



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #V.D

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

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

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The Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, a collaboration of the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils and over 200 regional partners and supporters, is proceeding with organizational and program activities necessary to implement the work program. 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](http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov)).

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

We are also being assisted by a significant amount of in-kind work from numerous members of the Partnership, including staff from public agencies, business professional groups, not for profits and key interested individuals.

The following is a brief summary of activities over the past month.

1. Executive Committee: This group is currently made up, in part, of members appointed by the two Regional Councils and is being expanded in order to fairly represent local governments, private, not-for-profit and other important interests within the seven-county Region. At the last meeting on July 15, 2011, Sam Ferreri, member of the Treasure Coast RPC and Mayor of the City of Greenacres in Palm Beach County, was elected Chair.
2. Organization and Equity Subcommittee: This Subcommittee, chaired by Carla Coleman, Executive Director of ULI's Southeast Florida/Caribbean District Council, drafted a Statement of Organization for the Partnership that was reviewed and modified at the Subcommittee's June 24, 2011 Workshop. The Subcommittee Chair presented a recommended draft to the Executive Committee at its July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting where it was adopted.
3. Operations Subcommittee: This Subcommittee, chaired by Ramon Trias, Chair of the Treasure Coast RPC, is monitoring the selection of the Master Consultant team. The request for a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) for a Master Consultant was released on June 24, 2011. Consultant proposals were received, reviewed, and ranked by a Technical Review Committee on August 23rd. The

Technical Review Committee recommendations will now be brought to the Management Team, Executive Committee and the Regional Planning Councils for review and discussion.

4. Management Team: This group consists of the Executive Committee Chair Ferreri; SFRPC Interim Executive Director/SCI Project Director, Jim Murley; TCRPC Executive Director, Michael Busha,, designated representative to HUD, Isabel Cosio Carballo; SCI Project Manager, Marcela Cambor and Dr. Kim Delaney from TCRPC. The Management Teams meets regularly via conference calls, as needed. Agendas, meetings, grant management, information sharing with Partnership and coordination with other interested regional players is the focus. Recent HUD deliverables include an update on the status of final Consortium Agreements currently under consideration for approval by Consortium members.
5. Related regional activities: In February 2011, the Economic Council of Palm Beach County launched the "Six Pillars" initiative to help develop and implement a vision and strategic goals for Palm Beach County as part of the statewide Six Pillars Initiative of the Florida Chamber Foundation. Following years of collaboration and more than a million dollars in research by the Florida Chamber Foundation, "Six Pillars" or economic drivers have been identified as critical factors to guide Florida's future economy, which is expected to add 5-7 million people by 2030. The Six Pillars are: (1) Talent Supply and Education, (2) Innovation and Economic Development, (3) Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, (4) Business Climate and Competitiveness, (5) Civic and Governance Systems and (6) Quality of Life and Quality Places. The Six Pillars System is a qualitative research program to develop the first statewide strategic plan to help guide Florida toward a future economy that includes high-wage jobs, global competitiveness and vibrant communities.

On August 31, 2011, members of the Palm Beach community came together for a final workshop session to further refine their strategic priorities, goals, and strategies. The Palm Beach County vision and goals, including strategies, tactics and metrics, will be rolled out to the community in October, providing an important and timely foundation for later this fall. Their vision and plan will inform and help shape the development of the Regional Vision and Blueprint.

The South Florida Regional Business Alliance recently held their annual luncheon and heard inspiring presentations from Jacob Stuart, President and CEO of the Central Florida Partnership, and Stuart Rogel, President and CEO of the Tampa Bay Partnership. Both emphasized the importance of business leaders working with public and non-profit leaders to organize regionally to compete globally and influence state and federal policy.

Agendas and other material mentioned above are available on the Council's website under Southeast Florida Regional Partnership ([www.sfrpc.com/Regional%20Partnership.htm](http://www.sfrpc.com/Regional%20Partnership.htm)).

#### Recommendation

Information only.