

Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida



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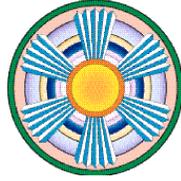
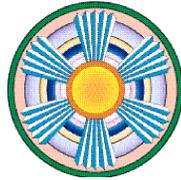


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1995/2004 Goal & Policy Comparison

The Council adopted the SRPP on June 7, 2004 and it became effective on July 12, 2004. Changes are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ and underline formatting.

This document provides a comparison of goal and policy language between the 1995 and 2004 versions of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*. Due to significant updating and restructuring, the adoption of the 2004 *SRPP* required the repeal of the 1995 version and adoption of the updated document in its entirety. The goal and policy language included in the 2004 *SRPP* is formatted with ~~strikethrough~~ and underlining to identify changes from the 1995 *SRPP*.

1. Education & Workforce Development Goals & Policies

Goal 1 Invest in the youth and workforce of the Region by providing quality education, workforce training, and targeted job creation.

Educational Levels

Policy 1.1 Advocate and work with the Council's partners to implement programs that will increase the percentage of South Floridians earning high school diplomas.

Policy 1.2 Advocate and work with the Council's partners to implement programs that will increase literacy rates within the Region.

Continuing Education

Policy 1.3 Promote the development and implementation of programs that will increase the percentage of South Floridians pursuing continuing education.

Policy 1.4 Guarantee access to post-secondary education through increased funding, facilities, and programs.

Workforce Retention/Support Systems

Policy 1.5 Provide an adequate, affordable, and accessible support system for the Region's diverse workforce, including housing, childcare, transportation, and language training.

Policy 1.6 Enhance the financial literacy of the Region's residents, including awareness and understanding of housing and transportation costs and the financial benefits of higher education and training.

Expanded Partnerships & Targeted Training

Policy 1.7 Develop a workforce that is able to fulfill the Region's employment needs and opportunities, including education, healthcare, international business, and emerging technologies.

Policy 1.8 Provide youth with ~~technological~~ education and ~~vocational~~ training, including technological and vocational skills, needed to be prepared for future employment. (Former Policy 4.1.27)

Policy 1.9 Encourage and expand partnerships among education providers, local governments, and the business community to develop curricula and provide training programs for the Region's workforce. (Combines Former Policies 4.1.3.d, e, & g.)

Policy 1.10 Encourage youth and workforce members to consider a diverse range of educational programs, including vocational and technical training, certificate programs, and two-year associate degrees.

Policy 1.11 Provide ~~encouraging the implementation of~~ training and employment programs specifically for minority at-risk and economically disadvantaged youths designed to enhance long-term employability potential. (Former Policy 4.1.3.f)

Policy 1.12 Work with the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation to improve long-range workforce demand studies, in conjunction with the Region's business community.

2. Wages & Affordability *Goals & Policies*

Goal 2 Increase employment opportunities and support the creation of jobs with better pay and benefits for the Region’s workforce.

Addressing Poverty & Low Incomes

Policy 2.1 Reduce the poverty levels in disadvantaged areas by encouraging the retention of local businesses and providing job-training opportunities.

Policy 2.2 Ensure that eligible workers in South Florida apply for and receive the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Policy 2.3 Support the establishment of a “living wage” in communities where studies have demonstrated the need.

Policy 2.4 Ensure that decisions with regard to the location of infrastructure investments by local governments are made with priority for the lowest income neighborhoods.

Provision of Affordable Services

Policy 2.5 Combat poverty and low wages through the provision of affordable housing, transportation, childcare and other services.

Policy 2.6 Promote the location of publicly supported services within walking distance of regional transit services to make it possible for residents without access to private transportation to use those services in a convenient and timely fashion.

Policy 2.7 Ensure the maximum utilization of federal and state resources that support the provision of services to low-income residents by ensuring adequate local match, where required.

3. Human Health, Safety & Welfare ***Goals & Policies***

- Goal 3 Promote the health, safety, and welfare of South Florida’s residents.
- Policy 3.1 Provide public health information relating to healthful lifestyles and disease prevention.
- Policy 3.2 Provide affordable and accessible healthcare services for the Region’s residents.
- Policy 3.3 Promote better linkages among social service agencies in the local service delivery system to maximize available resources and reduce fragmentation.
- Policy 3.4 Provide equitable and accessible human services to the elderly and disadvantaged, particularly in underserved areas.
- Policy 3.5 Reduce crime within the Region through such means as community policing and Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED).
- Policy 3.6 Provide information and assistance to new immigrants in regard to accessing available human services.
- Policy 3.7 Reduce exposure to environmental contaminants and hazards in the Region’s ground, air, and water.
- Policy 3.8 Provide affordable quality daycare, after school care, and evening childcare services, particularly for the Region’s working poor.

