



MEMORANDUM

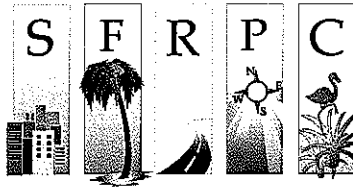
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: JANUARY 4, 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 December 7, 2009 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

January 2010

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 is working with the Communications Work Group of the SERDSTF to schedule two training courses in the Region. The 3-day **Communications Unit Leader class (COM-L)** is suitable for most supervisory communications personnel and will be offered in a central location to facilitate travel. The equipment needed for the 3-day **Emergency Deployable Interoperable Communications System (EDICS)** class is kept at the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. SERDSTF rules limit movement of the EDICS system to emergency deployment only, so the class will be hosted at or near the PBCSO in West Palm Beach.

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>.

The SoFlaLEPC held a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on December 2, 2009, at the SFRPC offices. Committee members approved a **Training Package** for 2010 that includes the following courses: HazMatIQ, CAMEO, HAZWOPER, ERG & CHEMTREC How-To, Clandestine Drug Lab, HazMat Awareness and Chemical Compatibility and Storage. **HazMat Awareness Week** in Florida will take place February 14-20, 2010 with an emphasis on Chemistry in the Classroom. Early discussions began for a Tabletop Exercise (TTX) to be held in the spring of 2010.

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).

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Elected Officials Workshop Session

Council staff attended the School Boards Elected Officials Joint Workshop Session on December 4, 2009. The workshop was held at the Terra Environmental Research Institute in the Kendall area. Terra is the School Board's first sustainable and high performance high school. The school has a compact building footprint and harvests water condensation for irrigation, amongst other green features. Benefits of the buildings' design have resulted in an enhanced learning environment, reduced energy and water consumption, reduced operating costs and preservation of natural resources. Sustainability has also been incorporated into the school's curriculum. LEED Gold Certification is being sought for Terra.

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There was a review and discussion of School Concurrency Management System (CMS). The CMS is a fully automated, real-time, GIS/web-based computer system. The program assigns classroom seats on a first-come-first-served basis. As of December 4, 2009, 226 applications have been processed, 8,429 residential units have been reviewed and 2,555 student seats have been reserved for up to six one-year terms. The tax base to pay for public education and capital construction of schools has decreased due to a shift in funding from the State's General Revenue Fund to local property taxes. At the same time public school enrollment is on the rise due to current economic conditions. Subsequently, the School Board has changed its focus from construction to improvement and maintenance of existing facilities. Approximately half of their building inventory is forty years or older, requiring \$2.4 billion in building remodeling and renovation needs.

An update on the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and the Public Educational Facilities Element was given. Concurrency is implemented via a participatory process comprised of a citizen's oversight committee that monitors the ILA's progress and produces annual report and a staff working group that meets three times a year to vet and coordinate issues.

The School Board's legislative initiatives were shared. A facilitated discussion was led by Council staff to elicit issues and needs of local governments. The meeting concluded with a tour of the school facilities. Contact Karen D. Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff for additional information.

Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee

Council staff attended the December 4, 2009 Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting, which followed the School Boards' Workshop for Elected Officials. School Board staff gave a summary of the preceding meeting. There was an 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, preliminary nominations for 2010 PTC Chair and Vice-Chair/Secretary were made. A discussion of topics of interest for the 2010 meetings ensued. Council staff apprised member of potential grant opportunities. Updates were also given on local Gold Coast APA activities.

The next PTC meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2010. 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.

Broward County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories Training Session

Council staff participated in Broward County Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division's training session on December 11, 2009. The training was held at the Broward County South Regional Library in Pembroke Pines, which is the first LEED certified Building in Broward County. Participants were given an overview of the methodologies used for the County's government operations and community-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions inventories. County staff gave a demonstration of the Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP) software. The program is only available through the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLE) and requires government membership. A panel of experts was assembled to answer questions and share other tools and resources. Please contact Karen D. Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council Staff for additional information about this training.

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 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. Staff also participated in the December 17, 2009 SFECC-Draft Model Ordinance Workshop. Please contact Karen D. Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) of Council staff for additional information about this project.

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 Council staff is continuously working with the National Football League (NFL) for its *9th Annual Super Bowl XLIV's Business Leadership Forum*. The 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. 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. Staff is in the process of developing the menu for the reception, developing a list of panelists and feature speakers.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for January 31, 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.

