

## **SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

### Minutes

December 3, 2007

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Council Offices, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida. The Chair, Councilmember Asseff, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

#### **AGENDA ITEM ONE:** Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Asseff congratulated Councilmember Lois Wexler on being elected as Mayor of Broward County. She also congratulated Councilmember Morgan McPherson on being re-elected as Mayor of Key West.

#### **AGENDA ITEM TWO:** Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember Michael Blynn  
Councilmember Scott J. Brook  
Councilmember Jay R. Chernoff  
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger  
Councilmember Ilene Lieberman  
Councilmember Morgan McPherson  
Councilmember Marta Perez  
Councilmember Jose A. Riesco  
Councilmember Joseph Scuotto  
Councilmember Dixie Spehar  
Councilmember Sandra Walters  
Councilmember Lois Wexler

The following Ex Officio Members were present:

Mr. Gary Donn, representing the Florida Department of Transportation  
Mr. Tim Gray on behalf of Mr. Chad Kennedy, representing the Department of Environmental Protection  
Mr. Elbert Waters, representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Council members arrived after roll call:

Councilmember Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Councilmember Carlton Moore  
Councilmember George Neugent

AGENDA ITEM THREE: Minutes of previous Meeting

Councilmember Walters stated that she had an amendment to page 4 of the minutes, third paragraph from the bottom, second sentence. The correction was that the sentence should say "Unfortunately, with a lot of regulations there have been unintended consequences."

Councilmember Spehar requested that the last sentence in paragraph 8 on page 3 be deleted, because it was not correct.

Councilmember Lieberman moved to approve the amended Minutes from the previous meeting. Councilmember Gunzburger seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Diaz arrived at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Project Reviews

a) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Lieberman moved to approve the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Riesco seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Program

a) DRI Assessment Reports

None

b) Development Orders (DO)

None

c) DRI Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SIX: Proposed Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

a) Proposed Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments

- City of Miami - PEFE
- City of Pembroke Pines - PEFE

Councilmember Asseff requested that Ms. Manning explain the new format for the proposed Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE) and Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments.

Ms. Terese Manning, Council staff, stated that item 6a is a new format for an agenda item to cover proposed CIE and PEFE for all of the local governments in the region. These are both required to be done, the school element is a new element that has to be added to every comprehensive plan and the CIE needs to be updated every year. In Miami-Dade and Broward Counties the municipalities and the School Boards and the Counties got together and essentially drafted one element for everybody. So instead of

having separate staff reports for each local government, staff is combining them so that every month there will only be one report on who is submitting the elements.

Councilmember Lieberman moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

b) City of South Miami

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

c) City of Hollywood

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Lieberman seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**AGENDA ITEM SEVEN:** Adopted Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

a) Adopted Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments

- City of Hallandale Beach - CIE

Ms. Terese Manning, Council staff, stated that agenda item 7a was the new format for adopted Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments.

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Lieberman seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Neugent arrived at the meeting.

b) City of North Lauderdale

Councilmember Spehar moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Riesco seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

c) City of Hollywood

Councilmember Gunzburger requested some additional information on Stirling Village.

Ms. Manning referred to page 2 of the staff report, she stated that the amendment was reviewed at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting and it is an approximately 5.2 acre site east of Davie Road Extension and south of Stirling Road and would change the designation from Commercial to Medium Residential.

Councilmember Gunzburger asked for information regarding to the number of residential units and the type of units that would be built on the site.

Ms. Manning stated that the developer commitment limited the development to 80 townhouses.

Mr. Jaye Epstein, Planning Director for the City of Hollywood, stated that the majority of the project would be affordable housing.

Councilmember Gunzburger asked if it would include workforce housing.

Mr. Epstein stated that it would.

Councilmember Gunzburger moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Wexler seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Reports**

a) Executive Committee Report

Councilmember Asseff announced that the Executive Committee had decided on the Nominating Committee for the 2008 Executive Committee, the members are:

- Councilmember Neugent, representing Monroe County
- Councilmember Blynn, representing Miami-Dade County
- Councilmember Asseff, representing Broward County

Mr. Samuel S. Goren, Legal Counsel, stated that this would be a public meeting and would be held on January 7, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

b) Financial Report (October)

Councilmember Brook stated that he met with his City Manager who raised concern about the amount of money the State Board of Administration (SBA) had invested in sub-prime mortgages. He asked if the Council had taken its money out of there.

