

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

May 5, 2008

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Council Offices, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida. The Chair, Councilmember Perez, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM ONE: Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA ITEM TWO: Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff
Councilmember Scott Brook
Councilmember Jay R. Chernoff
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger
Councilmember Ilene Lieberman
Councilmember Morgan McPherson
Councilmember George Neugent
Councilmember Marta Perez
Councilmember Jose Riesco
Councilmember Joseph Scutto
Councilmember Dixie Spehar
Councilmember Paul Wallace
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Lois Wexler

The following Ex-Officio members were present:

Chad Kennedy, representing the Department of Environmental Protection
Elbert Waters, representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Council members arrived after roll call:

Councilmember Ilene Lieberman
Councilmember Carlton Moore
Ex-officio member Gary Donn, representing the Florida Department of Transportation

AGENDA ITEM THREE: Minutes of previous Meeting

Councilmember Walters requested that the minutes be amended on page 2, first paragraph under Agenda Item Six to state the following: "Councilmember Walters asked if it was allowable for her to make a motion to approve the staff recommendations for all of the proposed and adopted comprehensive plans that had recommendations of consistency with the SRPP."

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the amended Minutes from the previous meeting. Councilmember Neugent seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Project Reviews

a) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Riesco moved to approve the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Program

a) DRI Assessment Reports

None

b) Development Orders (DO)

None

c) DRI Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SIX: Proposed Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

a) Proposed Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments

- City of Lauderdale Lakes
- Town of Palmetto Bay
- City of Florida City
- Town of Pembroke Park

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Perez stated that there would be two time-certain presentations, Agenda Items 15 a & b, starting at 10:45 a.m.

Ex-officio member Donn arrived at the meeting.

b) Broward County

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

c) Broward County

Councilmember Wexler raised a concern regarding transportation. She asked what, specifically, was inconsistent in the portion of the amendment that was found inconsistent.

Ms. Terese Manning, Council staff, stated that the data and analysis was incomplete, there was insufficient information to support the policies, and the level of service (LOS) standards were being changed without adequate new LOS standards.

Councilmember Wexler asked if there was a problem with the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) designation.

Ms. Manning stated that some of the information had not been documented, and some of the information had not been clearly stated. Staff has been working with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and County staff and believes that the issues can be resolved.

Councilmember Lieberman arrived at the meeting.

Councilmember Wexler stated that she also felt that the issues could be resolved, but wanted to make sure that there were no issues with the transit concurrency zones. There are a number of DRIs that will move forward in that particular area, where the traffic impact will be tremendous.

Ms. Manning stated that was particularly why staff was trying to get everything straight at this point.

Councilmember Wexler asked if TODs were mentioned in this transportation designation.

Ms. Karen Hamilton, Council staff, stated the language in the Statute mentions public transit facilities.

Councilmember Wexler asked to clarify, not TODs?

Ms. Hamilton's response was that is correct.

Councilmember Brook asked what kind of deadlines they were looking at to develop these mechanisms to ensure equitable distribution between roadway and transit projects.

Ms. Manning stated that this was an amendment that was going through the alternative review process, so the review time was shortened. The comments have been sent to Broward County, who now has 120 days to respond to the comments.

Councilmember Brook then asked if the amendment came back with LOS standards that were still insufficient would staff find it inconsistent.

Ms. Manning responded that's hard to say without seeing if anything had been revised. Council staff would coordinate very closely with County staff and DOT during this time.

Councilmember Brook stated that he was raising the issue because often times the Council says it's just for transmittal, but what is the next deadline that needs to be imposed, by whom and at what point do we hold these governing bodies accountable.

Mr. Samuel S. Goren, Legal Counsel, stated under State Statutes that govern this agency, the commentary that is given at the time of transmittal determines what happens during second review. Facts that may be known to staff and Council, but are not articulated at first review could be lost in translation in the second review. If there is any comment or concern, now is the time to raise it and try to fix it.

Councilmember Moore arrived at the meeting.

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

- d) City of Coconut Creek
- e) City of Dania Beach

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the staff recommendation on 6d and 6e. Councilmember Wexler seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: Adopted Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

- a) Adopted Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments
 - City of Coral Gables
 - City of Sunrise
 - City of Miramar
 - City of Dania Beach
 - City of Lauderhill
 - Town of Davie

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Brook seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Reports

- a) Executive Committee Report

Councilmember Perez stated that the Executive Committee meeting was a very sad one, and the Council should commend Ms. Carolyn A. Dekle, Executive Director, under these trying economic times. She stated that the Finance Subcommittee did not have a meeting this month. She then went on to congratulate Ms. Cheryl Cook, Council staff, for the award that she received from the U.S. Small Business Administration for the South Florida District 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year.