Evaluation of the Memorial Healthcare System's Health Intervention with Targeted Services (HITS) Program

Council staff has been contracted by the Broward Regional Health Planning Council to participate, along with a team from the University of Florida, in an evaluation of the Health Intervention with Targeted Services (HITS) Program that Memorial Healthcare System (MHS) initiated in late 2006. Council staff will review the data collection procedures for this innovative program focused on reaching out to the uninsured population in the southern part of Broward County served by MHS. Council staff will also compile a comprehensive database to be used in the evaluation. For additional information, please contact Richard Ogburn (rogburn@sfrpc.com).

Common Eligibility Tool

Council staff, working with the Steering Committee of The Coordinating Council of Broward (CCB), has continued participating in a tri-county effort with Miami-Dade County and Palm Beach County to select and implement a common eligibility tool. The primary purpose of the tool would be to facilitate the creation of single points of entry, so that residents of Broward County in need of social services could be evaluated for eligibility for all services offered in the County. An additional benefit will be to improve access to the federal, state and local benefits for which residents are eligible but have not yet qualified. For further information, please contact Richard Ogburn (rogburn@sfrpc.com).

South Florida Regional Business Alliance mobilizes regional business leadership to support Rail legislative proposal

The South Florida Regional Business Alliance (RBA) is a coalition of CEOs from Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties working in partnership across jurisdictional lines to address issues of regional importance. The South Florida Regional Business Alliance first came together in 2002 around the issue of regional transportation and Tri-Rail. Thanks to the efforts of these CEOs, in 2003 the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) was created by the Florida Legislature. The ensuing years have been spent working on a number of regional issues including funding for education, affordable housing, and the creation of a dedicated funding source for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

To build support for Senate Bill 2 / House Bill 1 in the recently concluded special Legislative Session 2009B, RBA members reached out to individual legislators and important business organizations including the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, the Broward Alliance, The Business Forum of Palm Beach County, the Broward Workshop and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. Working together with the South Florida Legislative Delegation, these business leaders helped secure the passage of legislation that will provide continuation funding for the SFRTA and help create a framework for the expansion of rail transportation in Florida. For more information please contact Isabel Cosio Carballo (isabelc@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

A copy of the enrolled legislation can be found at:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/data/session/2009B/House/bills/billtext/pdf/h0001B02er.pdf>

Clean Cities Coalition Meeting

The Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition held its monthly meeting on Friday, December 18, 2009. The meeting included a presentation by Jim Murley, Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Change Commission on the upcoming grant opportunities that will be made available through the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants. South Florida Commuter Assistance also gave a presentation focused on the reduction of Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT). The Clean Cities meetings are held in the offices of the South Florida Regional Planning Council at 3440 Hollywood Blvd, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL each 2nd Friday of the month at 10 a.m. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com).

SR7 Mobility Studies

Staff continues to participate in the SR7 Coordinating Committee meetings for Northern Broward County and South Palm County area in the vicinity of SR7. The most recent meeting occurred on December 16, 2009. SFRPC recently completed the SR7 Transit Supportive Land Use and Urban Design Assistance Report for the Broward County MPO. This assessment supports the work activities in the North University Drive/ State Road 7 study area with Broward and Palm Beach County MPO, FDOT and Florida Atlantic University. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com).

I-95 Transportation Alternatives Study

Staff participated in the project introduction meeting for the I-95 Transportation Alternative Study, which is required by HB 1021 that took effect on July 1, 2009. The Bill calls for a study of transportation alternatives for the travel corridor parallel to Interstate 95 which takes into account the transportation, emergency management, homeland security, and economic development needs of the State. Regional Planning Councils (RPC) whose jurisdiction falls within this corridor are being asked to provide data, information, and/or other input into the study process to insure the study team is aware of current issues and activities relating to I-95 within each of the RPC areas. This input could include, but is not limited to, the following items: Emergency evacuation plans and programs for the counties within the I-95 corridor study area; identification of demographic and employment trends and conditions for the counties within the I-95 corridor study area, as available; RPC Strategic Regional Policy Plans; and other local issues pertinent to the study. By law, the study must be completed by June 2010. For additional information, please contact or Larry Allen (lallen@sfrpc.com) or Karen Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com).

<http://www.i-95alternatives.com/PublicPages/WelcomePage.aspx> .
