



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #11

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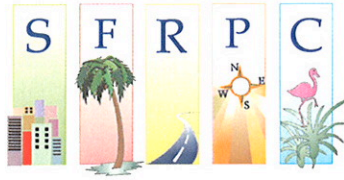
DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2008  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

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Attached are brief descriptions of activities in which the Council has been involved since July 7, 2008 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



## Highlights of Council Activities

### September 2008

#### **South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Fund Marketing Update**

The South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Programs (SFRPC-RLF, SFRPC-RLF II 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.

Council staff is working with the planning committee for the upcoming Minority Enterprise Development (MED Week) Matchmaker Conference and Expo. This event will be held during the week of October 20-25, 2008. This year's program will provide small and minority firms with exposure to corporate and government buyers in a range of industries, including transportation, medical, construction, hospitality, retail, and housing/economic development as well as venture capital.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Accion USA, and MetroBroward Capital Corporation have partnered together to create a one-stop shop for emerging companies seeking financing. These three organizations have formed the Broward Comprehensive Capital Resource Alliance. The BCCRA will hold its second Free Small Business Alternative Financing Seminar on Wednesday September 10, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Deerfield Beach Public Works and Environmental Services conference room.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2008.

For more information regarding the RLF visit our website at [www.sfrpc.com/rlf.htm](http://www.sfrpc.com/rlf.htm) or, please contact Cheryl Cook or Joyce Hall at (954) 985-4416 or email at [rlf@sfrpc.com](mailto:rlf@sfrpc.com).

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#### **Climate Change Summit: Serve to Preserve**

Council staff participated in Governor Crist's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Serve to Preserve Florida Summit on Global Climate Change in Miami. The 2-day event was well attended by a variety of professionals and public officials who are working to address the issues related to energy efficiency, conservation and greenhouse gas emissions in a way that will encourage economic growth within the state. Panelists and speakers focused on the need to promote technological advances that create higher wage jobs and boost local economies to take advantage of a "green" shift in thinking. Council staff continues a commitment to maintain a sustainable South Florida and is working closely with the Miami Dade and Broward Planners Technical Committees, Miami Dade Climate Change Advisory Task Force, and the Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change; For more information, please contact Brian Traylor, [btraylor@sfrpc.com](mailto:btraylor@sfrpc.com) or visit [www.myfloridaclimate.com](http://www.myfloridaclimate.com) where streaming video of the conference may be accessed.

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#### **Institute Provides Assistance to Lake Worth CRA**

The Institute for Community Collaboration, Inc. was recently engaged to design and facilitate a Board Retreat for the Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency. The August 9 retreat was designed to orient new Board members, reaffirm the CRA's mission, and determine initial Board priorities for action over the next 12 to 18 months. Additional information about the Lake Worth CRA can be found at [www.lakeworthcra.org](http://www.lakeworthcra.org). For information about facilitation services, please contact Julia Trevvarthen of Council staff at [juliat@sfrpc.com](mailto:juliat@sfrpc.com).

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## **FPL Turkey Point Workshop**

Council staff participated in Florida Power and Light's Governmental Agency Workshop. Attendees were given an overview of the nuclear plant expansion. Two new reactors (6 and 7) have been proposed. New transmission lines would be needed to connect the power from the new units to the exiting transmission lines. The potential route alignments of the new transmission lines were discussed in break out groups. This was the first in a series of workshops. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2008. For additional information about the Turkey Point expansion, contact Karen Hamilton ([khamilton@sfrpc.com](mailto:khamilton@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

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## **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.

As part of the Council's Regional Domestic Security Program, staff worked with the SERDSTF to stage a workshop for command-level staff on April 18 at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Miami Office. This event was followed by a Table Top Exercise (TTX) on June 9 at Barry University in Miami. TTX participants exercised their terrorism response plans against a prepared scenario, first in breakout sessions by agency and later as a group.

The TTX terrorism scenario was used to develop investigative "leads" for a Field Drill executed on June 17. Nearly two dozen local investigators were paired with federal partners to carry out this simulated exercise. As a wrap-up, participants reconvened the next day for an After Action Conference to debrief, discuss lessons learned and suggest ways to improve the process.

For additional information, contact Manny Cela ([celam@sfrpc.com](mailto:celam@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

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## **Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition**

Staff participated in the Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition quarterly meeting which was held on July 8, 2008. A grant subcommittee was formed to develop alternative fuel related projects for future funding opportunities. Staff also attended one of the four U-GAS grand openings of E-85 fueling stations in Broward and Miami-Dade County. For additional information contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) or Karen Hamilton ([khamilton@sfrpc.com](mailto:khamilton@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff or visit the Clean Cities website <http://www.sfrpc.com/fgcccc.htm>.

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## **Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities**

The State of Florida is divided into 11 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Districts whose broad duties include preparing regional hazardous materials emergency plans, perform outreach functions to increase awareness and understanding of hazardous substances and provide low-cost training to public sector hazardous material response employees. Since 1988, the Council has served as staff to the District XI LEPC, which encompasses Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties. For more information on the LEPC and its activities in the Region, please visit its website at [www.sfrpc.com/lepc.htm](http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc.htm).

