

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

January 7, 2013

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met on this date at the Murray E. Nelson Government & Cultural Center, 102050 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037. Chair Carruthers called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff
Councilmember Margaret Bates
Councilmember Michael Blynn
Councilmember Esteban Bovo, Jr. (via phone)
Chair Heather Carruthers
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger (via phone)
Councilmember Manuel Marono (absent)
Councilmember Jean Monestime (absent)
Councilmember George Neugent
Councilmember Jose A. Riesco (via phone)
Councilmember Stacy Ritter
Councilmember Joseph Scuotto (absent)
Councilmember Paul Wallace
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

The following Ex-Officio members were present:

Ms. Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI (via phone)
Mr. Jose Luis Rodriguez, representing the South Florida Water Management District

II. Approval of Council Agenda

Councilmember Neugent motioned to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

III. Action Items

A Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councilmember Weekley moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Councilmember Neugent seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Financial Report

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve III.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Walters moved to approve III.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews -

Proposed:

- Broward County
- Town of Davie
- City of Hialeah
- City of Marathon
- City of Coral Springs

Adopted:

- Town of Davie
- City of Pompano Beach

Councilmember Neugent stated that he was concerned about the City of Marathon's amendment, with its increase of transient units, regarding the impact on hurricane evacuation. Mr. Richard Ogburn, SFRPC staff, stated that the increase of the transient units was based on an assessment using the existing Hurricane Evacuation methodology. He stated that the methodology determined that the current policy of Monroe County and its municipalities for early evacuation of non-residents (in transient units) and mobile home residents would make it possible to evacuate in time. He stated that public officials should be concerned about the assumptions used in the evacuation model and additional discussions should ensue regarding hurricane evacuation and the increase of units. Councilmember Neugent stated that the Council should be aware of potential additional transient units being given to various municipalities and suggested that staff send a formal letter to Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Administration Commission regarding concerns for future allocations.

Councilmember Asseff suggested other ways of evacuation via boat, water taxi or cruise ship to get to the mainland. Mr. Ogburn stated that the Regional Evacuation Study did not make adjustments to account for other methods of evacuation, although it may be feasible. He stated that the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has considered that rather than spending hundreds of millions of dollars to redo the bridges, widen the roads and elevate the properties in the Keys that it might be more cost effective if evacuees are mobilized by a major aerial evacuation, and if this was necessary, say, every 20 years, would it be less expensive than building the infrastructure? Councilmember Walters suggested an additional behavioral analysis to determine the number of people who would use alternative methods for evacuation other than their vehicles. She stated that tourists would use alternative evacuation methods because they only have a suitcase; locals have cars, pets and possessions that they would evacuate with.

Chair Carruthers stated that in regards to tourists, once a hurricane is made public most travelers cancel their reservations. She explained that the hoteliers are fastidious in evacuating their guests since they have to worry about their establishment and staff. Her other concern was the distribution of the transient units. She stated that we do not have much authority to deny additional transient units in Monroe County but do we have the say as to where they are to be placed. She stated that some areas are in need of an economic engine.

Councilmember Neugent asked staff to contact Tallahassee to provide justification of the transient units that are the subject of the amendment and what criteria have been established. Mr. Murley explained that the State's response is through the Administration Commission; they are the only ones who have the

authority to change the State Rules that apply to Monroe County. He clarified that staff did not have the backup material used by the Administration Commission but it would be unusual for it to vote on anything without proper justification given the legal requirements of the Commission. Mr. Murley stated that staff will request the information on the justification before generating a letter with the Council's concerns.

Councilmember Neugent reiterated that Mr. Murley request the information on the justification of the transient unit allocation from the Administration Commission and that the Council should be aware of the increase of transient or residential units and the effect on hurricane evacuation.

Councilmember Ritter moved to approve staff recommendation for Agenda Item III.D: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Adopted and Proposed. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews – None

F. Election of Officers – 2013

Mr. Murley stated that the nominating committee met at the end of the December 2012 Council Meeting and the following Officers were nominated for 2013:

Chair: Paul Wallace
Vice-Chair: Stacy Ritter
Treasurer: Esteban Bovo, Jr.
Secretary: George Neugent
Immediate Past Chair: Heather Carruthers

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve III.F. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote and Vice-Chair Wallace became Chair.

Chair Wallace thanked Immediate Past Chair Carruthers for her diligence and work and said he hopes to perform equally as well. Mr. Murley stated that on behalf of the staff, we enjoyed working with Councilmember Carruthers. In recognition of her year as Chair, a donation was made, in name of the Council and staff, to the Relay of Life 2013 Centennial Event of the American Cancer Society, Key West in which she is the Event Chair. Councilmember Carruthers thanked everyone.