4. Infrastructure Goals & Policies

Below are Goals and Policies that apply to numerous forms of infrastructure. Following sections will provide further detail on some specific facilities and services, including schools, water, sewer wastewater, and stormwater, transportation, and energy.

Goal 4 Enhance the economic and environmental sustainability ~~competitiveness~~ of the ~~region~~ Region and ~~ensure~~ by ensuring the adequacy of its public facilities and services, ~~by eliminating the existing backlog, meeting the need for growth in a timely manner, improving the quality of services provided and pursuing cost effectiveness and equitability in their production, delivery and financing.~~ (Former Policy 2.3)

Addressing the Backlog

Policy 4.1 Public facility and service providers should give priority to the construction, maintenance, or reconstruction of public facilities needed to serve existing development most effectively and to the elimination of ~~eliminating~~ any infrastructure deficiencies which would impede ~~rehabilitation or redevelopment of blighted areas.~~ (Combines Former Policies 2.2.2 & 2.3.11)

Policy 4.2 ~~Identify opportunities to optimize~~ Optimize the service area and facility size of public facilities in the Region and direct future development and redevelopment first to areas served by existing infrastructure. (Combines Former Policy 2.1.6 & 2.3.7)

Policy 4.3 Utilize the existing infrastructure capacity of regional facilities to the maximum extent consistent with applicable level of service (LOS) standards before encouraging the expansion of facilities or the development of new capacity. (Former Policy 2.3.18)

Policy 4.4 Whenever feasible, larger-than-local facilities or services ~~related to public facilities will~~ should replace inefficient local facilities and services. (Former Policy 2.3.27)

Policy 4.5 Develop a regional forum and legislative initiatives to address service provision and facility development needs and strategies, as well as to enable the inter-governmental review of regionally significant public facilities ~~which involve locally unwanted land uses.~~ (Former Policy 2.1.8)

Guiding Growth

Policy 4.6 ~~Support the establishment of special level of service standards for localized areas (such as transportation concurrency exception areas) where designed to accomplish such growth management objectives as infill, development on passed over urban sites, Provide adequate infrastructure to support the redevelopment of areas that are underserved, deteriorated areas, establishment of long term employment opportunities in neighborhoods having high unemployment, or the evolution of planned urban or suburban centers served by public transit or within major public transportation corridors.~~ (Former Policy 2.2.3)

Policy 4.7 Create neighborhood investment strategies based on public facility improvements such as schools. (Former Policy 2.2.15)

Financing & Funding

- Policy 4.8 ~~All local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations should include~~ Utilize financing mechanisms for the provision of new public facilities ~~which incorporate the benefit principle of cost allocation among existing and future residents consistent with social and economic equity standards and ensure that costs are distributed equitably within the Region.~~ (Former Policy 2.3.29)
- Policy 4.9 ~~Local~~ Ensure that local governments ~~should~~ establish as wide a range of financing methods for the provision of public facilities as possible. Where impact fees are assessed, procedures, schedules, and programs for the expenditure of these fees in a timely and equitable manner shall be developed. (Former Policy 2.3.30)
- Policy 4.10 Encourage the application of resource recovery, recycling, cogeneration, district cooling, water re-use systems, and other appropriate mechanisms where they are cost-effective and environmentally sound; as a means of reducing the impacts of new development on existing public facilities and services; and decreasing the costs of providing new public facilities and services. (Former Policy 2.3.22)
- Policy 4.11 Ensure that the ~~The~~ public sector ~~should~~ gives priority to the funding of those improvements which support the general welfare of its citizenry and promote public goals, objectives, and plans. (Former Policy 2.3.3)

5. Schools *Goals & Policies*

Goal 5 Overcome school overcrowding in the Region.

School Overcrowding

Policy 5.1 ~~Implement~~ Promote planning and financial mechanisms to ensure the ability to meet school needs for existing and future development. (Former Policy 2.3.40)

Policy 5.2 Support the implementation of school concurrency requirements in the ~~three counties~~ Region as a means to ensure the timely availability of adequate educational facilities. (Former Policy 2.3.42)

Policy 5.3 Discourage development proposals that would exacerbate school overcrowding, except where mitigation measures that would alleviate overcrowded conditions at impacted schools are agreed upon by the affected local government and school board.