As part of the Council's Emergency Management and Hazardous Materials Program, the LEPC will host several exercise-related events this year, including a Table Top Exercise held on June 12 in Miami. Next up will be a CSX Railroad Functional Exercise, hosted at the City of Hialeah Milander Auditorium on September 3. All disciplines are invited, including fire, police, EMS, EMA, hospital, school, highway, utility, local government departments, business managers and private sector firms. Please contact LEPC Coordinator Manny Cela ([celam@sfrpc.com](mailto:celam@sfrpc.com)) directly to register for this event.

Training is available from the LEPC free of charge. The LEPC hosted a Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness Class on May 28 in Miami and two Chemical Compatibility and Storage Classes on June 19 and August 14 in Hollywood. Two additional Proper Use of Emergency Response Guides Classes were scheduled for August 18 and 19 in Miami but postponed due to Tropical Storm Fay. Additional training details and registration information is available at [www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm](http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm).

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Meeting dates and agendas for upcoming meetings as well as minutes from previous meetings are always available from [www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm](http://www.sfrpc.com/lepc/meetings.htm).

For additional information, contact the LEPC Coordinator Manny Cela ([celam@sfrpc.com](mailto:celam@sfrpc.com)).

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### **Eastward Ho! Brownfields Partnership**

Staff continues to work with local governments in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties on brownfields redevelopment efforts. On July 30, 2008 staff held a Partnership meeting at our Council offices. During the meeting attendees were updated on local programs, site activities, and the 2008 State and Federal Legislative changes relating to Brownfields and cleanup activities. In addition, a discussion was held on the value and need for the Brownfields Partnership to continue into the future to promote regional information exchange and contacts. The next Partnership meeting will be scheduled for late October.

For more information on brownfields, please see the website at <http://sfrpc.com/brwnflds.htm> or contact Rachel Kalin of Council staff at (954) 985-4416 or [rkalin@sfrpc.com](mailto:rkalin@sfrpc.com).

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### **Transit Development Plan**

Staff continues to Co-chair the Broward County Transit Development Plan Advisory Review Committee. Recent meetings focused on: Refinement of Objectives and Strategies; Public Involvement Program Status; Review of Random Telephone Survey Results and the Capital and Operating Plan. For additional information contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff. <http://www.broward.org/bct/transitplan.htm>.

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### **Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) Florida Department of Transportation**

Staff regularly attends the SFECC Station Area Planning Group meeting. The development of screening methodology for station location was discussed at the last meeting. For additional information about this project contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

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### **Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee**

Council staff attended the July 11 Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) meeting at the Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASD). The County's water use efficiency requirements for new construction were introduced by Maribel Balbin of WASD. An update of the school concurrency implementation and ILA was given by Susan Trevarthen, of Weiss Serota. The Model LEED Ordinance and Water Supply Plan have been finalized. Both documents can be customized for each locality's needs.

The most recent meeting of the Miami-Dade PTC was held on August 1 at the City of Aventura. An overview of development within the City was given by Joanne Carr, the Director of Planning. Ivan Rodriguez of the Miami-Dade School Board provided an update on the school concurrency implementation and ILA. Alex David and Joanne Carr reported on their presentation of the Model LEED Ordinance to the Broward County PTC in July. A representative from the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department discussed the County's water allocation system in development. The new system will track the amount of water allocated to serve new construction, additions, renovations or changes in use requiring increased in water consumption. Council staff provided some guidance on Water Supply Planning amendments and annual updates to the Capital Improvements Element.

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](http://www.sfrpc.com.ptc.htm) or contact Karen Hamilton ([khamilton@sfrpc.com](mailto:khamilton@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

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## **South Florida Transportation Council – Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC)**

Staff participated in the July 17 2008, RRTAC meeting. During this meeting the South Florida 2060 Vision Plan, the Regional Long Transportation Plan and a future Regional Transit Financing Summit were discussed. For additional information contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff. <http://www.seftc.org>.

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## **US Department of Transportation**

Staff attended the United States Department of Transportation Secretary Mary Peters' presentation on the "Future of Transportation Funding and Needed Reforms for the System". The reorganizing and streamlining various categories of Transportation Funding was advocated. This change would expedite the project development process. For additional information contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

## **Broward County Long Range Transportation Plan**

Staff continued to participate on the Broward County 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Committee. For additional information contact Larry Allen ([LAllen@sfrpc.com](mailto:LAllen@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff. <http://www.broward.org/mpo/lrtp2035.htm>

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## **Southeast Air Coalition for Outreach (SEACO)**

Staff attended the August 15, 2008 SEACO meeting. Several projects and events to promote "Clean Air" such as National Park(ing) Day, Bike Month, and Dump the Pump, were discussed. Attendees were encouraged to explore alternatives to single occupancy vehicles travel. Information was given on available rideshare programs. For additional information on SEACO, contact Karen Hamilton ([khamilton@sfrpc.com](mailto:khamilton@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff

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## **Miami-Dade County Long Range Transportation Plan 2035**

Staff regularly attends the Miami-Dade MPO LRTP Steering Committee Meetings. The Miami-Dade MPO has an interactive website that provides updates of the LRTP process. The first round of Public Involvement Meetings was completed. For additional information on SEACO, contact Karen Hamilton ([khamilton@sfrpc.com](mailto:khamilton@sfrpc.com)) of Council staff.

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