- b) Financial Report

Councilmember Chernoff moved to approve the Financial Report for March. Councilmember Riesco seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Other Matters for Consideration

- b) Presentation on History of Florida Turnpike

Ms. Kim Poulton, Director of Communications and Marketing for Florida's Turnpike, gave a presentation on the history and current system of Florida's Turnpike. The topics that she covered included the following:

- The existing Turnpike System,
- Easing congestion on the roadway,

- Customer satisfaction,
- Future enhancements,
- Florida's 511 system, and
- Tolling technology, specifically Sunpass.

a) Ocean Outfalls Presentation - Dr. John Proni with NOAA

Dr. John Proni, Director of the Ocean Chemistry Division of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), gave a presentation on the progress report for the Florida Area Coastal Environment (FACE) Ecosystem Research Program. Some topics covered included:

- Water, wastewater and energy;
- Description of the FACE program;
 - Multi-agency program including federal, state, and local governments;
 - Provides scientific information for management decision-making;
 - Obtains multi-decadal data-base on coastal parameters;
 - Distinguishes anthropogenic and natural sources of substances in the coastal ocean; and
 - Communicates results to the general public;
- Areas of interest; and
- Water reuse and required energy.

He closed with a suggestion to the Council; it would be a wonderful idea if the Council should elect to convene a symposium of some type to actually lay out the basic questions facing south Florida. How will climate change and sea level rise affect the long term infrastructure building that is going to be required for these water supply systems?

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Reports (continued)

c) Executive Director's Report

Ms. Carolyn A. Dekle, Executive Director, reported that Council staff would be making a mid-year budget adjustment. This was a result of what she called a "perfect storm" in terms of unrealized projected revenues, local governments being in a particularly precarious position right now and unsure of what their long term financial futures will be, as well as an appropriation effect as a result of this session. The appropriation was at \$2.4 million, whereas in the past it has been \$3.4 million statewide. This mid-year adjustment was not all from this, but more from the revenue shortfalls. This fiscal year, 2007-2008, the Council will have a potential shortfall of \$600,000. Staff looked at ways that the Council could bring that under existing revenues, which is one of Ms. Dekle's commitments to the Council. Of that \$600,000 staff was able to take \$300,000 from positions that were not filled throughout the year, and unspent personnel costs, which left the remaining shortfall at about \$300,000. Staff will be able to realize about half of that from going to a 32-hour workweek. The office, however, will continue to be open five days per week. This adjustment will mean a 20% reduction in the take-home salaries of staff. There was still about a \$150,000 remaining shortfall, at which point Ms. Dekle looked at staff reductions. She stated that there were not any members of staff that she would have asked to leave the Council except for this situation, but this change needed to be made. Those members of staff that will not be continuing with the Council are: Mr. Robert Daniels, Ms. Terese Manning,

Ms. Loretta Cronk, Ms. Isabel Moreno, and Ms. Farah Brizard. She stated that she worked hard to try to find positions for these individuals, and she continues to do so. She added that she has made a commitment that as this year finishes out, if the Council realizes changes in the revenue structure, those would be the first individuals asked to come back.

Councilmember Moore asked if the 20% take-home salary reduction would be effective immediately.

Ms. Dekle stated that it would be effective in two weeks, to allow for it to get aligned with payroll.

Councilmember Moore stated that he didn't understand; if there was a budget that went through the fiscal year, why was a budget adjustment needed immediately in the middle of the year.

Ms. Dekle stated that there was a line in the adopted budget that talked about program development. This is the first year that those projected programs did not get realized. A couple of different things occurred, for example, there was a program listed with a dollar amount for some work that the Council was going to do with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), whether that program will go forward was unknown at this time. There were a number of different contracts where staff had verbal discussions with member units of local government that wanted help with certain projects such as design and DRIs, where they simply did not go forward. We still have projects on that list that are still working and we will let any of you that are in positions of influence in those areas know if we need some help there. The local governments are faced with really having to look at where they are outsourcing and start pulling that stuff in-house or doing without those projects at this time.

Councilmember Wallace stated that this was a sad situation, but these are tough times everywhere. We have to be as equal as everywhere else. He stated that this would be an opportune time to discuss cutting back any extra expense that has to do with travel. He made a motion to cancel any meetings out of town to save whatever money it can.

