take away from the issues that are important and should be focused on. She stated these tools are available as a resource versus a mandate.

Indian River County Commissioner Bob Solari stated his comments regarding agriculture. He stated the Plan includes design and preserving agriculture on one hand but also notes that the gross domestic product per person is low in the Region. He commented the Plan stated that the average wage in agriculture is very low and should preserve a low wage activity but another part of the Plan states that wages should be increased in the Region. Commissioner Solari stated because of the complexity of the Plan there may be a lot of areas like this that will have to be worked out and should be discussed openly a number of times.

Dr. Ed Massey, President of Indian River State College, commented that this is a good Plan with just a few issues. He suggested the Region's colleges and universities be included along with their available resources. He stated that in the Leadership portion of the document some of the technology used by the presenter should be inserted as to include opportunities for local involvement.

James Wolfe, Secretary of Florida Department of Transportation's District IV, remarked about the huge effort of this visioning process and the data that is provided. He

commented on the population growth and that 98% of our population is in passenger cars heading to work. He stated these numbers will not add up to maintain mobility and that the major urban areas cannot possibly add 50% more roads in the next 50 years. He commented that if one takes those numbers and project declining mobility for our Region with quality of life issues, then the vision that any of us want for the Region cannot be achieved. He stated this could be achievable with changes in land use by acquiring higher density in areas that can be served by mass transit and then provide that premium mass transit at a level that is affordable. He stated that there are not enough resources for that. He stated we need to recognize what the vision is that we want, what are the challenges that we need to overcome to achieve that vision or in fact stay on the same course and that course is declining quality of life and loss of mobility. He commented that we need to go in a different direction and with the leadership to make that happen.

Carlos Vidueira, Vice-President of Rybovich, Inc., stated that by far the most important aspect of participating on the Seven50 Executive Committee was sitting at the table with people who will influence the future. He stated the amount of data, scientific data, and opinions that have been collected will speak for themselves and people will render their opinions. He stated the facts will speak for themselves and that certain strategies are not going to be viable to everyone.

Eileen Boucle, Intermodal Systems Planning Administrator for Florida Department of Transportation's District VI, stated there should be a more balanced mobility in transportation.

Key Biscayne Mayor Frank Caplan stated that in the realm of the toolkit that includes the incredible amount of data, the variety and diversity of leadership that is represented in this room are important tools. He stated another important tool is to be true to what we think regionally and how to be more effective nationally. He stated the kind of image of Miami Beach, the incredible investment and quality of the coastal communities and their fragility causes him to observe that the reliance, when the most conservative sea level rise (SLR) data may not be by itself, the best possible approach. He has been on a few panels regarding SLR and if the consequences of those predictions are to be accepted recognizing that nobody has a crystal ball, the four scenarios will not be reasonably expressed. To be too dire and too negative is to maybe inadvertently create negative consequences among the marketing value.

Sandra Walters, President of Sandra Walters Consultants, Inc. commented the SLR data needs to be reevaluated. She stated that with the different perspectives coming together in discussion, her main concern is ensuring that we are realistic in moving forward; you see the changes that can affect those of us who are trying to valiantly employ more

people in our businesses but cannot afford to because there is not a good enough picture of where our economy is going and so the practical next steps are going to be important. She stated that the ties that are related to this process will somehow find the funding to allow this process to continue; one specific item that has not been incorporated into the economic analysis in this Plan is Congress' decision on the National Flood Insurance Program and the phenomenal devaluing of coastal property that is happening as a result. She stated that this is something that should be researched and those numbers should be incorporated into the economic analysis in this Plan.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Jean Monestime inquired about how much of this information will be used by the policy makers or private enterprise. He stated there is too much emphasis on the private sector's responsibilities. He thinks the biggest issues will be mobility and land use.