G. Proposal to Move the Council's Bank Accounts to Bank United

Mr. Murley introduced Mr. Ed McGann. Mr. McGann, from International Finance Group Project Resourcing, stated that he was hired by the Council to help with the transition of the past Finance Director and the upcoming audit. He thanked Mr. Murley and staff for being forthcoming with the information needed. He explained that recently the banks that maintain the Council's accounts have changed their fees, costs and interest rates. He stated that with Mr. Murley's permission other banks were researched and Bank United prevailed.

Councilmember Walters moved to approve III.G. Councilmember Blynn seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Discussion Items

A. Executive Committee Report

B. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Murley explained the handout about the South Florida East Coast Corridor (SFECC) Project Process. He stated that the handout is an update of the transportation projects that have been presented in the past and illustrates that the process is moving quickly. He updated the Council on the progress of All Aboard Florida’s negotiations and accelerations of the public process of the commuter rail on the Florida East Coast Railroad (FEC). He stated that the Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils are working together as the Outreach Sub-Committee and will be supporting the Corridor Coalition. He stated that 2013 will be an important year working with the various transportation entities. He stated that he was meeting with Councilmember Neugent and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to involve Monroe County.

Mr. Murley stated that the project would be less expensive on the capital side; the key issue is the funding to maintain operations. He stated that it is the same challenge that Tri Rail has; they are on notice that in six years the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) subsidy will be fading away. He stated that under the SFRPC’s current contract with the SFRTA, they are meeting with the cities that could potentially have a station on the FEC Corridor, not for All Aboard Florida, but for the commuter train. He explained that they are showing the cities along the corridor an economic analysis (being done by a team of professionals) with or without a rail station in their city so they could consider possible investments and become partners in the train operations. He clarified that the stations would be paid by the public and the cities could take advantage of the Transit Orient Development (TOD) that could take place on private land adjacent to the development. He stated that some cities may have a CRA or other ways of creating income to increase the value of the process. Councilmember Asseff questioned what the options would be and if there is a website for information. Mr. Murley stated that meetings have taken place in some of the cities in our region and also in Treasure Coast. Mr. Murley stated that he would forward the website information to Councilmembers.

Mr. Murley introduced Mr. Jose Rodriguez, substituting for Rod Braun who is replacing Carol Morris, from the South Florida Water Management District. Mr. Murley requested that in this section of the Agenda that another item be included for our Ex-Officio Members to comment on matters they wish to speak on. He observed that other RPCs have this on their agendas and would like to make this addition. Chair Wallace agreed.

Chair Wallace commented on the fact that the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) represent individual counties rather than a region, and should this be a topic of conversation for the Council to inquire on the advantages or disadvantages of combining the MPOs. Mr. Murley stated that Florida is a state that does have single-county MPOs and there are a few MPOs that are multi-county. Mr. Murley stated that FDOT reviews of all the MPOs in the State every ten years. He clarified that there is a process in place that will be initiated in the next couple of months and the Council is involved in that process. Councilmembers agreed that the timing is important for the Council to be engaged in this process. Mr. Murley clarified that the MPOs are different in each county: Broward County MPO is an independent not-for-profit organization, the staff are not County employees; Miami-Dade County MPO is quasi-independent, and is under the County Commission but the Mayor is not a member; and Palm Beach MPO is also different. He stated that he felt that it was important to monitor the FDOT process to be engaged in and as a regional body provide Councilmember’s perspectives. He stated that there is an organization that represents the three MPOs called the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) and there is a voting representative from the three MPOs. The decisions about MPO status require the

Governor and the MPOs have to mutually agree. Ex-Officio Member Aileen Boucle, FDOT, stated that the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan for 2040 is a regional effort. She stated that FDOT is doing a combined modeling for the region and is producing a regional model and update. Mr. Murley stated that the SEFTC and each MPO is preparing a regional plan but will have one model to use. Ms. Boucle stated that there is both a Regional Public Involvement Plan that was adopted by SEFTC in 2008, and a Regional Report on regional effort. Councilmember Carruthers inquired if Monroe County was included. Mr. Murley stated that Monroe County is a non-urban county under the Census designation. Ms. Boucle stated that as far as the Regional Transportation Model in the 2040 update Monroe County is not part of that model. She stated that she will verify this and follow up at the February Council Meeting. Mr. Murley stated that some of that work is being done through the Seven50 Process.

Mr. Murley reported that there may be two new Councilmembers representing Broward County and staff would forward the information to Councilmembers when confirmed.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, stated that the Revolving Loan and Hurricane Wilma Reports are included in the packet for review. Councilmember Asseff suggested that the Council and Bank United try to establish a Revolving Loan Fund relationship. He stated that there was no litigation to report.

Mr. Goren stated that there was a change to the By-laws not the Articles of Incorporation for the Institute for Community Collaboration (ICC). Chair Wallace and Councilmember Neugent will sign the By-laws to structurally change them referencing the direction of the ICC.

Mr. Murley stated that the Councilmembers will convene an ICC Board Meeting in February 2013.