Ms. Dekle stated that the June meeting is scheduled to be held in Marathon at Hawks Cay and we cannot cancel that meeting due to the cancellation policy. The meeting in September is also scheduled to be in Marathon, but is within the fiscal year and staff is working to postpone that until 2009.

Councilmember Gunzburger seconded Councilmember Wallace's motion to cancel any remaining meetings which are scheduled to be held out of town. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Lieberman asked who would be taking over the job responsibilities of those individuals that will no longer be at the Council.

Ms. Dekle stated that everyone's job responsibilities were going to change. She stated that she would probably be more involved with the comprehensive plan reviews than she has been in the past. Ms. Julia Trevarthen has managed that program in the past and will probably be part of it again. There was a staff retreat scheduled that had to be canceled due to the circumstances, but would be rescheduled in about two weeks. At this point we are looking, with a very critical eye, at all of our responsibilities. She stated that she wanted to ensure that the Council would still provide services and was still able to do the extra things that it has always done to make sure that it still satisfies its external clients. Through phone calls to other agencies trying to get people placed, there have been a couple of contracts offered to the Council. Everyone on staff is going to be affected by a change in responsibilities. She stated that she would be glad to provide the Council with an updated list of staff responsibilities as soon as those are determined.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that one of the largest expenses was rent. She asked when the lease expires and if staff was looking at other options. What is happening here is also happening in cities and counties. She wondered if there might possibly be space available in a government building at less cost.

Ms. Dekle stated that the lease does not expire until July 2012, but staff has contacted the landlord about sub-leasing or releasing the newly acquired space on the other side of the office, which currently costs the Council about \$44,000 per year.

Councilmember Gunzburger asked how much the deposit was on the facility for the September meeting and asked if the Council would come out ahead if it canceled that meeting.

Ms. Dekle stated that the Council would lose about \$3,000 if the meeting was canceled, but she would do the math and see how much of a difference there would be if the meeting were canceled all together.

Councilmember Gunzburger stated that canceling the meeting would probably be the best option because 2009 may be worse.

Councilmember Walters stated that difficult times are times for opportunity. There are major issues affecting the state of Florida, as discussed by Dr. Proni earlier, and there are planning and financial issues integrally involved in those decisions. The SFRPC has a liaison with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) already and there is great interest in Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council for a similar liaison. The Council can actively look at how its planning and economic analysis resources can be brought to bear to help all of the agencies, local governments and regional entities like the South Florida Water Management District and the Department of Transportation to move itself through this difficult time. This must have been a very depressing and herculean effort by Ms. Dekle and staff to make these decisions. The Executive Committee was shocked to think of the super people that were going to be leaving, but hopefully the Council can figure out a way to get them back and find a way that the Council can take a more proactive roll in helping Florida address its critical issues in a really cost effective ways over the next couple of years.

Ex-officio member Kennedy stated that he has noticed that there was a tremendous volume of paper used for the monthly mailings, which is probably a minor cost, but when people have to take a cut-back in salary, he would like to see everything else on the table as far as procedures go. In these days of electronic communication is it really justified to use this volume of paper, and incur all of the printing costs, paper costs, and postage costs? This Council needs to evolve into a more electronic, paperless organization. He does not see the benefit in generating all of the documentation. He stated that he was opening that up for discussion.

Councilmember Perez stated that was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting.

Ms. Dekle stated that staff has discussed that as an option, and planned to send future agenda packets electronically. Staff would discuss this with Mr. Goren to ensure that all procedures are handled properly.

Councilmember Gunzburger stated that it would require purchasing an awful lot of computers for the Council members to have the items in front of them at the meetings.

Councilmember Chernoff stated that each member could print their own packet.

Councilmember Spehar stated that the members could use their laptop computers if they had them.

Councilmember Perez stated that exceptions could be made for those members that were not electronically savvy. She added that the point of the discussion was to focus on saving money on printing and shipping costs.

Councilmember Brook stated that it was a good direction to move toward. In regard to the Council's expenses, page 3 of the financial report shows a remaining balance of \$403,000 in the professional consultants category. He asked if there was an opportunity there to not expend a significant sum of that and possibly have less than a 20% reduction in staff salary.

Ms. Dekle stated that staff was certainly looking at every obligation inside that number to ensure that it's necessary to outsource that work or that there is not a contractual agreement for those funds.