Monroe County Commissioner Heather Carruthers stated a lot of work has gone into this document and suggested a more manageable document to be able to share its contents with those who have not been involved in this process. She stated what she has not really seen is the vision or the individual identity of each county as it relates to the Region in the document. She stated every county is not going to have the same role in achieving this vision and every county will not have the same role in our prosperity and aspects of the economy. She thinks more attention should be given to the individual characteristics that create diversity and how diversity plays into the overall regional picture. She stated that she would like to see more specifics or tactics: what specifically does one do from a private sector and from a policy maker position to ensure that there are more walkable neighborhoods; what kinds of things can be done to ensure that you can increase density in certain parameters? She stated that this should be part of the document. She stated that the hospitality and service industry is not an industry that pays high wages, so how does one reconcile increasing those wages if that is what is needed with that aspect of our companies. She stated this does not seem to be addressed in the document. She commented on the Flood Insurance Bill and the ability to stay in our neighborhoods. She stated she would like to see a more focused section on the views of national policies that impact us and how to change it at a federal level.

Broward County Commissioner Stacey Ritter thanked everybody who spent their time and worked on this document. She hopes that the final copy will be a more manageable document. She stated in South Florida the mind set is to use your personal car because for some there is no other alternative. She stated if this document is to be implemented it should begin with the leadership and communicate with our constituents how to make this brighter future a reality.

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel for the SFRPC, stated for the record that the Committee was extremely conscious of and interested in complying with the Sunshine Law, Florida Public Records Law, and in the context of how the Plan was published.

SFRPC Executive Director James F. Murley thanked both RPCs' staff, and particularly the SFRPC staff who were instrumental in getting the grant and attracting other funds since the grant was received.

SFRPC Chair Paul Wallace stated that he has been part of the SFRPC since 2004 but is not part of another governmental entity, although he does know the roles of elected officials. He stated that from his outsider point of view, the government is to serve the people not the opposite way. He stated that the problems that need to be dealt with are regional. He stated he understands the position that governmental entities have regarding their loss of individuality. He stated the Plan is great in its research and identification of our issues without really addressing the issue, which is to bring about regional coordination. He stated there should be one entity in charge of regional coordination for transportation, planning, economic development and sea level issue, not an agency per county making decisions (one DOT Office, one Metropolitan Planning Organization, and one entity for economic development for all of South Florida). He stated the thought of each county planning independently without reference to neighboring communities is something that cannot be afforded. He stated that this would take the coordination of all the counties and should be put forth in a legislative program in the Florida Legislature to make some of these things come about and there are people in this room and those represented that can stand behind this.

TCRPC Chair Peter O'Bryan stated today's comments solidify for him why Indian River County should be part of this regional plan. He stated Jason King's graph of great ideas depicts that each local municipality can become involved and decide if they want to implement this or not. He stated the toolkit is a great resource and each local body can make the decision on implementing these ideas. He stated that regional problems require regional solutions and regional leadership. He stated that in regards to Indian River County being involved with Miami-Dade and Broward Counties Lake Okeechobee is an example. He stated Lake Okeechobee discharges include Miami-Dade and Broward Counties and that Lake Okeechobee is impacted by the runoff; this all ties in and in a regional way we may not share everything with the bigger counties to the south but we are connected to them. He stated that Lake Okeechobee, transportation, and other issues need to be worked on as a Region. He stated the draft has a mix of individual housing options and explained some of them. He stated transportation is a huge issue and more transportation options are needed. He explained that the counties have different issues: expanding roadways to keep up with growth and those counties that are out roadways and need alternative solutions. He stated South Florida has to

figure out if we continue with the Level of Service (LOS) that we have or do have a mix of uses at the same time that allow people the ability to drive their car when they need to. There will come a day when we cannot afford the LOS that we want. TCRPC Chair O'Bryan stated that there is a big push in communities to recommend the letter A (Art) be added to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) concept. He stated the focus was on the STEM because this is where the jobs and employment are. He thinks that "the arts" function very well as an elective in the schools and his recommendation is to leave STEM as STEM and not have arts as a required curriculum to graduate from high school.

TCRPC Executive Director Michael Busha questioned who the Plan is for and its implementation: whether there are initiatives that can be prepared by citizens, the private sector, working in partnerships or individually with local elected officials, the governments and state agencies. He stated every action leads us toward that preferred scenario or parts of that scenario, whether it is increased transportation mobility, supporting the old economy, agriculture, tourism, construction, etc. He stated the list needs to reflect the ideas that are in the Plan but also are manageable for groups that want to get together, such as citizens from different groups. He stated the way to shape federal policy, as well as, state, and local policy is by working together. He stated that the ideas need to be prioritized and possibly addressed in an Executive Summary and then match the ideas on the list. He stated he is proud to be part of this effort and it has been a long time to get to this point; he believes that by working together we are much stronger as a Region. He encouraged everyone to be patient because the instructions in the Plan will be clearer about how everyone can participate and make this Region much stronger than it is today.

