



MEMORANDUM

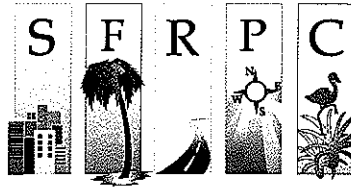
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: MAY 3, 2010
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Attached are brief descriptions of activities in which the Council has been involved since the April 5, 2010 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

May 2010

South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Fund Marketing Update

The South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Programs (SFRPC-RLF, SFRPC-RLF II and RESCUE-RLF) are designed to meet the needs of businesses in our Region that are not entirely served by conventional lenders. Funds are available to all small and medium-size businesses within Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties as well as designated communities within Miami-Dade County. The Revolving Loan Program also provides technical assistance to new and existing borrowers that will assist them with the growth of their business.

Council staff was invited to participate in an invitation-only regional innovations and strategic planning forum on May 2 to May 4, 2010, with the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation and the Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA). The results of the event will be used by NADO and DDAA to develop training, research and other professional development tools to advance the work of regional planning and development organizations in the area of business development finance. Council staff will also be working with NADO's Economic Development Finance Service (EDFS) to plan their 2010 Annual Training Conference.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2010.

For more information regarding the RLF visit our website at www.sfrpc.com/rlf.htm or, please contact Cheryl Cook or Joyce Hall at (954) 985-4416 or email at rlf@sfrpc.com.

Miami-Dade County Office of Sustainability Targeted Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

The SFRPC is partnering with Miami-Dade County Office of Sustainability (OOS) to develop and implement a Targeted Industry Revolving Loan Fund Program that will provide financing for activities that increase energy efficiency or conservation. The first step in this process will be to determine which industries can achieve the greatest energy efficiency by participating in the Program. Council staff is working with Miami-Dade OOS to convene a Working Group that will be tasked with identifying targeted industries that would benefit from the availability of low-interest loans for retrofits, renovations, automations, or equipment upgrades. Council staff will use the recommendations of the Working Group to develop a Loan Administration Plan and subsequently make loans.

The working group meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

For more information, please contact Cheryl Cook, Bob Cambric, or Brain Traylor of Council staff at (954) 985-4416 or email at rlf@sfrpc.com.

Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee

Council staff attended the April 9, 2010, Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting, which was held at the City of South Miami. After welcoming comments from the Acting City Manager, planning staff gave an update of recent development activity. School Board staff gave an update on the ILA amendment adoption process. The ILA amendment packet will be presented to each municipality governing board for final approval. The next Office of School Facilities Staff Working Group (SWG) Meeting will be held on April 29, 2010. The SWG will be forming a subcommittee to analyze criteria for charter school concurrency mitigation. A legislative update was given, which included a discussion on Amendment 4, Hometown Democracy. A summary of MPO activities was shared. Council staff apprised members of legislative issues and potential grant opportunities. Updates were also given on local Gold Coast APA activities.

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The PTC is comprised of planners from local governments and private industry in Miami-Dade County. The PTC generally meets on the first Friday of each month. Council staff provides support for the PTC. For more information about the PTC and upcoming meetings, please visit the Local Government Planners' Meetings Section of the Council's website at www.sfrpc.com.ptc.htm or contact Karen D. Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

South Florida East Coast Corridor Transit Analysis Study

Council staff continues to be involved in the South Florida East Coast Corridor (SFECC) Transit Analysis Study Station Area Planning Group Meetings. The SFECC Study Station Area Planning Group brings together planners on a monthly basis, from the three-county area (Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach) to make recommendations about station locations, amenities and design guidelines. The number of proposed stations has been narrowed down to 45, with seven additional stations being proposed in the long-term. Five main station types have been proposed: City Center, Town Center, Regional Park-and-Ride, Local Park-and-Ride and Neighborhood Station. The station type would be determined by land use patterns and local government needs. The group is currently developing model policy language that would guide the appropriate intensities and densities within ¼ - ½ mile of the proposed station, to support the assigned station type. The end result would be a combination of Comprehensive Plan text and map amendments that each municipality along the FEC would transmit. Please contact Karen D. Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council Staff for additional information about this project.

Regional Domestic Security Task Force Activities

The Southeast Regional Domestic Security Task Force (SERDSTF) is one of Florida's seven Regions funded by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to help prevent or respond to terrorism events in the State. The SERDSTF, which is Region 7, includes Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

DHS funding guidelines require each State to create a three-year Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) and update it every year. The TEP is used to compare similar training needs and exercise plans from neighboring local governments in an effort to eliminate duplication and encourage a cross-jurisdictional approach.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) hosts an annual Training and Exercise Plan Workshop to update the State's 3-year TEP. Council staff will attend the April 21-22, 2010 workshop in Orlando and facilitate the group of participants from Region 7.