Councilmember Brook stated that the City of Coral Springs was in the process of reviewing its vendors and telling them that they will need to be competitive and start charging less. There have to be similar opportunities for the Council to reduce costs. There also looks like there is more room in the travel and professional development categories on the financial report.

Councilmember Perez opened the floor to any questions for Dr. Proni.

There were no questions.

Councilmember Brook extended his sorrow to those members of staff that were leaving, he thanked them for their work and he added that he appreciated everyone pulling together during this trying time. The Council is wonderful to work with and we all appreciate you. In regards to the financial report, he stated, there is a \$213,000 variance in the assets, some of it is explained by the accounts receivable being collected. Is the reduction in the accounts receivable all because the \$163,000 was collected, was some of it written off or was it a combination of the two?

Ms. Dekle stated that it just shows the difference from the current month and the prior month. The prior month the receivables were \$578,137 and we received \$162,085 which now makes the accounts receivables \$416,052.

Councilmember Brook asked if the Council collected that amount.

Ms. Dekle responded yes, and the Council still has \$416,052 to collect. Staff is being very vigilant about account receivables.

Councilmember Brook stated it was a great amount that was collected, and he would have expected to see a fair sum of that in the checking or money market account, but it's not reflected there.

Ms. Dekle asked out of the \$162,000?

Councilmember Brook responded that is correct.

Ms. Dekle stated that she could have Mr. Vernon Paul, Finance Director, respond to that, because it could have been utilized for existing payroll and other expenses. These are all numbers that fluctuate with cash flow in terms of paying monthly bills and obligations.

Councilmember Brook stated that he understood, but the prior month in expenses was \$272,000 and the current month was \$259,000 so the expenses actually went down \$13,000. With the expenses going down \$13,000 and the accounts receivable, that was a great amount to collect, it is about 28% of what was outstanding.

Mr. Richard Ogburn, Council staff, stated what you are seeing is that our expenses were \$259,000 in the current month, and the net amount that we were able to collect in excess of the outstanding receivables was \$160,000. What you are seeing is that our balances in the cash accounts are going to go down by the difference. In other words, we don't have a constant flow of funds coming in except as reflected in the accounts receivable. In fact, from month to month we have new receivables going out because we are earning resources on the basis of completion of deliverables for the contracts that we have.

Councilmember Brook asked so then maybe there were fewer receivables on the books that increased the prior receivables.

Mr. Ogburn stated the net effect of the change in the receivables was that we had to draw from our cash balances in order to cover the full range of costs during the year. You might want to note that one of the significant portions of our budget each year is the dues that the Council receives from the counties, which are received at the beginning of the year. Money is drawn down from that as needed to cover the costs of monthly operations.

Councilmember Brook stated that it would be helpful for him to understand what the new accounts receivable is, meaning brand new. He stated that he is looking for the marginal difference in the accounts receivable.

Mr. Ogburn clarified, you are not looking for the net, you are looking for how much was actually sent out in the way of receivables.

Councilmember Brook responded correct, so I have a better understanding of the cash flow that we can anticipate on the margin.

Councilmember Wexler stated that she was trying to get her arms around the need for the reduction this fiscal year.

Ms. Dekle stated that the difference was the counties' revenues are set by and large by the set tax rate, so there would not be a tremendous amount of variation.

Councilmember Wexler stated that she was trying to understand why the Council has such a big variation in the remaining portion of this fiscal year. There were contracts in place.

Ms. Dekle interjected that some contracts were projected, but not realized.

Councilmember Wexler questioned so this was known for months.

Ms. Dekle stated we knew this was coming for a month and a half and tried to do whatever we could, in fact we've been talking about this for three months. We have been talking to the local governments to find out if they were going to move forward with the projected contracts, talking to the RTA and others as well. When we became fairly sure that they were not, I wanted to take action as quickly as possible so it didn't all roll into 2008-2009.

Councilmember Wexler stated let's use the RTA as an example. The RTA's contract that Ms. Dekle was referring to, did that effect this fiscal year or next fiscal year?

Ms. Dekle stated it would stretch over both.

Mr. Larry Allen, Council staff, added it was an 18-month contract, and a large percent of it is for this year \$180,000 projected for 2007-2008.

Councilmember Wexler questioned so the RTA held off on that for this year.

Mr. Allen responded yes, even though the Council has taken action to improve the scope of services and the contract the work has not begun.

Councilmember Wexler stated that the Council approved the scope of services, approved moving forward, we have it in our budget and then all of a sudden, nothing. It is very important for the Council to know as it moves forward and approves things if there is actually a signature. It would help in the future for the purposes of understanding and planning. It is hard to understand this corrective action at this point in time for the remaining five or six months of the fiscal year.

