

MEMORANDUM

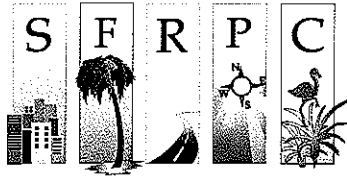
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2008
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 November 3, 2008 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

December 2008

Eastward Ho! Brownfields Partnership Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund

Staff continues to work with local governments in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties on brownfields redevelopment efforts. Recent activities include providing technical assistance to the staff of the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) for a Brownfields Revolving Loan. The Council will enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the CRA for the loan. The loan closing is scheduled for December 2, 2008

For additional information on brownfields, please visit the Brownfields Section of the Council's website, at www.sfrpc.com/brwnflds.htm, or contact Cheryl Cook (cherylc@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

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.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Accion USA, and MetroBroward Capital Corporation have partnered together to create a one-stop shop for emerging companies seeking financing. These three organizations have formed the Broward Comprehensive Capital Resource Alliance. The BCCRA held its fourth Free Small Business Alternative Financing Seminar on Wednesday November 12, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the City of Lauderdale Lakes Multi-Purpose Building.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2008.

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 Planners Technical Committee

Council staff attended the November 7, 2008 Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting at Miami Gardens City Hall. Planning staff presented the City's new sign regulations for businesses and property owners. This new program requires a sign plan within two years and approval within three years. Early compliance incentives are given if signs are brought into compliance in years 1-4. Staff are also in the process of revising the zoning regulations to reduce the number of zoning districts. The City is hosting a GIS Day event on November 21. Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department is requiring localities to maintain records on water usage and permitting. An update of the school concurrency implementation and ILA was given. Miami-Dade County Public Schools is co sponsoring an Elected Officials Meeting with the City of Sunny Isles Beach. The meeting will be held on December 3rd at the Pelican Community Park from 9am to noon. Keven Klopp will serve as facilitator. Updates on the Elected Officials Meeting and ULI conference were given. Council staff gave a brief introduction to the 2060 visioning process. Gold Coast APA is hosting a holiday luncheon on Friday December 12. Details will be forthcoming.

The next PTC meeting is December 3 in Sunny Isles Beach, following the School Board's Elected Officials Meeting.

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 Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

Urban Land Institute National Meeting

Council staff had the opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) in Miami Beach in October. The event was also well attended by representatives from local municipalities and partner agencies in the region with a focus on the future of the real estate and development industries during uncertain economic conditions. Community redevelopment agencies, economic development specialists and planners were able to represent their local governments through exhibition space reserved for South Florida as part of the conference. Several relevant issues such as transportation and land use planning, greenhouse gas reduction efforts and affordable housing were among the topics discussed by the panelists throughout the event. More information about ULI and the conference proceedings are available at www.uli.org or contact Brian Traylor (BTTraylor@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

South Florida Regional Transportation Workshops

Assistant Director Keven R. Klopp, AICP, made presentations as part of a panel discussion regarding regional Transportation at two workshops hosted by the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) in November. The SFRPC's portion of the workshop was an overview of Southeast FL 2060, a visioning process in its initial stages. Such workshops, focused on the Regional transportation needs, priority and funding, have been held in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. The meetings were attended by members of the general public, elected officials, transportation industry professionals, local government administrators, students and community activists who were concerned mobility and sustainability within the region. A Regional Transportation Summit combining all three counties is being planned for early 2009. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) of Council staff or go to <http://www.sfrta.fl.gov/>.

Council Staff Member Elected Chairperson of Oversight Committee

Broward leads the state in its implementation of school concurrency and coordination of multi-jurisdictional school facility planning due in part to the work of a committee established in 2004 to ensure adherence to an agreement entered into by the County, the School Board, and the Cities. The "Oversight Committee for Implementation of the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning" has 15 members consisting of 5 representatives appointed by each of the following: the Broward County Commission, the School Board of Broward County, and the League of Cities representing Broward's municipalities. The Committee reports annually regarding the successes and failures of the interlocal agreement, assists in the development of collocation and shared use policies, advances amendments to the interlocal agreement as necessary, and plays a role in the school concurrency appeal process. The Oversight Committee convenes County Commissioners, School Board Members, City Commissioners, the Broward PTA, and the development community and works hand-in-hand with a Staff Working Group, which consists of the technical staff from these same entities. Keven Klopp, an original member of the Oversight Committee and of now of SFRPC staff, was recently elected its Chairperson, following terms in the same position by Mayor Lois Wexler and Mayor Frank Ortis. Florida law required school concurrency to be in place by 2008. Broward has made laudable progress by meeting this obligation and overcoming various related challenges along the way. For more information, contact Keven Klopp of Council staff, kklopp@sfrpc.com.

Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) Station Planning

Staff attended the monthly Station Planning Working Group meeting. The meeting focused on the inclusion of pedestrian/bicycle mobility within the corridor of the FEC. In addition, general background information was provided by a Broward County Schools staff member regarding school enrollment and capital improvement planning within the eastern portions of Broward County. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff or go to <http://www.sfrta.fl.gov/>.

North University Drive

Staff attended the Broward County Board of County Commission meeting discussion on North University Drive. Staff has participated in a conference call regarding the proposed Palm Beach County settlement agreement. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (Khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff or go to <http://www.broward.org/mpo/westernbrwdtranspstudy.pdf>.

SW 10th Street Land Use Study

SW 10th St Study -Staff has submitted a revised scope draft of the Southwest 10th Study to the Broward MPO for their consideration. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (Khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff or go to www.broward.org/mpo/10thstreet_study.pdf

Clean Cities Coalition

Staff continues to participate within the Clean Cities Coalition. The National Coalition is putting together a list of policies/strategies for alternative energy. Staff will also serve as a moderator for the South Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Conference which will be held at The Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center at Florida International University on November 20, 2008. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (Khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff. Additional information can be obtained from www.SFAEP.ORG and www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities.

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.

The SERDSTF meets on a quarterly basis to review past actions and discuss upcoming activities. Attendance often exceeds 200 representatives from law enforcement, emergency management and other agencies participating in the SERDSTF. The meetings are hosted by Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties on a rotating basis at their respective convention centers. Council staff had an opportunity to present a briefing on Operation Vigilant Network (OVN) at the November 2008 meeting. OVN consisted of a series of exercise-related events coordinated by Council staff that took place this past year.

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

Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

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

Council staff recently completed hazards analyses of four Monroe County facilities that store hazardous materials. The reports were submitted to the Florida Division of Emergency Management for review and approval.

Training is available from the LEPC free of charge. The first class of the year is expected to be at Miami-Dade DERM on January 29. Additional training details and registration information is available at www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm.

Meeting dates and agendas for upcoming meetings as well as minutes from previous meetings are always available from www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm.

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