V. **Program Reports and Activities**

A. Council Strategic Planning

Mr. Murley stated that, at the direction of the Executive Committee, he has the names of professional facilitators that would assist the Council through the process of moving forward, in which staff and Councilmembers would participate. He informed them that included in the packet was the SFRPC's Interlocal Agreement, from 1974, and an Amendment to the Agreement. He explained the history of the Councils, and the State map showing the 67 counties that are divided into 11 regions. He stated that over the past years the five broad mission categories were to provide information on promoting economic prosperity, protecting our environment, prioritizing infrastructure needs, preparing for emergencies, and enhancing cross jurisdictional cooperation.

He stated that included in the Memo is an organizational chart and position descriptions for the SFRPC. He explained that it reflects our current status with the exception of the Finance Director and Jeanne Tan who is now working Miami-Dade County and will not be replaced at this time. He stated that the budget scenarios are also in the packet. Mr. Ogburn stated that the chart represents scenarios of the current and next Fiscal Year. He explained the charts and tables, the various scenarios and the changes in budget that have or may occur in the future. Mr. Murley stated that this was a revenue projection discussion and that on the other side of the budget is the expenses. He stated that the organizational chart reflects the biggest part of the expenses of the Council (personnel) and that there are operational costs for rent, equipment and contract services that are in place. Mr. Murley mentioned at the Executive Committee meeting that he wanted to investigate different ways for the SFRPC to have some of the back office support outsourced. He explained that the SFRTA has a service contract with the Broward MPO providing this type of service. Mr. Murley stated that some staff and he met with the Director Joe Giulietti and Deputy Director Jack

Stephens of the SFRTA to inquire about the services that they provide to the Broward MPO. He stated that they talked about lease and relocation options to reduce expenses. Mr. Murley stated that he will keep the Council updated. He stated the Executive Committee suggested a more formalized strategic planning process.

Mr. Cambric described the consultants' information preliminary and their fields of specialty in facilitation. He explained that additional information will be collected and presented to the Council. Discussion ensued regarding the criteria needed, such as, public and private partnership, a facilitator/consultant who has worked with local municipalities and counties, and that this outreach should be done in a public fashion and advertised through an RFP or RFQ. Councilmember Carruthers stated that having a facilitator/consultant who would be objective and has a different perspective to draw out the concerns of the Council would be a positive move. She stated that maybe the facilitator/consultant could meet with Councilmembers individually, to determine Councilmembers' individual important issues, and follow up with a retreat on the vision and commonality of the Council's moving forward. She does not see this as a long term contract. She stated that this process brings a different kind of discipline and perspective about the role the Council will play in the community. She stated that Council does need to be transparent on how the process is handled. Mr. Murley informed the Council that Seven50 has an avalanche of information that includes regional entities statewide. He recommends that Council authorize staff to evaluate and interview the facilitators/consultants and present the information to the Executive Committee. He stated that our role in filling the gap could be more coherent and persuasive if there was a recently approved mission.

Councilmember Asseff made the motion for staff to implement Mr. Murley's recommendation. Councilmember Blynn seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports

1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
Information only

2) Hurricane Wilma Bridge Loan Status Report
Information only

3) Smart Watts Home Energy Retrofit Loan Fund Status Report
Information only

C. DRI Status Report
Information only

D. Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report
Information only

E. Budget Performance Report
Information only

F. Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan

Mr. Murley reminded the Council of the January 24, 2013 Summit at the Downtown Campus of Miami-Dade College and hoped they could attend. He stated that it will be similar to the first Summit held in Delray Beach this past June and this Summit meeting will be an update of the overall Long Range

Planning Process of the Seven50. He informed them that there will be a reception on the 23rd at the Freedom Tower in Downtown Miami and that the information will be forwarded to Councilmembers.

G. FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

Mr. Murley stated that there is a Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) handout regarding the monthly accomplishments. He stated that Councilmembers Carruthers, Blynn and Asseff will be attending the January 2013 Policy Board Meeting of FRCA. Councilmember Asseff is nominated to be elected Chair.

He explained that the State funding is administered according to a past formula of 70% being allocated by the number of Councils and 30% by the population. He stated that there is talk about changing that formula. He suggested Councilmembers instruct the three FRCA delegates that the formula should be maintained.

Councilmember Walters recapped the concern of reappointments of Governor Appointees to this Council as well as other RPCs. Mr. Murley stated that Ron Book, Executive Director of FRCA, is conducting business with the Executive Office to solve this.

VI. Announcements and Attachments

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) February 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 2) March 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Beacon Council, Miami-Dade County)
- 3) April 1st, 10:30 a.m. (Council Office, Hollywood)
- 4) May 6th, 10:30 a.m. (Murray E. Nelson Government Center, Key Largo)

VII. Councilmember Comments

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 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 January 7, 2013 meetings of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 4th day of February, 2013.

George Neugent, Secretary

Date