Ms. Dekle stated that every contract that comes in or goes out is always subject to the availability of funds. One of the tools that staff is going to develop is what the accounts receivable are and what the anticipated revenues are, that are not yet committed.

Councilmember Wexler stated that it needed to be shown as a pending category, because the Council is approving a budget under the belief that the money is in the bank when it's not.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that she never assumed that the money was in the bank because Ms. Dekle has a relatively small staff in comparison to county governments. During the course of my tenure on the Council, she stated, I have had discussions with other units of government about projects that the Council was going to be involved in. Staff is predicated on those agreements and it would be difficult to wait until a contract was signed to then go hire staff to do the work. We have projected based on operations which have flowed from year to year. This is the first year where contracts that were projected did not come to fruition. The problem is, she stated, that there is probably more of this to come. This is only going to solve the immediate crisis that the Council is in right now. Her concern was the going forward. She stated that she spent 6 weeks in Tallahassee this year, and they are going to call another session to finalize the budget. At some point in time there will need to be discussion to determine the essential functions of the Council.

Councilmember Moore stated that many of the governments are going to be making budget cuts. The Council may be able to step up and furnish some services that they are doing reducing; we should look into those opportunities. If we are sitting here discussing our contractual obligations that we are going to fulfill with outside services and the contractual obligations that we thought we would be funded to do are not coming to us, are we looking at those outside contracts, are we still trying to live up to our obligations by reducing service salaries, or fees or in the actual delivery of service.

Ms. Dekle asked if he was asking where staff was looking at reducing outsourcing.

Councilmember Moore responded yes outsourcing.

Ms. Dekle stated that the Council really doesn't outsource much. There are a couple of contracts in the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program for professional services, but those are all covered by RLF dollars. Legal counsel is also an external contract. The largest chunk of the Council's expenses is rent and salaries. There are also contracts that supply pass-through money for services that the Council cannot perform. Council staff is made up of very talented individuals with a wide range of skills, because of that we will not look to outsource at all. Staff will take all of the recommendations made by the Council and go back and reassess all of the current projected professional services external to the agency and make sure that those are not tasks that we can accomplish in house.

Councilmember Moore asked when the office lease was signed.

Ms. Dekle stated that it was signed two years ago.

Councilmember Moore then asked if the Council would still need all the extra space with the reduction of staff.

Ms. Dekle responded no, that is why the landlord had been informed of the Councils' willingness to sub-lease the new space.

Councilmember Wallace asked if Ms. Dekle had considered cutting the consultant budget prior to cutting staff, and are we bound to the contracts.

Ms. Dekle answered oh sure, most of the consultant budget is pass-through money that has been agreed to in the original contracts.

Councilmember Wallace asked if the Council made a profit off of these pass-through contracts.

Ms. Dekle stated that usually there was a portion of the money that stayed with the Council for managing the contract.

Councilmember Wallace stated that his point was that the Council should not end up being staffed by consultants as a result of cutting staff. With \$400,000 set aside to pay for consultants it really stands out that staff is being cut; how much are we cutting the consultant budget? Can we provide those kinds of tasks with the people that are already employed by the Council?

Councilmember Moore asked if employees would be the consultants.

Ms. Dekle stated no, future contracts would be negotiated contracts so that the money would come to the Council who would then do the work appropriate to staff skills, and anything that staff could not do would then be outsourced.

Councilmember Moore asked if those members remaining on staff, whose hours had been cut to 32 per week, were allowed to do other work to supplement their income.

Ms. Dekle stated that there was a policy in the Personnel Manual that states employees cannot work outside of the agency without the Director's approval. She stated that she has always discouraged that, but she has told staff that she would not be as rigorous about that, but she would still need to approve it. She stated that it is her goal to take all of these recommendations and try to get the 32 hour workweek modified by the beginning of the next fiscal year. She cannot promise that it would be done, but she would work hard to try to get it done.

Ex-officio member Waters asked if there was an opportunity to put into place a contingency plan to avoid losing any more staff in the future. This 20% reduction was significant and if things continue as they are in Tallahassee, we may be in a worse situation next year.

Ms. Dekle stated we are doing everything that we know how to do. She was glad that we made the move when we did, every consulting firm and local government has put a freeze on hiring and some have even had to reduce their workforce.

Ex-officio member Waters asked if the Council was subject to sunseting.