TCRPC Legal Counsel, Roger Saberon, did not have any comment on the substance of the document. He stated the he and SFRPC Legal Counsel, Mr. Goren, had conversed during this timeframe in regards to Sunshine Law and Public Records matters.

Michael Busha clarified that the SFRPC and the TCRPC began meeting in 2008. He stated this concept started with the Southeast Florida 2060, and before that there were other organizations along with the RPCs that participated in similar projects. He clarified that in the past there was a lack of funding to gather the data necessary for collection and the public processing to make this project successful. It was explained that this Region is one of the four largest grantees of the U. S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Initiatives Grant. This group spent 2011 through 2013 processing data and this is the first draft. Once the grant was awarded, those involved had to start from scratch with staff, Executive Committee, rules of operation, By-laws, having representatives from all seven counties, diversities of different backgrounds and have meetings every three months. He stated that this is a

huge project and credited Victor Dover and his group for doing a phenomenal amount of work in a short period of time.

City of Port St. Lucie Mayor JoAnn Faiella noticed that there was a lack of St. Lucie County representation and their comments. She stated she is for regionalized communication but stated that what works for one city may not work for another city, such as in transportation. She stated improved regional lines of communication are needed with DOT and the Army Corps of Engineers. She stated sometimes it is not about regionalizing but what works for the State. She stated that she is not supportive of the draft.

City of Sebastian Councilmember Jerome Adams reserved his comments until he reads the draft.

Palm Beach County Commissioner Priscilla Taylor stated this is great resource as a regional document but has concerns that some ideas can be used in one area but not necessarily relate in another area. She commented on transportation congestion in the South Florida Region and how it could be improved.

Michael Davis, Palm Beach County Gubernatorial Appointee congratulated the staff and the consultants for their hard work in putting the Draft Plan together. He stated it is clear that this document is voluntary and that each community can keep its identity. He commented the document lays out the value of regional planning, talks about the issues and the choices and tools that can be used. He stated it should be clear that the transportation problems will not be solved around individual cities or that the problems of the estuary cannot be solved by the City of Stuart or Orlando or Miami-Dade County but it could be solved at a regional level. He referenced Secretary Wolfe's comment that we are not going to build our way out and something needs to be done regionally. He stated this document gives us the opportunity to have a regional plan through the support of the federal government to shape our future.

City of Greenacres Mayor Samuel J. Ferreri thanked the staff and the consultants. He stated he does not see the draft as a plan but as a resource, a tool box with solutions. He stated there are a lot of regional resources, such as roads, water, and drainage that cannot be solved within our individual boundaries and that we have to look outside of our boundaries. He thinks there are opportunities with the data and resources that will allow all groups, government agencies or private groups to come to the table with the facts and the problems that can be solved. He suggested a preamble to talk about the diversity of this region and that this is not a regional plan everybody has to follow; the pieces are tools you can adopt. He stated another needed issue is more examples of solutions.

Steve Sauls, Vice President of Governmental Relations for Florida International University, stated his focus is on the future. He stated that over the recent years he has been participating in a group called CEOs for Cities. He explained this is not a group of governors, state superintendents, mayors or university presidents; it is a group of community coalitionists who are trying to figure out what to do with the new norm. He stated CEOs for Cities says that to have a successful region you have to have a good transportation network, good educational systems and prospects for new jobs. He stated that maybe we should focus on what those things are and what are doing about them. He thinks by putting out there means it is important and it is important for people to work together. He thinks another key issue is regional leadership; we need to focus on what the Region is about and then how we encourage and foster leadership to accomplish those goals. He explained his involvement in high-speed rail and the cooperation with the private sector in terms of a vision. He stated he loves the group but thinks the conversation is critically important and he hopes we continue to figure out how to sustain that.