For additional information, contact Manny Cela (celam@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

South Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

The State of Florida is divided into 11 Local Emergency Planning Committee Districts whose broad duties include preparing regional hazardous materials emergency plans, perform outreach functions to increase awareness and understanding of hazardous substances and provide free training to public sector hazardous material response employees. Since 1988, the Council has served as staff to the South Florida LEPC District 11 (SoFlaLEPC), which encompasses Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties. For more information on the SoFlaLEPC and its activities in the Region, please visit its website at <http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc.htm>.

Several courses are already scheduled, starting with a HazMat Awareness class April 28, 2010 at the Monroe County Sheriff's Office Training Facility in Marathon. HazMatIQ, a hazmat technician-level class, will be offered June 10, 2010 at the Miami Fire Rescue Training Facility in Coconut Grove and June 11, 2010 at the new Hollywood Fire Rescue Training Center in Hollywood. Additional classes are planned, including HAZWOPER and CAMEO.

For information on upcoming training courses, please visit our training webpage located at <http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm>.

Information on upcoming meeting dates, agendas for upcoming meetings, and minutes from previous meetings are always available from <http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm>.

For additional information, contact the SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Manny Cela (celam@sfrpc.com).

State Road 7/U.S. 441 Charrette for Southwest Palm Beach County:

Council staff is working with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, the Broward and Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organizations, staff from each county and the Florida Department of Transportation on a series of studies and planning initiatives to address mobility issues facing the Southwest Palm Beach and Northern Broward County area. A week long charrette was held in Boca Raton in April along the State Road 7 Corridor in an effort to extend a common vision across the Broward County/Palm Beach County line. The charrette for this area is a component of a long-term strategy for sustainable land use and mobility options that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the area along the county line between the Turnpike and the Everglades Conservation Area. Council Staff has prepared a "Common Vision for State Road 7" land use and transit suitability analysis as part of this effort and continues to engage the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative Steering Committee as the studies move forward. For more information please visit www.seftc.org/sr7 or contact Brian Traylor (BTraylor@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC)

Staff participated in a monthly Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee meeting, which was held at the SFRTA Office in Pompano Beach. This month's meeting focused on the upcoming Urban Land Institute workshop which will be held on April 30, 2010, in Fort Lauderdale. In addition, attention was placed on a modification of Trip Priority List in which a SFRTA parking project will be eliminated and funding is proposed to be redirected to the rolling stock purchased for SFRTA. For more information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com).

Clean Cities Coalition

Staff completed the annual Clean Cities survey of stakeholders within the South Florida service area. This information is fed into a national database that helps the federal government measure the effectiveness of its efforts to reduce petroleum and to advance alternative fuels and technologies. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (Khamilton@sfrpc.com) Council staff or go to www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities.

Alternative Energy Technical Assistance

Staff made presentations before the City of South Miami Council to talk about opportunities involving alternative energy and energy efficiency grant proposals. Staff also met with private firms and public officials from the City of Hollywood regarding the creation of a public Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) facility within its incorporated boundaries. For additional information, contact Larry Allen of Council staff (lallen@sfrpc.com).

Legacy Green Empowerment Program

The Institute for Community Collaboration has launched the Legacy Green Empowerment Program with funding from JOBS for LOW Income Individuals, under the U.S. Health and Human Services, Administration for Families and Children, Office of Community Services. This Program has enrolled 32 low-income and unemployed individuals from Coconut Grove, Liberty City, Miami, and Opa Locka to learn horticulture under a Master Gardener and culinary arts under a Master Chef. After 20 weeks of classroom training and on-the-job training, these residents will be hired to work in the gardens that are developed during the training phase and the restaurants and healthy food cafes also developed through the JOLI Program. Produce from the gardens will be used in the restaurants and cafes. Additionally, health care partners will provide workshops and activities for residents of these communities on how healthy food works in conjunction with nutrition and well being to address diseases and health issues prevalent in these communities. The Program is planning a May 10 grand opening of the commissary kitchen, which will be a training site and full service healthy foods restaurant in Liberty City. For more information please contact CC Holloman at cholloman@sfrpc.com, or legacyini@aol.com, legacy-community on Facebook, or www.Legacy-initiative.org.