Mr. Goren stated no, it is not sunsetted by state statute.

d) Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren informed the Council that the Vox Populi bill and the Transparency bill both failed in the Senate on Friday. The Weston appeal was reset for November of 2008, and the Davie Commons matter was still in mediation. Staff was working in good faith and trying to resolve the matter. The Anderson matter was an EEOC matter and was currently under review.

Councilmember Wallace stated that there was an article in the newspaper about the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) and there was a mention that the State could still take legal action against that vote. Was the Council anywhere in that scenario, does it come back for Council review?

Mr. Goren stated that legal counsel has been successful in intervention status in previous instances.

Councilmember Wallace moved to request that legal counsel research the possibility of the Council taking part as an intervener in the UDB matter.

Mr. Goren stated in the event that there was a deadline associated with intervening in this matter between this and the next meeting of the Council, he requested that permission be included in that motion to allow counsel to move forward with the Council's request.

Councilmember Wallace stated that he would include that in his motion. Councilmember Neugent seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

g) Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM NINE: Revolving Loan Funds

a) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

Mr. Goren stated the backup for the RLF program and collections is provided in the staff report.

b) Hurricane Wilma Bridge Loan Status Report

c) Eastward Ho! Brownfields Cleanup Revolving loan Fund Status Report

d) Broward County Cultural Division's Artist Micro-Credit Revolving Loan Fund Program - None

AGENDA ITEM TEN: Contracts

None.

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Highlights of Council Activities

Information only

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE: Special Projects

None.

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN: Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP)

None.

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN: Regional Initiatives with Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

Ms. Dekle stated that staff is continuing its work with the TCRPC on the Vision 2060 program. Ms. Julia Trevarthen would be attending the Ideas Exchange that is being sponsored by Vision Broward.

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Other Matters for Consideration

These presentations were done earlier in the agenda.

- a) Ocean Outfalls Presentation - Dr. John Proni with NOAA
- b) Presentation on History of Florida Turnpike

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN: Correspondence and Attendance Form

Information only.

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN: Councilmember Comments/Public Comments

Councilmember Lieberman stated that the Council should congratulate Ms. Cook on her recent award for the RLF program.

Councilmember Perez asked if there were any questions for Ms. Poulton regarding her earlier presentation on the Turnpike.

Councilmember Lieberman voiced concern regarding the noise walls not being continuous along the Turnpike in northern Broward County. Having gaps in the walls creates an invitation for people to come across the Turnpike. As much as we like to think that kids don't do that anymore, they do. She suggested that they revisit that wall policy for safety and esthetics.

Ms. Poulton stated that there were certain guidelines that the Turnpike has to follow and that determines whether walls will be placed there or not. She stated that she could have someone follow up with her on that.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that she would, but thinks that would have the same result. She stated that the Turnpike may need to get some relief on a State level from Federal requirements, which is questionable as to whether or not they apply, because it is self-supporting. The argument that she has heard was that the Federal Statutes don't apply because the Turnpike is not getting federal money. It is not beneficial to security, safety, esthetics or even just being a good neighbor to have panels missing from walls that cover 70 to 80 percent of a roadway expansion.

Councilmember Wexler asked about the long range plan was for Sunpass regarding tourists.

Ms. Poulton stated that they were not sure when the system would go all electronic.

Councilmember Wexler stated that there are certain tolls that are not staffed and the customer either uses a Sunpass or throws coins in the basket. There must have been some discussion about what would be done in the case of tourists.

Ms. Poulton stated that she thinks that the new Sunpass card was the answer.

Councilmember Wexler asked if they would be available at ATMs.

Ms. Poulton stated that they would be available at lots of places including rental car agencies or gas stations.

Councilmember Wexler stated that the time has come when those really need to be available for tourists.

Ms. Poulton stated that plans are in the works with travel guides and the like to inform tourists that they are available. She stated that more and more states are moving into the electronic tolls so they are used to the systems available in their own states and will likely feel comfortable using our system when they travel.

Councilmember Wallace stated that the program would lead to a nightmare for tourism, because tourists would not want to stop to buy a card just to use the Turnpike.

Councilmember Waters asked how the toll cashiers were being assimilated into the rest of the system.

Ms. Poulton stated that there is very high turnover in the toll collection industry. There will most likely be training for those toll collectors who choose to remain with the Turnpike after the lanes go completely electronic.

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN: Upcoming Meetings

- a) June 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- b) July 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- c) August 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- d) September 8th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 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 May 5, 2008 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 2nd day of June 2008.

Jay Chernoff, Secretary

Date