Broward County Commissioner Suzanne Gunzburger thanked the consultants, all the staff, and all of those who stuck with this from the very beginning and continue to participate in the process. She commented there are a lot of names on the Executive Committee that she has never seen at a meeting nor know who they are, which is unfortunate because the more that participate, the more that team is appreciated. She suggested the draft Plan should be distributed to the planners and developers because they are the ones who help shape what the future looks like and if they are not participating in the process, they don't feel any ownership in the final product. She thinks this is something that may be lacking. She disagrees with Commissioner O'Bryan regarding the arts in the schools. She stated if the arts are not in the schools and art has never been a part of a student's upbringing, then they are not exposed to something they never knew and could discover that they really love it. She referenced that as an educator, she knows some students who have a hard time in reading or math can find themselves successful in the arts and it changes their self image and the way they perform in school. She thinks it is essential that we have some arts programs in the schools and arts do mean business. She stated they employ a lot of people in all of our areas and it does enrich the quality of life. She stated the tourists come for the art festivals and concerts and a lot of big business executives look to see what arts are available in community. She loves the idea of STEAM. She stated she has not heard affordable housing mentioned a lot and that this is something difficult that needs some solutions. She stated that the South Florida Region has the greatest disparity for people, their incomes and the cost for housing and transportation. She thinks there should be more emphasis on finding housing solutions to help solve our homeless problems. She

agrees that the draft Plan is more of a blueprint for the future and you take from it what you can use and don't use that which doesn't work for your community.

Martin County Commissioner Doug Smith stated he grew up with an "arts" background. He stated that he wouldn't be at this table with his creative abilities and talents without it. He stated that the Region transcends the arts as a talent of the world that people bring to inception. He stated a lot of discussion involved is on where we are today. He stated he has been involved with the RPCs and has been working with them since 2000; he noted the collective talent that sits around this table and the mixture of people that we get to work with on a regular basis amazes him. He stated he had the opportunity to be former President of the Florida Association of Counties and the ability to work with County Commissioners from all over the state and elected officials of all different polls. He stated that a lot you have touched on are examples that are relevant to our current discussion. He summarized his involvement with the Everglades Restoration Process and the importance and need of having every entity involved at the table to move forward. He stated this project has matured and grown and was at Congress two weeks ago and has an incredible voice of 16 counties working together toward a common goal and purpose. He stated if we all put our heads together, set aside our personal differences and look at what is best for all of us, we can start to move things. He stated there is no reason why the influence of this Region should not be an influence in both the state and federal government because our system requires us to do our part; we should be at that table and have a collective strategy on what we all want. He commented that with the influx of people coming to our Region in the future, how do we ensure and protect the issues that are important to us in our counties, cities and regions and plan for what is coming down the road? To all the consultant staff executive committee members who have participated all these years, thank you; it has been a lot of work and time. He stated it is important to know what the next step is after this one.

Martin County Commissioner Ed Fielding stated this kind of information will be disseminated through these fibers and will then be available if we monitor the resolutions and such. He stated either we will become capable and utilizing this resource or we will be left in the back eddies of the economy to the world. He commented on the validity of planning and planning process, communication and the changes in education. He stated we are all affected by our water quality issues whether in Indian River or in Monroe County. He commented on the minimization of pollutants in Lake Okeechobee and the efforts made in making those changes. He commented on the population increase in Orange County and the necessity of planning for that increase. He stated he would like everyone to be more widely aware that the activity of planning is an essential process for us to be able to make a quality of life.

Intergovernmental & Outreach Representative for the South Florida Water Management District, Kathy LaMartina stated that she has not read this document and briefly skimmed through it but considers water resources in Southeast Florida very important and very limited, with a lot of uses competing for the resources. She stated she would like to take this Draft to the District in West Palm Beach for comments.

St. Lucie County Gubernatorial Appointee Steven Weaver stated he thinks the discussion on fiber optics is important on a regional perspective. He thinks that it is important that the local leaders understand the advantages of the form base code which he did not think was mentioned in the Plan and the tools that provide for the Plan that further their own sustainable goals. He commented St. Lucie County did not make a threshold on the rail stops and that rail would be a burden on our county without any stops for the next 20 years and mentioned the ports. He stated St. Lucie County has been completely ignored by this Draft Plan. He stated there was hardly any discussion on employment except for manufacturing in benefitting the Region. He stated the information used does not accurately reflect the relationship between property values, density and commercial uses in the three northern counties. He commented St. Lucie County is an exception to the three Treasure Coast counties; Martin and Indian River Counties may consider themselves single family residential retirement communities but St. Lucie County has a different identity. He stated St. Lucie County has a large unemployed minority population which would be a real opportunity to be part of the economic solution. He stated that for these reasons it is becoming very difficult for him to support the document that is drafted considering how St. Lucie County has been overlooked and the impacts of whether this is truly voluntary, or if there will be a larger price to pay if St. Lucie County decides to not participate.

