

**SOUTH MIAMI DADE WATERSHED STUDY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
Meeting Twenty-five**

September 23, 2004
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Report of Proceedings

WELCOME/CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS/GUIDELINE REMINDER

The meeting was held at The Miami Dade Cooperative Extension Service Agricultural Center in Homestead, Florida.

Roger Carlton, Chair, congratulated the Committee on the extensive amount of work they accomplished at their last meeting on July 22, 2004. He then welcomed everyone back and turned the meeting over to the Facilitator, Janice Fleischer.

Members Present:

Roger Carlton, Chair
Subrata Basu, Miami-Dade Planning and Zoning
Linda Canzanelli, Biscayne National Park
Amy Condon, Trust for Public Land
Guillermina Damas, Member At Large (Prospective Member)
Carlos Espinosa, Miami Dade DERM
Jeffrey Flanagan, Chamber South
John Fredrick, Dade County Farm Bureau
Dick Frost, Tropical Audubon Society
April Gromnicki, National Audubon Society
John Hall, Florida Engineering Society
Louise King, Redland Citizens' Association
William Losner, Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce
Carter McDowell, Building Industry Representative
Reed Olszack, Miami-Dade Agricultural Practices Board
Lawrence Percival, Kendall Federation of Homeowner Associations
Bonnie Roddenberry, Sunny South Acres Homeowner's Association
Mike Shehadeh, City of Homestead
Jane Spurling, Florida Nurserymen and Grower's Association
Charles Thibos, Tropical Everglades Visitor Association
Julia Trevarthen, South Florida Regional Planning Council

Ms. Fleischer reviewed the day's Agenda (**Exhibit A**), and reminded everyone to turn off cellphones and beepers and keep side conversations to a minimum. A member noted that there was an error on one of the documents included in the packet. The information contained on the reverse side of the "Draft Resolution" was copied there in error and had nothing to do with this Committee.

All Reports of Proceedings of the Committee, Discussion Guidelines and Committee related information, can be found on the SFRPC website at www.sfrpc.com/institute/watershed.htm.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST PRESENTATION

Robert Meyers, Esq., Executive Director, Miami Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, reported to the Committee on the issue of Conflicts of Interest. Mr. Meyers referred members to the Miami Dade County website at www.miamidade.gov/ethics/plain.asp for answers to many questions on ethics and for a copy of the Ordinance and related documents. He indicated that the Commission responds to questions; however, the questions must be in writing.

Mr. Meyers specifically spoke about Section 2-11.39.2 of the Code of Miami Dade County, which allows an exemption from the application of the Miami Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance for certain designated County boards.

This Committee was seeking this exemption as a designated County board. However, the Board of County Commissioners indicated that the current resolution allowing exemptions is too broad. They have requested that the exemption being sought by the Committee be limited to specific sections of the Conflict of Interest Ordinance. Subrata Basu, Assistant Director, Miami Dade County Planning and Zoning and MOU representative on the Committee, reported that the two sections, which would be designated for exemption, would be sections "n" and "v", having to do with voting conflict and financial interest respectively.

Mr. Meyers indicated that the voting conflict rules are different for elected officials and board members such as serve on this Committee. Where an elected official must not participate in deliberations preceding a vote and must absent him/herself from the room during the deliberations, on this Committee members can participate in all discussions and then recuse him/herself from voting.

Mr. Carlton announced that he would assist in getting the more finite exemption for the Committee from the County Commission. The Committee will be kept informed as to the progress of the request for exemption.

Mr. Meyers answered specific questions Committee members had and provided his contact information: phone: 305-350-0613; email: rmeyers@miamidade.gov.

PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

John Hulsey, Project Manager, delivered the Project Manager's Report. (Exhibit B)

Mr. Hulsey reminded the members to attend one of the two upcoming public meetings to be held by the Consultant. He described these meetings and the topics of discussion at each one.

Mr. Hulsey explained that, at the next Advisory meeting, the Consultant would be describing the methods they used in building each of the scenarios that will be used to test how conditions effect the Watershed. At the October meeting, scenarios 1 and 3 will be presented along with maps. Committee members will be given an opportunity to ask clarifying questions about the methodologies and how they were applied. The land use patterns themselves do not require acceptance by the Committee as they are based on already accepted criteria (opportunities and constraints; parameters and thresholds). A final work product regarding the scenarios will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting for acceptance.

Mr. Hulsey also announced that there will not be a November meeting, the next two meetings will take place on October 28, 2004 and December 9, 2004. Locations will be announced at a later date.

CONSULTANT'S PRESENTATION: SCENARIOS

Michael Davis, V.P., Keith and Schnars, delivered a presentation on how his firm will be developing the land use scenarios. (Exhibit C)

Mr. Davis also announced the dates and times of the next public meetings to be held in connection with the Study. Committee members are encouraged to attend to validate the work being done and give support to the process. Committee members will be introduced at the meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was invited at this time.

Note: Public comment is not recorded. If anyone from the public desires to have his/her comments appear in the Report of Proceedings, they can submit their comments in writing on the comment cards provided at each meeting or email the Facilitator, Janice Fleischer (jfleischer@mediate.com) within the first week following the meeting.

MIAMI DADE COUNTY BOND ISSUE UPDATE

Frank Barriga, Program Representative for the Miami Dade County Bond Issue, spoke to the Committee regarding the new bond issue, many sections of which are related to the Watershed Study. Information on the bond can be found at www.miamidade.gov/bond2004. There is an explanation about each section of the bond on the website. All items are capital improvement projects.

Voters can vote for some or all of the sections of the bond. Some of the tools to implement the Watershed Plan are contained on this bond issue. If any Committee representatives are interested in either getting a speaker for their group on this bond issue, or if Committee members are interested in speaking on behalf of the bond issue call Mr. Barriga at 305-375-2756.

Chair, Roger Carlton requested further information on the purchase of development rights program.

MEMBER FORUM

- Amy Condon, The Trust for Public Land, "At Large" member, handed out materials on the recent seminar that TPL conducted on Conservation Easements. For further information on this subject, contact Ms. Condon at Amy.Condo@tpl.org.
- April Gromnicki announced the annual Audubon Conference to be held in Tampa the week of October 6, 2004. For further information, contact Ms. Gromnicki at Agromnicki@audubon.org.

The next meeting of the Committee will be on October 28, 2004

ADJOURN

The meeting was then adjourned.

MEMBER COMMENT CARDS:

None received.

OBSERVER COMMENT CARDS

None received.

IDEA PARKING LOT

No comments