

MEMORANDUM

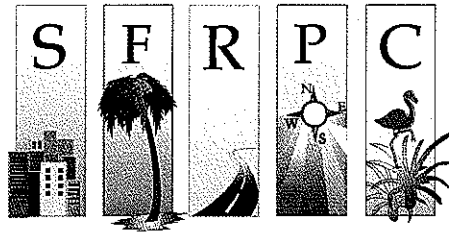
AGENDA ITEM #10

DATE: JANUARY 7, 2008
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Attached are brief descriptions of activities in which the Council has been involved since December 3, 2007 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

January 2008

South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

Staff continues to assist the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority on providing base line information to support future multimodal decisions and Transit Oriented Development. Staff participated in the Broward Boulevard and State Road 7 Corridor Plans: Transit Housing Oriented Redevelopment (THOR) Core Team/Working Groups Meetings. www.broward.org/planningservices/thorbrochure.pdf.

Staff continues to participate in the Development the Regional Long Range Transportation www.miamidade.gov/mpo/docs/MPO_regional_cac_lrtp_presentation_2007.pdf and provide support for the Clean Cities Coalition - www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities. Contact Larry Allen lallen@sfrpc.com of Council staff for additional information.

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.

In continuing the marketing efforts for the Revolving Loan Funds, staff met with Accion USA and MetroBroward Capital Corporation to build a small business partnership that will have a three tier lending approach. This approach will assist each agency with penetrating the alternative finance markets. A press release went out on December 3, 2007 announcing this partnership with an ad in the Miami Herald Monday Business Section.

The next Technical Assistance Consortium meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 18, 2008. The South Florida Regional Planning Council's Service Providers' Consortium ("Consortium") has been convened to be the one-stop channel for businesses in Dade, Broward, and Monroe Counties. The meeting is to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the terms of agreement for cooperation and consultation with regard to the implementation of the Consortium.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2008.

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.

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 participated in the final workshop for the development of a 3-Year Regional Training and Exercise Plan for Region 7. The workshop was attended primarily by domestic security representatives from local governments in the Region. Information gathered during the Training and Exercise Plan Workshop in October formed the basis for this multi-year plan. Additional agency and organizational training needs and scheduled or planned training was collected at this workshop and will be incorporated into the final Plan.

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

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.

LEPC members approved a Training Courses Package for FY07-08 in December 2007. The Package lists nine hazardous materials education classes the Committee is interested in offering in the Region, within the constraints of the training budget. Additional information on training opportunities offered by the LEPC can be found at www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) has declared January 20-26, 2008 to be Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. FDEM, through its State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and local LEPCs promotes this annual event to help educate the public on the importance of local hazardous materials prevention and emergency response programs. For additional information, please visit www.floridadisaster.org/cps/SERC/serc.htm.

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

Institute Assists the Town of Hillsboro Beach

The Institute for Community Collaboration, Inc. is facilitating the Town of Hillsboro Beach Charter Review Committee. The Committee is charged with reviewing and suggesting updates to the Town's Charter. Committee meetings begin in January 2008. For additional information, please contact Julia A. Trevarthen (juliat@sfrpc.com).

Municipal Planning in Broward

Broward Planners' Technical Committee (PTC) held its December meeting at the Council offices. This well attended meeting featured two presentations from local government planners. Mr. Jim Hickey, AICP spoke about the City of Coral Springs recent plan amendment under the new pilot program. Ms. Heather Cunniff, AICP gave a presentation on the City of Lauderdale's Transit-Oriented Corridor and development projects that are planned, including the Lauderdale City Center Development of Regional Impact (DRI).

The next meeting of the Broward PTC will be held jointly with Broward County Comprehensive Plan/EAR Workshop on January 18, 2008. For further information about the PTC please visit www.sfrpc.com/ptc.htm or contact Jo Sesodia of Council staff at jsesodia@sfrpc.com.

State Road 7 Collaborative Awards Bus Shelter Grant to City of Plantation

Council staff presented a check for \$68,000 to the City of Plantation for the construction of two bus shelters along the corridor. The FDOT Enhancement grant money was accepted by Mayor Rae Carole Armstrong on behalf of the city at the December 13th meeting of the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative Meeting, held at the Jim Ward Community Center in Plantation. Mayor Armstrong praised the Collaborative for their efforts and was proud to be involved with the corridor revitalization. Carlos Gonzales of the Plantation Community Redevelopment Agency also updated Collaborative members on other projects underway in the Plantation Gateway Development District, and guided Collaborative members on a trolley tour of the new Grove East mixed-use development (www.groveeastcondos.com) currently under construction at the intersection of Broward Blvd. and State Road 7. For more information on the State Road 7/ U.S. 441 Collaborative, visit <http://www.sfrpc.com/sr7.htm> or contact David Dahlstrom DDahlstrom@sfrpc.com or Brian Traylor BTraylor@sfrpc.com of Council staff.