Norman Taylor, of Norman Taylor and & Associates, LLC, stated the federal government is still alive. He stated we have to stop and listen to what people are saying. He mentioned the Charter School started by Pitbull, the requirements of those students that they successfully end up in life in law, MBAs, ministry and all kinds of professions. He stated they all come back in some kind of way and use the strength of their broad education to become successful members of the communities they live in. He spoke about a patented technique to take synthetic fiber that is being made now into fashionable garments. He stated the first lesson is to pause to listen and understand. He thinks we can do a really good job if we can help people through the thought processes. He stated we have people not quite understanding what we are going to come up with, how we are going to get there and at the end of the day, with this form of democracy that people should learn by and participate. He stated this is not a business plan; it is a resource document and communities should be able to take the available information and shape it with solutions to address their needs. He stated it would be failure if we do not help people understand how to utilize the information that has been gathered and

pulled together for them to chart their own way. He stated it does speak of issues that we have in common and one of the things that has come out of this process is that a lot of people do not think we have a great deal in common. He stated there are issues that we have in common and are inexplicitly tied to such as water resource issues and other issues we cannot avoid. He thinks we need go back to basic governance and understand how to build communities. He stated he did not read the document in its entirety.

Village of Palm Springs Councilmember Joni Brinkman stated she did not read the document entirely. She stated land use and mobility is one of the most important things and while this is a voluntary document and each jurisdiction will be able to choose and use what they want she thinks there are certain geographical periods that are going to be more drawn to the mobility and/or the land use part of it. She stated that in areas where communities will need higher density and intensity to see if it is not in our Region to reach out and allow some kind of educational component to homeowner's groups, and such in areas where the jurisdiction may not have more intensity and density. She stated even if residents are against this we can get the information out so everyone is on the same page when the discussion starts. Her other comment was in regards to the trends was the Charter School issue. She stated there are a lot of them being approved and constructed and is wondering if there is a trend or analysis linking how that is going to affect our educational components because she thinks everything goes back to education as we move forward. She thinks that some of the intensity and density issues may go away as the younger generation moves forward. She thinks this is a great document and understands that it is voluntary and that every jurisdiction needs to understand that they can embrace parts and not necessarily all of it.

SFRTA Transportation Planning Manager Lynda Westin stated the SFRTA appreciated all the comments and was encouraged by them. She stated this document could be used as implementation of pilot projects. She stated in her field of transportation she tends to look for the communities that do this the best and it is almost like they have a regional plan such as this and they use this process to get through the challenges and have gotten the system up and running. She stated this is a very important first step and everyone should be commended for bringing this process to where it is now.

Michael Busha recognized Alejandra Matos, Aide to St. Lucie County Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky. Ms. Matos stated although she is not an elected official she is here in support of St. Lucie County. She stated St. Lucie County is not voting against or in favor of the grant or the draft. She did not have the opportunity to review the Plan.

The floor was opened up to public comments and it was requested presentations keep the comment time to three minutes.

Celeste De Palma from Tropical Audubon Society commended Seven50 staff and members for a tremendous job. She stated she has attended most of the Summits and working meetings and that it is very important for us to move forward and to look for ways to improve. She stated there is no way that we can stay on the course that we are on right now because it is simply not sustainable. She stated we strive for ways to bring more prosperity into our Region and also protect the environmental assets that we have. She stated South Florida has a number of Award Winning parks, outstanding beaches, fishing, and boating and this is why 89 million visitors came to South Florida in 2012 and 100 million will come in the future. She stated people do not come here for the traffic, the water supply shortage, etc. She stated a majority of South Floridians do understand the reasoning behind some of the decisions made. She mentioned our aquifers and reverse osmosis and the price of water in the future. She stated she thinks that in South Florida it is very important to be concerned how we are building our cities and also tied to health. She stated there should be more support for public transportation and to move forward all around the Region is the course to take. She is encouraging everyone to read the Plan and that it can be used as a book end or resource.

