



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #7d

DATE: MAY 4, 2009

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: BROWARD COUNTY ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT
(REMEDIAL)

Introduction

On April 2, 2009, Council staff received adopted amendment #09-R1 to the Broward County Comprehensive Plan for review of consistency with the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*. Staff review is undertaken pursuant to the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act, Chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rules 9J-5 and 9J-11, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Community Profile

Broward County, incorporated in 1915, is a highly-urbanized county located in the southeastern portion of Florida. The 2008 population is estimated to be 1,758,494, an 8.3 percent increase since 2000. It is the 15th largest county in the nation. Broward County contains 1,197 square miles of land, of which the western two-thirds is held in conservation areas and the eastern one-third is considered developable. Population densities in the eastern part of the County average 4,318 people per square mile. Continued population growth and a growing economy, coupled with limited undeveloped land have resulted in pressures for in-fill and redevelopment at higher densities in the County. This creates the need to address issues related to school facilities, water supply, affordable housing and traffic congestion. Through its Charter responsibilities, Broward County regulates the land use plans of its 31 municipalities. The County works closely with its cities to provide a consistent, comprehensive planning effort. Notable among the coordinated planning efforts is the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative. The general location of the County is shown in Attachment 1.

Summary of Staff Analysis

Adopted amendment package #09-R1 contains remedial amendments to the Transportation Element of the Broward County Comprehensive Plan (BCCP). The amendments were adopted pursuant to a Stipulated Settlement Agreement with the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

When amendments to the Transportation Element were first submitted in the 2008 amendment cycle (DCA #08-1ARB, County Amendment #08-1-T1 adopted by Ordinance #2008-07), DCA found the revisions not in compliance because they *did not*: qualify as Level of Service (LOS) Standards for Transportation Concurrency Management Areas or meet the definition of LOS standards; support infill and infill development; address mitigation; adopt a capital improvements program to maintain LOS Standards; and were not supported by data and analysis. Since the finding of non-compliance, the County worked with Council staff, DCA, and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to resolve these outstanding issues.

The remedial amendments to the Transportation Element in adopted amendment package #09-R1 (County #09-1A-T1 adopted by Ordinance 2009-13) include revisions to existing policies related to concurrency management systems that now define concurrency districts and establish LOS Standards for such districts. Policies have been expanded and improved to describe how impacts to Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) facilities will be addressed, and how Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) funds will be utilized. New policies have been created to support pedestrian and bicycle activity, including the establishment of LOS Standards for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and mechanisms to identify, prioritize, and implement projects.

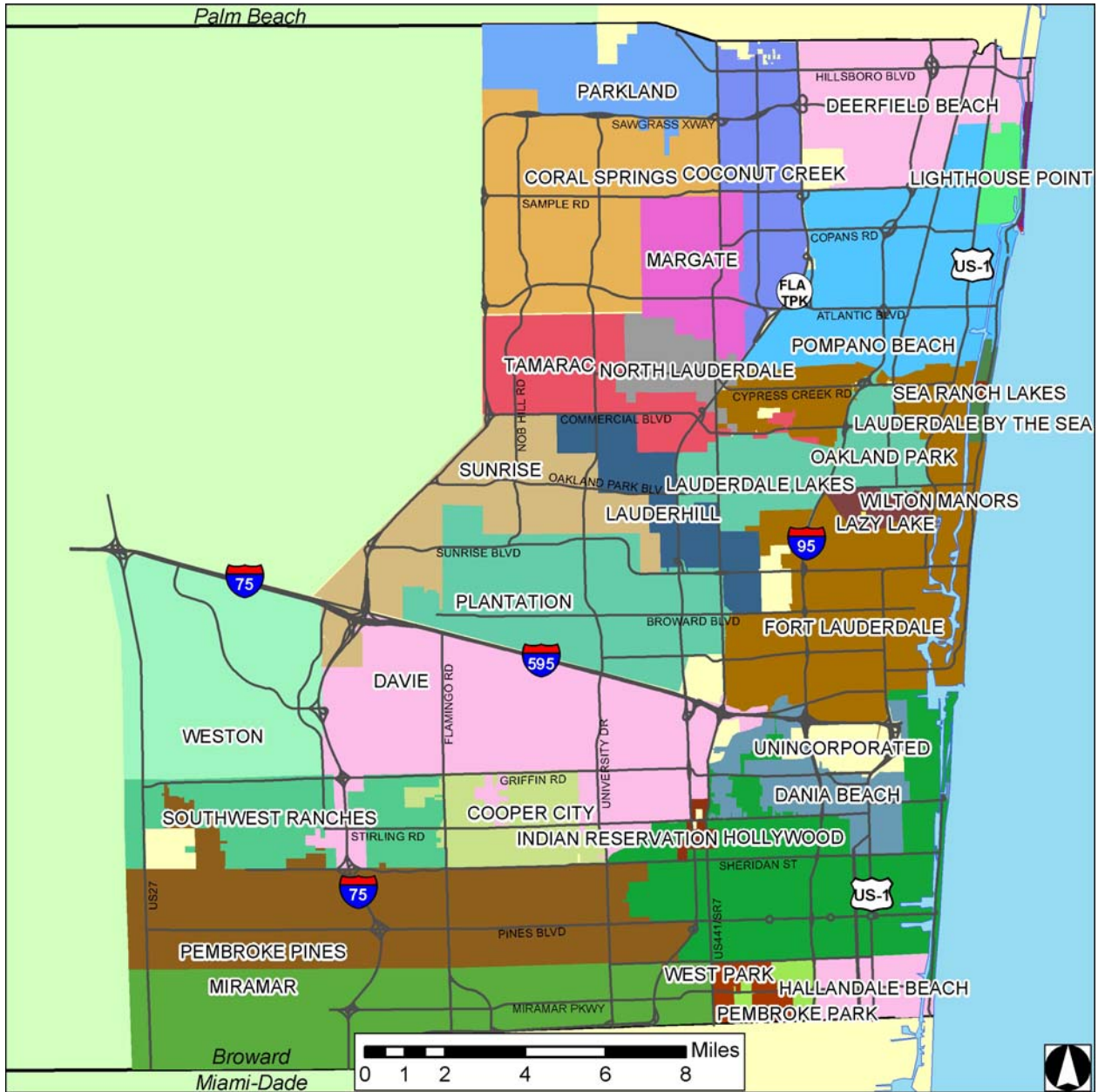
In addition, the County adopted its Capital Improvements Element (CIE) annual update on November 13, 2008, to reflect a financially-feasible 5-Year Capital Improvements Schedule that included projects needed to maintain LOS Standards. DCA found the adopted CIE update (DCA #08-CIE1) in compliance on January 16, 2009.

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted (5-0) to approve the adopted remedial amendments at its March 24, 2009, meeting.

Recommendation

Find Broward County adopted amendment package #09-R1 generally consistent with the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*. Approve this report for transmittal to the Florida Department of Community Affairs.

Attachment 1



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS

Location Map

Broward County
Adopted Amendment #09-R1

Sources: FDEP, SFWMD, Broward County, SFRPC.

Note: For planning purposes only. All distances are approximate.