Councilmember Asseff stated that the topic of the SBA would be discussed later.

Councilmember Lieberman asked where the \$4,186 under Professional Development, came from.

Mr. Richard Ogburn, Council staff, stated that the money was not a rollover from last year; it was a credit to that category of expenditure as a result of monies that came back in during this month.

Councilmember Lieberman asked what the credit was for.

Mr. Vernon Paul, Council staff, stated that the money was a refund that the Council received at the end of the year. He stated that he would have to look at the backup to find out what the credit was for.

Ms. Dekle stated that she thinks that the money was for travel that she did not take.

Councilmember Lieberman requested that staff look into ways to have a positive fund balance at the end of the year.

Ms. Dekle pointed out approximately \$186,000 less was spent of what was budgeted for FY2006-2007. Council staff has been working within its budgeted dollars, and realizes that this year it will need to be even more careful to stay within budget.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that now would be a good time to start putting money aside.

Councilmember Spehar moved to approve the Financial Report for October. Councilmember Neugent seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Moore arrived at the meeting.

c) Executive Director's Report

Ms. Carolyn A. Dekle, Executive Director, reminded the Council that Councilmember Asseff would be hosting the Council holiday party at her home on December 13, 2007. She stated that there had been some discussion about closing the office on Monday December 24, 2007 and Monday, December 31, 2007. She requested guidance from the Council on the issue.

Councilmember Lieberman moved to close the Council offices on Monday, December 24, 2007, and Monday, December 31, 2007. Councilmember Riesco seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Dekle then reminded the Council about joint meeting with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council would be on Friday, January 18, 2008, in Stuart. She stated that transportation would be provided to the Council members attending the meeting. Ms. Dekle informed the Council that it will be a great meeting and there is a possibility that some of the major leaders from the region may be attending the meeting to discuss the Vision 2060 program. She then introduced new Council employee, Ms. Loretta Cronk.

Ms. Cronk stated that she was very happy to be working for the Council, and she looks forward to making a significant contribution.

d) Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren informed the Council that the backup reflects updates on the Hurricane Wilma loans and collection status on the Revolving Loan Funds. In regards to the Weston Comprehensive Plan appeal case there has been a recent meeting of the Broward County School District which may impact that process. There is a report to take back to the Administrative Law Judge on January 8 that will advise as to what occurred.

Councilmember Asseff requested that Mr. Goren provide an update on the SBA situation.

Mr. Goren stated that the SBA has frozen funds. Council staff has made a request for a release of funds to it for operational dollars.

Ms. Dekle responded staff has done its due diligence in this regard. Staff has requested that the Council's resources come in on Tuesday. There are legal remedies that the Council can take if its request is not honored. The funds will most likely be invested in a financial institution until the SBA evens out.

Councilmember Lieberman asked how long the freeze would be in place.

Ms. Dekle responded, until Tuesday. Council staff has requested the funds and stated, as part of that request that the funds are mandatory for the organization to operate.

Councilmember Lieberman asked if there was any reason to believe that there would be a reduction in principal.

Ms. Dekle stated that there was some reason to believe that that may occur. This was why being first in line was very important. She stated that the Council was taking out its resources, but would keep its account open at the minimal amount.

Councilmember Wexler asked where the Council's financial advice comes from.

Ms. Dekle stated that it was virtually internal. The Council has a Finance Director, I, as the Executive Director, participate and the Council members also participate as advisors. Up to this point, the Council has not had to have a lot of attention on this issue; it has used the safest tools available.

Councilmember Wexler suggested that the Executive Committee take a deeper look at that.

Councilmember Brook made a motion that the Council establish a financial advisory committee and look for financial professionals to participate. Councilmember Wexler seconded the motion.

Councilmember Moore suggested that the Executive Committee discuss the issue prior to making that decision. He asked how much money the Council had in the SBA.

Ms. Dekle stated that it was just under \$1 million, but the amount fluctuates throughout the year.

