



MEMORANDUM

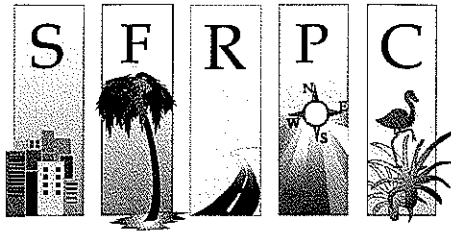
AGENDA ITEM #11

DATE: MAY 5, 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 April 7, 2008 Council meeting.

Recommendation

Information only.



Highlights of Council Activities

May 2008

Eastward Ho! Brownfields Partnership

Staff assisted with presenting a one-day workshop on brownfields redevelopment with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), and the Florida Brownfields Association on April 23, 2008. The workshop focused on providing assistance to small local governments and non-profit agencies. The workshop was held at the Seminole Inn, located in Indiantown, Florida. Federal and State agencies discussed resources available and brownfields developers provided information on lessons learned.

Staff continues to work with local governments in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties on brownfields redevelopment efforts. Recent activities include providing technical assistance to the staff of the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), the West Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils, private developers, and the Cities of Opa-Locka, Doral and Lauderhill. The next meeting of the Eastward Ho! Brownfields Partnership is scheduled for July 23, 2008 at the Council's offices.

For additional information on brownfields, please visit the Brownfields Section of the Council's website, at www.sfrpc.com/brwnflds.htm, or contact Terry Manning (terryman@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee

The Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee (PTC) met on April 4, 2008 at Evelyn Greer Park in the Village of Pinecrest. The PTC discussed implementation of new comprehensive plan requirements, including Water Supply Facility Plans, Public Education Facilities Elements, and changes to the Coastal High Hazard Area. A template for Water Supply Facility Plans and Plan Amendments was presented by representatives of the Water Supply Plan Committee (comprised of representatives of the PTC, South Florida Water Management District and Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department). Also discussed was proposed growth management legislation.

The PTC has three standing working groups/subcommittees, members from all local governments in Miami-Dade County, and meets monthly. Council staff provides support for the PTC. For more information and information about upcoming meetings, please see the Local Government Planners' Meetings Section of the Council's website at www.sfrpc.com/ptc.htm or contact Bob Daniels (bobd@sfrpc.com) or Terry Manning (terryman@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

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 is assisting the SERDSTF stage a workshop intended for command-level staff. Over 115 agency principals were invited to participate, including all local government police departments, county sheriffs and many state and federal agencies.

The workshop occurred on April 18, 2008 at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Miami Regional Operations Center. This law enforcement-only workshop featured presentations from each of the counties in the Region, the SERDSTF and Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). A round-table discussion was also held.

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, performing outreach functions to increase awareness and understanding of hazardous substances and providing 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.

As part of the Council's Emergency Management Hazardous Materials Program, the LEPC will offer several training classes this year. Next on the agenda will be a Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness course on May 28, 2008 at the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Training Facility in Miami. This class is intended for law enforcement, fire/rescue, utilities and many other inspectors who routinely enter residences and work areas where such clandestine labs operate. The 8-hour course will enable such public sector personnel to recognize the common household chemicals and methods that are used to manufacture illegal drugs. Additional information will soon be available at www.sfrpc.com/lepc/training.htm.

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

Margate City Center Workshops

Council staff continues to work closely with the City of Margate and its Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to implement redevelopment initiatives throughout its segment of the State Road 7 corridor. The CRA Board and staff, as well as several interested community members attended the second in a series of workshops for the planned City Center project on March 29th. Staff previously facilitated a kick-off workshop for the project in October of last year with presentations that discussed successful precedents and offered advice from industry professionals.

