



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM V.F

DATE: APRIL 2, 2012

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST FLORIDA'S REGIONAL VISION AND BLUEPRINT FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY (SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE UPDATE)

The Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, a collaboration of the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils and more than 200 regional partners, is proceeding with organizational and program activities necessary to create the Regional Vision and Blueprint for Economic Prosperity. This Project is funded by a grant from the Sustainable Communities Program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation (see www.sustainablecommunities.gov).

Program work is currently being conducted by the staffs of the two Regional Planning Councils, guided by an Executive Committee and two appointed Subcommittees: 1) Organization and Equity and 2) Operations and Budget.

The Partnership is also assisted by a significant amount of in-kind work from numerous Consortium Members, including staff from public agencies; business professional groups; not-for-profits; and key, interested individuals.

I. The following tasks and grant mandates of the Sustainable Communities Initiative have been undertaken to date:

- Negotiation of the HUD Agreement - Completed.
- Organization of the Regional Partnership - Completed.
- Creation of an Executive Committee - Ongoing (expanding membership).
- Creation of an Organization Committee - Completed.
- Development of a Statement of Organization - Completed.
- Creation of an Operations and Equity Subcommittee - Completed.
- Expansion of Operations and Equity Subcommittee to include a Budget Subcommittee Completed.
- Development of a Detailed Work Plan. Status: Initially completed, currently undergoing revisions.
- Development of a Budget - Initially completed, currently undergoing revisions.
- Hiring of Project Director - Initially completed, currently seeking new director.
- Hiring of Program Manager - Completed.
- Master Consultant Selection - Completed.
- Review and Selection of Consortium Members - Ongoing.
- Development of a Project Web Site - Ongoing.

- Development of a Scenario Modeling Tool to determine “Virtual Present” and “Future Trend” Scenarios – Ongoing.
- Development of a Regional Housing Assessment – Ongoing.
- HUD Workshop – Completed.

Additional Information:

- II. **Executive Committee:** This group currently serves as the overall governing board for the Partnership and is balanced by geography, subject matter expertise, and socio-economic segments of the Region. Over the last three months, the Committee has addressed: (1) nominations for membership on the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership’s Executive Committee; (2) the Organization and Equity Subcommittee’s proposal on workgroup formation and selection process criteria for chairs and vice-chairs; (3) a series of updates on the Management Team’s negotiation efforts with Dover Kohl, the selected consultant; (4) an update on the grant expenditures for 2011; and (5) an amendment review on the contract deliverables and budget.
- III. **Organization and Equity Subcommittee:** The next Organization and Equity Subcommittee will be held in April 2012, date TBD.
- IV. **Operations and Budget Subcommittee:** The next meeting of the Operations Subcommittee will be held on Friday, March 23, 2012, at the offices of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization. The meeting will address proposed budget amendments and management structure.
- V. **The Partnership will receive HUD sponsored Capacity Building Resources:** In 2011, HUD funded Capacity Building Intermediaries to support our efforts as a Partnership. The Partnership will be receiving direct assistance from four teams of experts: Reconnecting America, PolicyLink, EnvisionUtah, and the University of Louisville.
- VI. **Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (FHEA) and a Regional Analysis of Impediments / Webinars:** The development of a Regional Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (FHEA) and Regional Analysis of Impediments is a HUD required component of our Sustainable Communities Grant. HUD is conducting a series of six webinars and providing informational materials to support our work. For access to the HUD webinars, informational materials and general instructions, please visit: www.sfrpc.com/Regional%20Partnership.htm.
- VII. **Preferred Sustainability Status Item:** The South Florida Community Land Trust (CLT) Network secured \$130,000 in grant funding from the NCB Capital Impact’s Cornerstone Partnership and was one of ten recipients nationwide to win the award. The grant was made possible through funding provided by the Social Innovation Fund of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) with private matching funds provided by the Ford Foundation. The funds will allow the South Florida CLT Network (Network) to develop best practices and share resources regionally. The Network’s goal is to continue serving as stewards of affordable homeownership programs, preserving affordability while offering asset-building to Palm Beach County; Habitat for Humanity of South Palm Beach County; and the Housing Leadership Council of Palm Beach County (one of our Consortium members). This application received a letter of support from the Partnership. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cltnetwork.org//index.php>.

Agendas and other materials mentioned above are available on the Council’s website under Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (www.sfrpc.com/Regional%20Partnership.htm).

Recommendation

Information only.