

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

### Minutes

October 5, 2015

South Florida Regional Council's Executive Committee met on this date at the South Florida Regional Council, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL 33021. Chair Walters called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and asked Councilmember Suarez to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

Councilmember Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember David Rice (absent)  
Councilmember Stacy Ritter  
Councilmember Xavier Suarez  
Chair Sandra Walters

Councilmember Greg Ross was present.

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel was present.

The following Ex-Officio Members were present:

Ms. Aileen Boucle, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI  
The Honorable Roberto Martell, representing the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity /  
Mayor of the Town of Medley

Mr. Goren explained, for the record, since Councilmember Ross was present and the Council allows Councilmembers present to participate in the process.

Chair Walters introduced Mayor Martell from the Town of Medley. She stated that he is representing the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity appointed by the Governor.

#### **II. Approval of Council Agenda**

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve the amended Executive Committee Agenda. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Suarez commented on an article in the Miami Herald regarding the Everglades and suggested the Council along with the South Florida Water Management District examine the issue and report back to the Council. Mr. Murley stated that Ms. Laura Corey, Ex-Officio representing the SFWMD, would be of assistance in this matter. Chair Walters suggested this topic be discussed later in the Agenda under Councilmember Comments.

Councilmember Ritter inquired if Council received the PowerPoint presentation of the American Dream Mall at September's Council Meeting. Mr. Murley stated that he received a brochure, which was different than the PowerPoint, and has been in contact with Mr. Gorlow that the

Council has to have a copy of the presentation that was made. Mr. Goren stated that the PowerPoint is a public record and has had public record requests for the presentation.

Chair Walters suggested a procedural change for future presentations. She stated as a requirement, a copy, a jump drive, or a CD of the presentation be given to the Council for the record, since it is public information.

### III. Action Items

#### A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councilmember Suarez moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Council Meeting. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

#### B. Financial Report

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item III.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Ritter seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

#### C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item III.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Ritter seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

#### D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

- Broward County 15-5ESR
- Broward County 15-8ESR
- Monroe County 15-3ACSC
- Town of Davie 15-5ESR
- City of Hialeah 15-1ESR
- City of Hialeah 15-2ESR
- Indian Creek Village 15-1ESR
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 15-1ACSC
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 15-3ACSC
- City of Miami 15-3ESR
- City of Opa-locka 15-1ESR
- City of Palmetto Bay 15-3ESR
- City of Parkland 15- ER
- City of South Miami 15-1ESR
- City of South Miami 15-2ESR

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve Agenda Item III.D, Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Murley noted that there are local government representatives present and available to answer any questions.

Councilmember Suarez inquired about the City of Miami 15-5ESR regarding an area located along the Miami River. Mr. Harold Ruck from the Planning Department with the City of Miami stated he is present to answer any questions.

Councilmember Suarez stated, for the record, that his staff stated that the community outreach has been satisfactory and the proposed plan amendment provides impacts significantly lower than allowed by right. He stated that there will be tall large buildings, one of them being 60+ stories. He commented that the one item he likes is the face lift of the Jose Marti Park and that Project's riverfront will contain multilevel public space for all.

Councilmember Asseff questioned if the entire Miami River area along with the Park will be part of the project.

Melissa Tapanes Llahues, an attorney from the Law Office of Bercow, Radell and Fernandez explained the process of the application and explained in detail the plans for the Miami River Special Area Plan, including the multi-story buildings, and park. She stated this is a very significant and involved project in the Downtown Miami area. She explained the fees, construction costs, and advalorem taxes. She stated this project will be built in phases and will go through the City's Development Review process. She stated there are proposed improvements to I-95, streetscape improvements and other ideas. This is a partnership between the public and the private sectors and there has been great support from the community through public hearings and community meetings.

Councilmember Asseff suggested Ms. Tapanes Llahues make a future presentation to the Planning Council.

Councilmember Suarez stated that this is one of the most abandoned areas in the Riverfront and this project will improve this area. He stated that it would be a great to see nice rooftops from I-95. He stated they are hoping to have SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street and SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, which are paired one-way expressways, to be redirected and for those streets to go two ways, slowing down the traffic with a possible trolley or streetcar service. Councilmember Suarez stated the Miami-Dade County Commission's Economic Prosperity Committee is discussing having a CRA designated for Little Havana.

Mr. Murley stated there will be presentations regarding the New River Riverwalk in Fort Lauderdale and the Miami River District in Miami.

E. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews - None

#### **IV. Discussion Items**

A. Executive Director's Report

1) Downtown Miami Development of Regional Impact Increment III

Mr. Murley stated that the Downtown Development Area (DDA), the consultant, has submitted the information in response to the first request for additional information from the coordinating agencies. He stated they are waiting for response from the agencies if the new information is sufficient.

Mr. Murley stated there is a second DRI in Downtown Miami that is being administered by the Overtown CRA. He stated a year ago the Council reviewed and recommended approval of Increment III and may have to review an additional Increment IV.

2) American Dream Miami (ADM)

Mr. Murley reiterated that last week, at the request of Miami-Dade County, there was a meeting of the transportation agency partners and a presentation on the transportation methodology to help understand the traffic impacts. He informed the Council that there were County and municipal representatives in attendance and reminded the Council these meetings are open to the public and professional staff of the cities and counties. Mr. Murley stated that the applicant would like to submit a comprehensive plan amendment for agency review in by the end of November.

There was discussion regarding rail transportation connecting to the American Dream Mall.

Mr. Murley stated that revenue from increases in the tax base will go to Miami-Dade County. He explained the transportation modeling and the process to further refinements.

Mr. Murley stated he will keep the Council updated.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren stated there was no litigation to report and explained the Revolving Loan Fund Program and the relationship of the Urban League of Broward County regarding the Community Development Financial Institute (CDFI) for Ex-Officio Member Martell.

Councilmember Asseff commented on the CDFI funding in Tallahassee for Economic Development. She stated they are looking into all the avenues to help out our designated areas.

Chair Walters stated the next meeting will be in Key Largo and explained the reasoning behind the meetings being held at the three county locations.

**V. Program Reports and Activities**

- A. Regional Convening
- B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports
  - 1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- C. Florida Regional Councils Association
  - 1) FRCA Monthly Accomplishments

Chair Walters stated she volunteered to serve on a Committee that is working to rebrand the face of the Regional Councils throughout the State. She stated they had their first teleconference last week with another one this week. She stated Lee Constantine, a former State Senator, now a Seminole County Commissioner is the Chair of the FRCA Policy Committee this year and he is a go getter. She stated she is waiting for word from the meeting of the Executive Directors and hope some progress was made.

Mr. Murley went into detail of the Executive Directors meeting regarding having a conversation with Senator Simpson and the funding situation in FY 2015-16.

Chair Walters stated that it is important that we routinely get word out in a more modern style. She stated that every Council should be able, on a regular schedule (every other week), to send in a header, a photograph and a paragraph or two to be send out. She stated if it would be done now it would penetrate the whole state as the Committee Meetings are underway before the Legislative Session starts in January. Hopefully the Governor's Office will be on the list to have idea of what the Councils' are doing around the State.

Councilmember Asseff agrees and stated that the information should be given to the County and City Commissioners that way everyone understands what their Council is doing.

There was discussion about the new website and the ability to post articles, links, and/or e-blast information regarding the Council and its programs such as the RLF and Clean Cities Programs to the County Commissioners as well as on the FRCA and County websites. Chair Walters stated this should be explored since it is the way of the future. Councilmember Ritter stated that Broward County would be happy to assist and thinks the three County Commissioners on the Regional Council have a responsibility to make sure this happens. It was suggested that all the County Commissioners have a link on their website.

Chair Walters commented that the Southern Everglades and Florida Bay Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project have an effect on the Upper Keys. The water quality in Florida Bay, the standard of the water in Everglades National Park and the saline conditions are all very important. Mr. Murley stated he would like to invite the SFWMD and Everglades National Park Superintendent Pedro Ramos to make a presentation.

## **VI. Announcements and Attachments**

- A. Correspondence and Attendance Form
- B. Upcoming Meetings
  - 1) November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (MENC, Key Largo)
  - 2) December 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood) – **Executive Committee**
  - 3) January 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood)
  - 4) February 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood) – **Executive Committee**

## **VII. Councilmember Comments**

Councilmember Ritter requested a copy of the Miami Herald article.

Councilmember Asseff inquired about the Climate Change Summit, December 1-3 in Key West. Chair Walters stated the Council is assisting with the logistics and it will be at the Casa Marina in Key West. Mr. Murley stated an email would be sent to the Councilmembers.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the October 5, 2015 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2015.

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Patricia T. Asseff, Secretary

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Date