This time the Saturday morning workshop focused on an analysis of the current market conditions and potential development strategies for the CRA to consider as it moves forward with a master plan for the 38 acres it has acquired in the center of the City's newly adopted Transit Oriented Corridor (TOC). Council staff is also in the process of updating the zoning in this and other segments of the TOC area, as well as creating new land development regulations to ensure the successful implementation of the City's vision. Council staff is working with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council on the site design for the City Center property and a preliminary plan is expected to be available for another public workshop on May 12th. For more information, visit <http://www.margatecra.org/CityCenter.htm> or contact David Dahlstrom (ddahlstrom@sfrpc.com) or Brian Traylor (btraylor@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

State Road 7 Collaborative Reducing Obstacles to Redevelopment

Council staff has worked successfully with the City of Margate and its Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to have its application to amend the Broward County Trafficways Plan approved for a substantial length of State Road 7/U.S. 441 within the City. The amendment, approved by the Broward County Planning Council at its March 27th meeting, reduces the required reservation of land adjacent to the existing right-of-way from 200 ft. to 150 ft. with one expanded 175 ft intersection. This reduction is intended to encourage redevelopment along the corridor by providing property owners with increased buildable area over that which had previously been available due to the constraints of the Trafficways reservation, representing a gain of up to 2,500 square feet of buildable area per 100 ft. of frontage along State Road 7. Together with an updated zoning code and land development regulations that will require pedestrian friendly and transit supportive development, this Trafficways reduction is consistent with the recently adopted Transit Oriented Corridor (TOC) land use, and is another step toward the City's implementation of their redevelopment goals. The Trafficways Plan is available at <http://gis.broward.org/maps/webPDFs/Pcouncil/trafficways24by24.pdf> and for more information contact David Dahlstrom (ddahlstrom@sfrpc.com) or Brian Traylor (btraylor@sfrpc.com) of council staff, or visit the Broward County Planning Council's website at: <http://www.broward.org/planningcouncil/trwysintro/intro.pdf>.

Miami-Dade County Climate Change Advisory Task Force to present its Initial Recommendations to the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners

Created by Miami-Dade County Ordinance 06-113 and chaired by Miami-Dade County Clerk of Court Harvey Ruvin, the Miami-Dade County Climate Change Advisory Task Force (CCATF) is a 25-member body whose primary responsibility is to advise the Board of County Commissioners as to strategies and policies with respect to the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures to be taken in response to the challenge of global warming climate change.

The CCATF is composed of a steering committee and 6 issue committees: Intergovernmental Affairs; Science; Built Environment; Natural Systems; Economic, Social & Health; Greenhouse Gas Reduction committees. Council staff provides support to the CCATF and its committees, particularly the Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Committee which is chaired by the Council's executive director. The Intergovernmental Affairs Committee is tasked with identifying 3 – 5 critical questions/issues which the Committee and Task Force should focus its efforts on; key resources to assist the Committee with expert advice; and key stakeholder sectors and organizations who should be engaged in climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in Miami-Dade County.

The full steering committee met on March 20, 2008 to finalize initial recommendations across all issue committees. These recommendations will be presented to the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners on April 22nd. For more information about the CCATF and the work of the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, please contact Isabel Cosio Carballo (isabelc@sfrpc.com) or Loretta Cronk (lcronk@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

Quality of Life in Broward County

Council staff, working with the Quality of Life Committee of The Coordinating Council of Broward (CCB), recently completed revisions to the questionnaire that will be used to conduct the 2008 Quality of Life Survey in Broward County. The results of this telephone survey of 1,000 Broward County residents will be used, along with other data, to prepare the 2008 edition of *Selected Indicators of The Broward Benchmarks*. For further information, please see The CCB website (www.theccb.org), or contact Richard Ogburn (rogburn@sfrpc.com).

Demographic Characteristics of Broward County and Southeast Florida

Council staff has made two recent presentations about the shifting demographics of Southeast Florida. On February 21, 2008, Council staff presented to Leadership Broward's Senior Executive Orientation, co-sponsored by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, and hosted by Nova Southeastern University. On April 22, 2008, Council staff presented to the senior staff of Broward Community College. These presentations focus on current estimates and projections of the region's population, as well as the changing characteristics of the population. For further information, please contact Richard Ogburn (rogburn@sfrpc.com).

Future Development in Downtown Miami

On April 16, 2008 Council staff held a pre-application conference for the third and final increment of Downtown Miami Development of Regional Impact (DRI). The project, which began in 1986, covers 927 acres of the downtown area extending from NE 24 Street to SW 15 Road. Staff from local and state review agencies participated in the meeting. The applicant, the Miami Downtown Development Authority, wants to obtain approval for an additional four million square feet of office space, one million square feet of retail use and 10,000 residential units, which will be constructed by individual developers.

For further information about Downtown Miami Increment III, or other DRI projects in the region, please contact Jo Sesodia, AICP at jsesodia@sfrpc.com and visit our web site at www.sfrpc.com/dri.htm.

Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC)

The Water Resources Advisory Commission is an advisory body to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board and to the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force. Made up of a broad range of business, agricultural, environmental, tribal, governmental and public interests, the Commission is a forum for improving public participation and decision-making on water resource issues in south and central Florida. Council staff has been appointed to serve on the WRAC.

The April 3, 2008 WRAC meeting was held in Jupiter at the Jupiter Community Center. The WRAC session began with an update on legislative and funding issues affecting the District. District staff updated the WRAC on continued efforts to develop a district wide Comprehensive Water Conservation Program. A Final draft will be presented to the WRAC in May and will then move to the District's Governing Board for final review in June. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presented to the WRAC the integrated delivery schedule for projects within the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and an update on Tamiami Trail Improvements.

The next WRAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2008 at the SFWMD headquarters located at 3301 Gun Club Road in West Palm Beach. For additional information, please visit www.sfwmd.gov or contact Rachel Kalin, rkalin@sfrpc.com, of Council staff.

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 continually working on strategic ways to market the Revolving Loan Fund. The Council has produced a video that will be used to market the program. The video contains an overview of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, narrated by two Council members as well as the success stories of three businesses that obtained financing from the Revolving Loan Fund.

The next Loan Administration Board meeting is scheduled for May 19, 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.

Broward Planners Discuss Water Supply

Broward Planners' Technical Committee (PTC) held its monthly meeting at the Council offices on April 11. Representatives from 17 municipalities and Broward County Planning Council participated in the meeting, which featured a technical presentation by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff on water supply planning. SFWMD and SFRPC staffs are working with local government planners to assist in the preparation of new comprehensive plan amendments that are required for water supply planning by this summer.

The next meeting of the Broward PTC will be held on May 16, 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.

FPL Turkey Point Uprate Review Update

The Council has been one of several agencies involved in the review of Florida Power and Light's Turkey Point Uprate Site Certification application. Council staff held a Public Information Meeting on March 28, 2008, in conjunction with Miami-Dade County. Both Council and County staff members were on hand to explain SFRPC and Miami-Dade County's role in the uprate certification process and identified opportunities for future public involvement. Representatives from FPL and Florida Department of Environmental Protection gave overviews of the Turkey Point uprate project and the DEP site certification appli-

cation process. Meeting attendees made comments, raised concerns, and asked questions about the Turkey Point Uprate Project. The issues raised at the public meeting will be incorporated into Council staff's Statement of Issues, due in June.

For additional information contact Karen Hamilton (khamilton@sfrpc.com) or Bob Daniels (bobd@sfrpc.com) of Council staff.

Clean Cities – Alternative Fuel Development

Staff held a quarterly Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition meeting on April 24, 2008. Some of the discussion during the meeting included: the annual governmental fleet survey results, and upcoming E-85 (Ethanol) infrastructure installation in the region. Contact Larry Allen LAllen@sfrpc.com of Council staff for additional information.

Broward County 2009-2019 Transit Development Plan

Staff is participating and has been nominated as co-chair of the Advisory Review Committee (ARC) for Broward County's upcoming FY 2009-19 Transit Development Plan (TDP) developments. The TDP is a ten-year plan required by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) that examines a transit agencies vision and plan for assessing and trying to address the transit needs of its service area. For BCT it means addressing what works with our existing fixed-route, community bus and paratransit services and what needs to be changed with this existing service to best fit what the public and Broward County's rapid growth patterns require.

The TDP process will also take into account how other forms of mass transit need to develop in Broward County, such as bus rapid transit, light rail transit, and other modes of transit that can help meet the demands of the ten-year timeframe. Contact Larry Allen LAllen@sfrpc.com of Council staff for additional information.

North University Drive Study Group

Staff continues to be involved in the University Drive Study Group for the future development of the "Wedge area, which is scheduled to be annexed into Broward County from Palm Beach County." Staff has participated in the discussions regarding various transportation facilities and technologies. A list of alternative alignments has been identified by the group. Those recommendations will be forwarded to the Policy Committee for their review. The Policy Committee is comprised of elected officials from Broward and Palm Beach Counties. For additional information, please contact Larry Allen LAllen@sfrpc.com or David Dahlstrom DavidD@sfrpc.com of Council staff for additional information.
