



MEMORANDUM

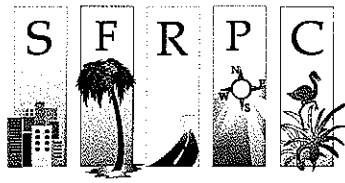
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2009
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 September 14, 2009 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

October

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 update its Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TIC Plan). A TIC Plan describes what communications resources are available within a Region, which agency controls them and what procedures are in place for their use. Council staff will assist Work Group members to bring the Region 7 Plan into compliance with recently released DHS guidelines.

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 and 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 www.sfrpc.com/lepc.htm.

As part of its Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Planning Grant, the SoFlaLEPC is conducting quality control checks of the Tier II Forms received from facilities in its District. Tier II Forms describe the type of chemicals, quantity, method of storage, location and emergency contacts at facilities that store, use or manufacture certain hazardous substances. The forms are required to be submitted to the State, LEPC and local fire department each year as part of the Environmental Protection Agency's Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA).

For information on upcoming training courses, please visit our training website: www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm.

Information on upcoming meeting dates, agendas for upcoming meetings and minutes from previous meetings is always available from www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm.

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

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.

continued on next page

During the month of September 2009, Council staff presented the RLF programs at the State of Florida NAACP Branches Annual Conference. Council staff also participated in Broward Cultural Council Peer Review Panel as well as traveled to the City of North Port, Florida to discuss with its Economic Development Committee the value of providing a Revolving Loan Fund to businesses in the community. Council staff met with the City of Miami CRA to discuss the Council's RLF Program as well.

As part of the efforts to market the Broward County Cultural Division Micro-Credit Loan program, staff attended the monthly credit committee meeting and participated in a Micro-Credit workshop for local artists.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2009.

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 September 11, 2009 Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting at the City of Hialeah Gardens City Hall. The Planning Director gave a brief update of the City's capital improvement projects. Some projects have been put on hold until economic conditions improve. The City recently adopted the School Concurrency Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and a flood ordinance. Hialeah Gardens has also been involved in a Resiliency Study with Miami-Dade County, Opa-Locka, Miami Beach and the South Florida Regional Planning Council. The City received a Home Grant from Miami-Dade County to rehabilitate a 610 unit, low- to moderate-income housing complex.

Miami-Dade County Public School Staff Working Group members gave updates on school concurrency. Twenty-one cities have adopted concurrency elements and 160 applications have been entered into the automated system. Miami-Dade County is in the process of adopting an ordinance to implement concurrency. Each municipality will determine which aspects of the County ordinance to adopt. All 29 members are required to agree if the current unanimity resolution is to be changed to a 2/3 approval standard. The School Board's Facilities Planning Department reorganized and is now known as Planning, Design and Sustainability. Since the School Board has high energy costs, they are implementing energy-saving measures. Any money saved would be shared by the individual school and the district.

There was a continued discussion about Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Objection, Recommendations, and Comment Reports regarding Water Supply Plans. DCA is recommending municipalities identify specific water conservation actions and intergovernmental activities.

Miami-Dade County staff gave an update on the 10 EAR workshops, held in August. The major issues that emerged from the workshops were presented to the Planning Advisory Board in September. DCA was also soliciting feedback on the EAR process on their website through September 15, 2009. The County will hold scoping meetings with DCA, regional agencies, and municipalities on October 19, 2009.

Council staff distributed draft copies of the Clean Fleet Vehicle Model Ordinance that was developed for the Miami-Dade MPO, for review and comment. Council staff also encouraged attendance at the EPA Act Workshop, to promote alternative fuel fleet vehicle usage. The workshop was held at SFRPC offices on September 15, 2009.

The next PTC meeting will be held in October at the City of Hialeah. 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.

Clean Cities - EPACT Workshop

The Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the South Florida Regional Planning Council (Council), hosted a regional, alternative/clean fuels technical assistance workshop on Thursday, September 17, 2009. The workshop was one in a series of "EPACT Workshops" sponsored by the Department of Energy to provide state, federal, alternative fuel providers and Clean Cities Program stakeholders with technical, regulatory, and networking support for overcoming barriers to the increased use of alternative fuel vehicles and fuels. The other EPACT Workshops, were hosted by the Hampton Roads Clean Cities, Denver Metro Clean Cities, Dallas/Fort Clean Cities, and the Central Texas Clean Cities Coalition. The locations selected for the EPACT Workshops were identified as regions where there is sufficient aggregate demand for alternative fuels to achieve the broader goals of supporting fuel providers' decisions to invest in alternative fuel infrastructure and ensuring that existing and new infrastructure is used to its fullest potential. Contact Larry Allen allen@sfrpc.com of the Council staff for additional information.