Phyllis Frey began by providing several quotes from Andres Duany's presentation to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council on May 17, 2013. She stated he was the lead consultant for the Seven50 project and has written books on the plan and believes his statements reflect the foundation of Seven50. She stated that for the past year she and members of the American Coalition 4 Property Rights have attended Seven50's business meetings, planning meetings, and summits and have studied all the information that has been provided and she has some serious concerns. She stated that the Seven50 plan was being used by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Sean Donovan and the current administration in order to install sustainable communities. She asked Council members to read the Social Equity Analysis and Opportunity Index report, particularly page 30 that addressed St. Lucie County. She stated Seven50 will socially reengineer our neighborhoods and not ask permission from the homeowners association or planning and zoning boards of the local communities. She stated that although she did not know the Council members present or what their plan was, the information was available for anyone who wants to do their homework and not just "drink the Kool-Aid." She stated that Thomas Jefferson knew that private property, whether it is a skyscraper or a cottage, separates us from the king or the sultan or the tsar. She stated he knew that no government is worthy of the consent of his people unless they have the right to pursue their happiness not the government's happiness and the right to own private property. She stated the Seven50 plan will implement government-owned clusters of low-income, high density high rises without garages or the benefit of car and will force individuals to use mass transit. She stated it is a government program that is so good it requires the enforcement of its will

upon you. She stated that everyone keeps saying voluntary and options, however they do not mention densification spheres and upward sprawl. She stated she likes her automobile, but that will not be an option under Seven50, because it is a collective plan done through central planning, which was tried in Russia and failed.

Ms. Frey asked Council members to go to her website to gain more information. She stated that water and transportation issues were not justification for what is being proposed. She stated she understands the trends and glossy photos, but she stated she felt sorry for the Council members, because she believes they are being fed the information and are not even reading the information. She quoted surveys sponsored by the National Association of Realtors that indicate people preferred to live in single family homes and not high-density cities with a mix of uses. She stated Seven50 wants individuals to abandon their automobiles and use mass transit. She stated there is data from the U.S. Department of Transportation that transit rail lines use more energy than the average car, and the bus lines that support the rail produce more pollution than cars. She stated that mass transit is a bad investment because it is not self-supportive and operates at a loss. She stated that the cost per passenger mile of public transportation is five to nine times more costly than private transportation alternatives. She indicated projects such as All Aboard Florida, Solyndra and Digital Domain are examples of projects that create massive government debt that is ruining our economy. She stated that the idea of promoting low paying jobs for artists was not a good idea. She stated that the Seven50 is bypassing the Florida Statutes and stated examples of this can be found in Westchester County, San Francisco and all over the country. She encouraged Council members to do their homework and not just look at the photos in the plan. She stated that she believes some present have a special interest in advancing Seven50. She stated that Seven50 is promoting a mega region dictated from Miami that bypasses local planning and zoning laws. She stated that she believes HUD will take away local decision making and use the threat of withholding funding.

Roy Rogers stated he is a volunteer and not representing any business; he is a developer and environmentalist. He stated he was part of the "Eastward Ho" movement and has an extensive background regarding visions. He supports Seven50 and stated that we should listen respectfully to all stakeholders in order to receive consensus and sustainability. He stated that he has taken a small part of this and the thought of coming together with a summit on transportation and comprehensive view of the present, near future and Seven50 being the long range component. He would like to begin this discussion and thinks that it should not start with a conclusion. He believes the integrity of what has been said here in regards to offering choices. He stated that the Summit should take this work product and offer it for communal discussion. He offers hope, enthusiastic support; listening to the people is democracy.