Councilmember Brook moved to approve establishment of a financial advisory committee after discussion by the Executive Committee. Councilmember Wexler seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Special Projects**

**a) Update on the work of the Florida Taxation and Budget Reform Commission**

Councilmember Asseff introduced former State Representative Carlos Lacasa and former Senator Jim Scott who would be providing an update on the work of the Florida Taxation and Budget Reform Commission (TBRC).

Senator Scott gave a presentation on the work of the TBRC. He started by explaining that the TBRC is made up of four committees: Finance and Taxation, Governmental Procedures and Structure, Governmental Services, and Planning and Budgetary Processes. They have all been very busy. He explained that the TBRC had hearings on several subjects. The commission has been very diligent in identifying a lot of the problems, but it does not have solutions yet, those will hopefully be developed this winter. He went through some of the topics of presentations that the TBRC received and reports that the Commission drafted. The TBRC, having had all of these hearings, is at the stage of trying to formulate solutions. Senator Scott then briefly discussed the issue of property tax, which has been a big topic of discussion for the TBRC. He listed some of the bills that have been drafted to address the issue.

Representative Lacasa stated that through his 8 years in the House, his time on the TBRC and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) he has learned a great deal about the work that the Regional Planning Council does. The MDX has an ambitious plan for expansion of the roadway system, he explained. The topic of property tax has been a dominant political issue in 2007 throughout the State. The TBRC is charged with looking at the overall taxation and budgetary processes of the State, and property tax has been a key point of discussion at all of its meetings. The committee that he chairs, the Planning and Budgetary Process Committee, has drafted a bill to move the starting date for the

Legislative Session from March into January. His committee took a great deal of testimony about the State Budget process. It heard no negative commentary on the way the State budgets each year; as a result there is no anticipation of doing anything to change the State budgeting process. Representative Lacasa began a discussion of the property tax issue. He stated that the key issue is that the real estate bubble has resulted in a bubble in property tax revenues for all taxing districts. This is the consequence of not having taken rollback rates more aggressively over the last four or five years. The public didn't react quickly enough to the absence of aggressive rollback rate policy and now we are in this mess. He then went into discussion of his proposal to address the property tax issue, which would take a 50% exemption from the just valuation of property and a 5% cap on the rate of growth on non-homestead property, and a penny of sales tax to pay for the impact to schools. As this proposal goes forward, Representative Lacasa stated that it was his intention to consider all alternatives.

Councilmember Lieberman thanked both of them for attending the meeting. She stated that she urged Representative Lacasa's committee to go back and look at the State budgeting process again. The Broward County Commission has found it frustrating that the Constitutional Officers' budgets are due to the State before it has to adopt its budget. As a result, they get signoff from their agencies and it is very difficult going through the budget process because they would have to go back and amend their State approved budget. The second issue, regarding the proposal for required local effort, the board would probably support that, but it would probably urge the State to use the money to buy back its unfunded mandates. The cities and counties have been writing checks to pay for State expenses. If the State would take back its responsibility and pay for those important State goals, then cities and counties could greatly reduce their budgets. The third issue, she stated, is portability. The portability proposal does nothing for new residents coming to the State or first time home buyers. If instead of portability, the difference between the current taxable value of a property and the new value based on the new sales price could have a period of time to ratchet up. Her final comment was that the TBRC is looking at the wrong part of the equation; it should be looking at the cost of property insurance. The way to restart the housing market is by addressing the high cost of property insurance, not property taxes.

Councilmember Neugent applauded Councilmember Lieberman's comments.

Senator Scott stated that the comment raised about the Constitutional Officer's budgets was a good point and it was brought up at the last meeting of the Finance and Tax Committee. He stated that that would be added to the update. The topic of unfunded mandates has been raised several times, but he was not sure of an exact proposal, but was sure that it would be coming up. Portability is just a partial solution. He stated that even if the tax amount paid by local government was reduced by 15%, it was really only 7% on the property tax bill, so we think the better answer was in the direction that the TBRC was taking. It is a better nexus for the State. He added we hear you on the unfunded mandates.

Representative Lacasa stated that his committee was looking at a proposal where the Legislature would be prohibited from influencing the collective bargaining process for local unions. With respect to first time home buyers, the proposal that he filed last week was specifically targeting them and non-homestead residents who are suffering.

