



MEMORANDUM

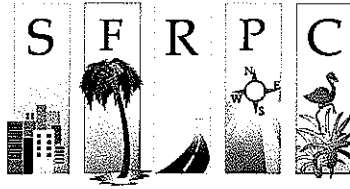
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 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 January 4, 2010 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

February 2010

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Application

Council staff has submitted a proposal for funding from the U.S. Department of Energy to implement a Neighborhood Retrofit Ramp-up program in South Florida. Partnering with Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami and Sarasota County, the SFRPC has joined forces with regional clusters in Iowa and Utah for a competitive grant that will provide resources for residential and small business building renovations to increase their energy efficiency. The goals of the Neighborhood Retrofit Ramp-up Program are to remove traditional barriers to energy efficiency, achieve economies of scale for the retrofit market, and provide effective financial instruments that target middle-income homeowners and small businesses. Within the three years of the Program, the proposed activities will create over 6,500 jobs and generate over \$400M in economic activity throughout the three metropolitan clusters. We have estimated the environmental impacts to avoid over 300,000 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) equivalent and save over 5 million source British Thermal Units (Btu) of energy.

The U.S. Department of Energy expects to award between eight and 20 grants for amounts ranging from \$5 million to \$70 million. Announcements of the competitive funding opportunity awards are expected in mid-March, with the program to begin by May 2010. If our proposal is funded, the SFRPC will begin implementation with the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County, and continue to identify additional neighborhoods for retrofits as the Program is being developed. For more information about the Department of Energy's programs related to energy efficiency visit www.eecbg.energy.gov. Please contact Brian Traylor, btraylor@sfrpc.com of Council staff for more information about the application and proposed Neighborhood Retrofit Ramp-up activities.

Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee

Council staff attended the January 8, 2010 Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting, which was hosted by the Village of Palmetto Bay. Village officials and staff gave an update of recent development activity. The facility where the PTC meeting was held was completed in Spring 2009, as part of The Village of Palmetto Bay Branch Library & Ed & Arlene Feller Community Center at Ludovici Park complex. Several development projects that were envisioned during the Village's 2004 Franjo Triangle Commercial Island Charrette have been completed, are under construction, or in permit review.

There was update by the Interlocal (ILA) subcommittee Chair. The subcommittee was formed at the November PTC meeting to review the ILA amendments, determine impacts and implications of changes, and assist planners with implementation.

After a brief discussion of Hometown Democracy, the results of the 2010 PTC Chair and Vice-Chair/Secretary were revealed. Alex David was elected to his third term as PTC Char. Julian Perez was also elected as Vice Chair/Secretary. Topics of interest for 2010 meetings were revisited. Council staff apprised members of potential grant opportunities and the upcoming Clean Cities Coalition Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Survey. The PTC members agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Broward County PTC. Updates were also given on local Gold Coast APA activities.

The next PTC meeting is scheduled for February 2010. The PTC is comprised of planners from local governments and private industry in Miami-Dade County, and 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 Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Fund Marketing Update

The South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Programs (SFRPC-RLF, SFRPC-RLF II, RLF III 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 *9th Annual Super Bowl XLIV's Business Leadership Forum* will be held on February 4, 2010, at the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business & Entrepreneurship and the Rose & Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. Sprint, the National Football League (NFL), and the South Florida Regional Planning Council will host a reception for this event from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm followed by a panel discussion and a keynote speaker.

The Business Leadership Forum is a stimulating panel discussion of current issues facing business owners and a networking event that will promote the exchange of ideas between independent business owners and South Florida's leading corporate procurement personnel.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for February 22, 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.

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.

Council staff participated in Operation Radar; an Interoperable Communications Exercise conducted January 25-29, 2010 at Camp Blanding, a Florida National Guard base in north Florida. This was the latest in a series of interoperable communications activities in which staff has taken part this year. In the case of Operation Radar, Council staff assisted in evaluating the exercise.

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, performing outreach functions to increase awareness, understanding of hazardous substances and providing 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>.

The SoFlaLEPC Exercise Subcommittee is scheduled to hold its Initial Planning Conference on February 11, 2010, at the Council offices in Hollywood. The purpose of the meeting is to begin planning for the biannual exercise, tentatively scheduled for late spring or early summer.

For additional 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 is always available from <http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm>.

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