Stephanie Austin from Vero Beach stated that she had been following closely what is happening in California, where she has relatives in government. She stated that one of the key elements of Plan Bay Area is that the housing needs will be dictated by the regional housing needs allocation board, not local government. She stated that towns that were out of compliance would not receive funding. Chairman Wallace asked Ms. Austin how that was related to the Seven50 plan. She stated that the plans watch each other, and they are seeing what is going on around the country. She stated that Plan Bay Area slipped in a vehicle miles traveled tax and GPS technology at the last minute without public notice or discussion. Chairman Wallace stated that she was out of order and requested she keep her comments related to the Seven50 plan. Ms. Austin stated that she was concerned about the density that is being proposed in Plan Bay Area, stating it would be the equivalent to 100,000 people per square mile, which is higher than the density of Manhattan or Hong Kong. She also noted that there were violations by the Plan Bay Area planners for failing to adequately disclose and inform the public of a proposal that would have significant environmental impacts. Chairman O'Bryan again requested that Ms. Austin keep her comments on the Seven50 plan. She stated that the plan was extremely vague and she was concerned that there is not enough protection of the environment and the densities are too high. She further stated that she is very concerned about land grabs, stating that over 1,000 people have already lost their land in Dade County, and that is occurring all over the nation.

Raymond Lavoie stated that this is a beautiful complex, hotels, railway etc. and explained that this was built as a brownfield redevelopment project in which he was part of. He reminded everyone about the history of the I-95, S.R. 7/U.S. 441, U.S. 1, I-595 and Sawgrass Expressway Projects and the increase of lanes and distance. He stated Seven50 is the future and should be used when appropriate.

Kate Boland, Chairman of the Martin County Republican Executive Committee stated the Committee passed a Resolution in opposition to Seven50 in May. She stated there are a lot of issues that others before her had already commented on and have the same concerns. She stated the primary motivation in passing the Resolution had to do with local control and individual choice. She stated their overall concern was the use of the words preferred outcomes – what does that mean, whose preferences, how is this decided? She stated it is not the planning per say that she is concerned about because planning has gone on but who makes the decision is her concern. She stated a preferred outcome is decided by a committee or group or organization is not really the same as the hopes and dreams of the individual and how they are able to make their life choices. She stated that the language in the Plan makes clear in a number of ways what some of the underlying views are or values of the preferred living environment. She questioned whose preferred values get decided on. She questioned who had the preference for single family homes, lack of support for mass transit, preference for malls over

downtown shopping areas. She stated the preferred outcomes that are employed here require a type of coercion in terms of local control; there is little emphasis on that in the Plan. She stated there was an emphasis on regional leadership as opposed to the existing of government and leadership that we have. She stated the federal system is part of our Constitution and that this premise election by the people, our free market system and private property that is the priority it is not efficiency; it is not effectiveness. She stated it is what do the people want and what is best for their lives. She commented the concept of regionalism, regional leaders turns that upside down in her opinion or certainly can if it is followed through to this logical conclusion. She stated we must move forward, we must have plans but the default must be what is in our Constitution which is a federal form of government. It must be local control, must be individual choice.

Ms. Carla Coleman, member of the Seven50 Executive Committee, stated she would like to include what are the strongest projects to make it a little more real.

Chair O'Bryan stated everyone is encouraged to contact Marcela Camblor and the Seven50 team with specific comments in follow-up.

Mr. Steven Weaver stated he was concerned with the mischaracterization of St. Lucie County as a rural community and stated it has the fourth largest city in the Region with a deep water port and an economic opportunity with a lot of employment. He stated you have centered all the rail, all the employment and all the clustering of high density in the south counties to the detriment of St. Lucie County.

Chair O'Bryan summarized the seven items of concern:

- 1. Climate Change are we factoring a long enough window and have a flood insurance policy change?
- 2. Conflict between promotions in some of the low wage areas that tourism would add vs. having to grow our Gross Economic Product (GEP) in promoting tourism
- 3. Implementation and leadership of the future
- 4. Who the Plan is really for; who can use it and its availability
- 5. Diversity of individual counties
- 6. Strengthen that the Plan is a voluntary resource that could be used or not used
- 7. Mischaracterization in the St. Lucie County area

Marcela Camblor stated that both RPCs will have the opportunity at their December Council Meetings to address some of this so we would like comments to us by November.

Chair O'Bryan thanked Ms. Camblor and the consulting team and their efforts and looks forward to the process and the public session and polishing the Plan.

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: Next Steps

**AGENDA ITEM EIGHT:** Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM NINE: Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the October 18, 2013 Joint Meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL and the TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL.

Jean Mor	stime, SFRPC Secretary	
Date		