Councilmember Brook stated that at first glance the proposal sounds pretty good, but what he would be interested in knowing is the fiscal impact that it would have on cities and counties. He stated that the City of Coral Springs lowered its millage rate from 3.86 to 3.25, which is the lowest in Broward County for cities over 70,000. The City had two budget hearings during the process to discuss what services would be cut back, it did not cut back and fire or police. He stated that he did not hear that clamoring in regard to property taxes any more. There is, however, a clamoring in regards to property insurance.

Representative Lacasa stated that his committee is responsible for looking at these issues and has not heard from any public officials or agencies in the State, besides State agencies. It is not too late for anyone to contact the TBRC. The Broward County School Board has been excellent, they came with language for consideration and it is currently being considered. He stated that the TBRC's website has all of the member's contact information.

Councilmember Diaz stated that the TBRC is facing a hard job. There was mention of overspending by the cities and counties; there also need to be checks in State government. He stated that his issue is that there are mandates put on the cities and counties that are unfunded and are very difficult for the municipalities to fund. The bubble has a double effect; it is going to wreak havoc on our job corps and our people. Industries across the State are going to suffer. On the topic of portability, why not go for the full version? Councilmember Diaz stated that South Florida relies heavily on tourism; if the sales taxes are increased then some tourists may begin visiting other places as a result.

Senator Scott stated that he would provide a copy of a transportation proposal that would increase tag fees. The Commission realizes that increasing the sales tax may effect the ability to sell in Florida.

Representative Lacassa stated that part of the future planning for the State is what demographic are we going to attract. The State is aging; the Census Bureau calculates that by the year 2030 there will be over 7.5 million people above the age of 65 in Florida for a total population of about 27 million. If we don't attract younger, working age people, or people that are raising children in Florida sales tax revenues and consumption revenues will suffer. He stated that his target market for property tax reform and anything else that is done by this commission is to make sure that there is a balanced rate of growth particularly in demographics in the State. On the issue of insurance, it is a really tough issue, because there is the concept of actuarially sound rates. A rate must be charged that is based on actuary soundness; what does the science suggest needs to be the rate in order for there to be sufficient surplus to pay claims as they arise. The Legislature had to struggle with this issue because the actuarially sound rate was completely unaffordable. The Legislature was bold by getting away from the actuarially sound rate and going to a method of achieving affordability, but there is risk involved in that. If we continue down this path companies will build up enormous surpluses and we will be able to reach out to the private market again at affordable rates. Having participated in the special session, I can tell you that the Legislature went as far as it could without getting into absolute recklessness.

Senator Scott stated that there was discussion of this topic at the last meeting of the TBRC and one problem was the net result of what was done in Tallahassee was that one storm could be \$26 billion and the State budget is on the hook for that. In order to bond that it costs a little over \$3 billion in recurring money per year. This is an example of where it isn't exactly tax and it's not exactly budget, but it does have such a potential impact on the State, the taxpayers and the economy for the next 20 years.

Councilmember Blynn stated that he did not think that the State was in a bubble, it is at the beginning of a severe recession. He suggested that the TBRC look for the loopholes in the State sales tax exemptions and eliminate them. Being a member of the League of Cities, he requested some discussion of options for League members to be able to raise their own taxes independently of the State. He stated that he completely supports portability within the counties. There should be a national catastrophic claim fund; this should be a high priority.

Councilmember Asseff stated that this is just like running a business. If the business is not bringing in enough income, then you have to cut back, but you have to be resourceful. People would be able to afford things if incomes kept up with expenses. Currently, incomes are staying the same, but expenses are going up. The only way to get or keep young people here in Florida is by creating better paying jobs



so that they can afford to stay here. There shouldn't be differentiation, when developing a plan, among the rich, the poor, and the middle class. No one should be discriminated against, just because of where they are at, that's just part of the Constitution of the United States.

Councilmember Gunzburger voiced concern regarding the removal of all the taxes on the homes, then how many small cities and counties may go bankrupt. There has to be an income that replaces it, and that may not be by raising sales tax, but instead by eliminating all of the exemptions on sales tax with the exception of drug and food, which are essential to life. If that tax proposal gets passed, it will have a profound effect on the quality of life for citizens. When individuals have been laid off and the economy is going into a recession, they will need social services which will also have to be cut. She stated that she is concerned about the quality of life of the citizens of South Florida. Councilmember Gunzburger's final comment was that State functions should be paid for by the State.

Representative Lacasa stated that he, as a member of the TBRC, is more concerned about the homeowner, not the size of government. Everything that he does is going to be aimed at responsible roll-back of the size of government, but his number one priority was the property tax payer. On the issue of sales tax exemptions, an interesting thing happened in the committee on Friday, Senator John McKay made a very bold proposal, which would require the elimination of the required local effort by the year 2009, and a requirement that the Legislature substitute those revenues with either the elimination of sales tax exemptions or, in the absence of that, with the imposition of a services tax. If you leave it to the Legislature, given its track record, there will be no elimination of sales tax exemptions; it's a virtual sure thing that there will be a service tax in Florida. He stated that his committee discussed the idea of a sunset review process of sales tax exemptions, every five years. If they are not adopted by a 3/5 vote, then they go away. The politics of getting that in place would be very difficult, consider the millions of dollars that business groups would put in to oppose that type of initiative. It would require 60% of the vote to pass.

Senator Scott stated that if it were tied, initially, to tax property relief then it might pass.

Ex-Officio member Waters asked if there had been any consideration of a State income tax.

Senator Scott responded that it would require a 60% vote by the people in favor of implementing a State income tax. It would be impossible, so it is pretty much off the table. What is being discussed is the option of the exemptions and exclusions to the sales tax.

Councilmember McPherson requested that the TBRC consider lowering the property tax on workforce housing, which is currently taxed at market value.

Representative Lacasa stated that there was talk of that in House Proposal at one of the last special sessions. If a super exemption was created for all residential property, then renting costs would be greatly reduced. A super exemption would also eliminate the need for portability, because it is entirely possible that the value of the exemption would be greater than what would be brought from a previous property. The Legislature has the power to give ad-valorem breaks for rental property, but it has never done it, because it cannot figure out how.

Councilmember Wexler stated that she wanted to ditto everything that Councilmember Lieberman said, but wanted to go down a different track. One of the things that is critical to the success of passing a ballot initiative by the required 60%, is by keeping it simple. We have all given some relief locally through cities and counties and other taxing agencies, but the School Board really took a pass this time, and it is looking to take a pass January 29<sup>th</sup> as well. On the topic of the required local effort (RLE), if they don't do

what the State says, in that number whatever the percent is, then there is a penalty built into that. There has been a shift from Tallahassee to make that RLE larger and larger. Getting that funding stream back to the State's responsibility would be a win for the taxpayers of this State. She stated that she strongly urged that the Florida School Boards Association voice its opinion, because it balances the representation throughout the State.

Senator Scott stated that he thinks that there is some awakening with the Education Association because what could happen is a ballot initiative like a Proposition 13, which would have a severe impact on the schools, and potentially no replacement of funds. It is constitutionally a State obligation to provide K-12. That would be preferable.

Councilmember Riesco stated that there is a lot of confusion and disappointment in the South Florida communities. There are a few alternatives out there, what is a realistic expectation, what timeline can we as citizens expect to see over the next twelve months. He stated his second question is why can't the Legislature do some of these things independently.

Representative Lacasa responded everything that requires a Constitutional amendment must go to the voters. The genius of having a Commission like the TBRC, which is appointed not elected, is that it is less sensitive to political pressure. The TBRC has to have proposals in the hopper, ready to vote on and be approved by March of 2008 so that they can be transmitted to the Secretary of State and put on the ballot for November. The voters can expect that whatever is going to happen will happen by November 2008.

Senator Scott stated that the Legislature can do just about anything that they want to subject only to the courts saying that they overstepped bounds, but the question is the will to do it. Term limits have made it extremely difficult to come together on addressing major issues in the State. The Senate is pretty much done; it is not going to do anything else this year on the subject. Everyone appointed to the TBRC takes it very seriously, and there will be a real concerted effort to address some of these major issues.

Councilmember Spehar stated that the speakers had stated that they had the power of special assessment and their concern for attracting youth to South Florida, but what about the loss of a historical industry? The one that is most dear to me is the working waterfront and we had asked for a special assessment to be on takings instead of highest and best use. If this does not get done and all of the other regulations start coming down on the fishing industry then it is going to be lost totally.

Senator Scott stated that it is a topic that is being addressed. He added that he has drafted a proposal, so did Commissioner Kenneth Wilkinson, and the Committee basically voted to go forward on this whole issue of highest and best use. There is a high likelihood of a proposal on that from the Commission.

Representative Lacasa stated that they are very well represented by lobbyists. He stated that he also sponsored something on their behalf not knowing the Senator Scott did as well.

Councilmember Moore stated that he agreed with Councilmember Wexler, the State consistently reduces its responsibility to local government and then tells local government that it is asking for too much money to deliver the services that the State has mandated it to do. The State has a responsibility for education, and it has put it in an ad-valorem for the local governments to do and then beat up the local government for taking its responsibility. There was a concern raised about the age of the populous in the State. The age of the populous in America is going to be above 65 simply because it is the "Baby Boomers;" and this particular group that is being discussed is not having children because they can't afford to. What is a constant from every State Legislator is a mandate to local government. He stated that he applauds the comment that it would get out of negotiating with labor groups. The State negotiates

with labor groups and mandates that local governments do what it says, but doesn't provide the money. Then when local governments get money from ad-valorem property tax, with all of the responsibilities that it must work within, meaning the millage rate, the cap on the three percent and on and on, the State looks at the local government, which is running itself under 4 mills, and says that the local government has too much money. Local governments are being treated as scapegoats, while the Legislature is saying that it is doing something when it really is not. He stated that they will hear from his local government this week. The exemptions on taxes have to be reviewed, it is a fair methodology of taking the responsibility by taking the schools out of local government ad-valorem, this will reduce millage rates and ad-valorem rates. The TBRC truly has the ability to recommend reform. He asked that the members of this Commission make the recommendations so that the State and Senate cannot dodge the issue. Everybody talks about portability as well as homestead exemption, both are very good, but everyone should pay on the first \$5,000 of the appraised value of property and the exemptions should come after that. The last issue is transportation, the Florida Turnpike and other State toll roads in South Florida have several tolls that are charged, yet in the Orlando area it seems to be a free ride.

Senator Scott stated that there was a lot to be done in a very short amount of time; he would greatly appreciate the Council's input on this. It is clear that the State is at a turning point, and there needs to be a very bold forward looking effort from the TBRC, regardless of feelings or whether the members agree on every issue.

Representative Lacasa stated that the TBRCs website was [www.FloridaTBRC.org](http://www.FloridaTBRC.org). He thanked the Chair, Councilmember Asseff, Ms. Dekle and Ms. Isabel Cosio Carballo, of Council staff, for arranging this meeting.

e) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) Status Report

1 Resolutions to Transfer the City of Homestead RLF Program and Increase the RLF Capitalization Utilization Percentage

Councilmember Diaz moved to approve the resolutions to transfer the City of Homestead RLF Program and increase the RLF Capitalization Utilization Percentage. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

f) Eastward Ho! Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Information only

g) Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report

Information only

h) 2008 Council Meeting Dates and Proposed Locations

Councilmember Blynn moved to approve the proposed meeting locations for 2008. Councilmember Scuotto seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**AGENDA ITEM NINE: Contracts**

None

**AGENDA ITEM TEN: Highlights of Council Activities**

Information only

**AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Special Projects**

a) Update on the work of the Florida Taxation and budget Reform Commission

Discussed earlier

b) Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program - Update

Information only.

**AGENDA ITEM TWELVE: Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP)**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN: Regional Initiatives with Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council**

The meeting with the TCRPC is scheduled for January 18, 2007 at 12:00 noon.

**AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN: Other Matters for Consideration**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Correspondence and Attendance Form**

Information only.

**AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN: Councilmember Comments/Public Comments**

None

**AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN: Upcoming Meetings**

- a) January 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- b) January 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon (Joint meeting with TCRPC, Wolf High Technology Center, Stuart)
- c) February 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- d) March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- e) April 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (Miami-Dade County Commission)

**AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN:** Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the December 3, 2007 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Scuotto, Secretary

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Date