Planning and Coordination

Policy 5.4 Promote greater cooperation among the state, the counties, the municipalities, the school districts, and other appropriate state and regional agencies regarding school issues, including a better integration between local comprehensive plans and school district plans. Local governments are encouraged to include ~~an~~ periodic assessments of their educational facilities needs and identify implementation strategies. ~~element in the comprehensive plan and to review development regulations in order to simplify and expedite proposed new educational facility developments and renovations.~~ (Former Policy 2.3.41)

Policy 5.5 Ensure that local governments and their respective school boards ~~should~~ coordinate efforts to ~~ensure the availability of~~ provide adequate sites for ~~required~~ needed educational facilities. (Former Policy 2.1.15)

Policy 5.6 Ensure effective implementation of school interlocal agreements through the monitoring process included in each agreement.

Innovative Approaches

Policy 5.7 Promote the design, development, and funding of full-service school facilities, which could provide a range of community programs and services in neighborhoods needing and lacking such services. (Former Policy 2.2.16)

Policy 5.8 Promote innovative approaches to the provision of school facilities, including co-location of technology infrastructure and utilization of non-traditional scheduling options.

Policy 5.9 Support innovative approaches and public-private partnerships to enhance school planning and hasten school construction in part through more flexible siting and design criteria and new, faster construction methods.

Policy 5.10 Promote the adoption of a broad-based fee on the transfer of all residential units dedicated to school construction with commensurate accountability measures about spending the funds.

Policy 5.11 Seek a more unified approach to development review as well as the assessment, distribution and effectiveness of educational facilities impact fees.

6. Housing Goals & Policies

Goal 6 Ensure the availability and equitable distribution of adequate, affordable housing for very low, low, and moderate-income households within the Region. ~~a reasonable commute distance of job centers.~~ (Former Goal 6.1)

Housing Implementation

Policy 6.1 Address the needs of the growing population requiring affordable housing, including those of moderate-income households, and the resulting impacts on economic development activities, transportation and public transportation networks, and the quality of life for South Florida residents by developing a Regional Housing Plan by December 31, 2005. The Regional Housing Plan will assure a fair distribution of housing throughout the Region, so that every local government provides an opportunity for a mix of housing affordable to all income ranges.

Affordable Housing as Infrastructure

Policy 6.2 Decisions regarding proposed development shall consider the ability of the proposal to provide affordable housing and shall treat affordable housing as infrastructure to the extent that the cost of affordable housing is factored into proposed developments that create need for affordable housing. Tools such as restrictive covenants to require affordable housing could be utilized to strengthen development proposals particularly when the development's impacts on infrastructure and services, including school capacity, are of concern.

Policy 6.3 Encourage new housing, including housing at higher densities, to be directed toward areas designated as Urban Corridors, Regional Intermodal Centers, Intermodal Centers and Regional Centers as depicted on the Livability and Connectivity Illustration of the SRPP.

Housing Affordability

Policy 6.4 Promote low and moderate-income housing as an economically viable and financially feasible type of development by disseminating information ~~of~~ about existing tax incentives and providing other incentives such as density bonuses designed to stimulate ~~low income~~ affordable housing development. (Former Policy 6.3.8)

Policy 6.5 Encourage employers to offer assistance in meeting the housing needs of employees who are cost burdened.

Policy 6.6 Promote innovative financing approaches which would ~~eliminate~~ minimize down payments and closing costs for very low and low-income households through such alternatives as sweat equity and employer incentive programs. (Former Policy 6.3.12)

Policy 6.7 Promote a region-wide program, in cooperation with local governments and the banking industry, to provide mortgages to very low-income households at ~~zero percent~~ reduced interest rates. (Former Policy 6.3.11)

Policy 6.8 Encourage ~~the creation of ongoing~~ public/private partnerships for the production of affordable housing and provide guidelines for organizing and managing them in order to increase efficiency. ~~In particular, simplify the paperwork required to enable a broader participation of small community based organizations in federal, state and local housing programs.~~ (Former Policy 6.3.4)

- Policy 6.9 Provide incentives for employers that offer down payment assistance to employees who purchase homes within a 10-mile radius of their place of employment.
- Policy 6.10 Encourage local governments to identify and adopt new revenue sources to provide funds earmarked for use by eligible families to provide low-interest mortgages and down payment assistance.
- Housing Dispersal***
- Policy 6.11 ~~Local governments should identify and support programs in their local comprehensive plans which increase~~ Increase the range of choice of housing location, type, and cost for very low, low, and moderate-income families. (Former Policy 6.1.4)
- Policy 6.12 Provide affordable housing that is reasonably accessible to employment centers, family support systems, shopping, public transportation, and recreational facilities. (Derived from Former Policy 6.1.1)
- Policy 6.13 Promote partnerships between the public and private sector to create opportunities to live and work in the same community.
- Policy 6.14 ~~Promote linkage programs that which condition approvals for, and incentivize the development of high revenue and employment generating uses, such as office and luxury housing retail upon development of very low, low, and moderate-income housing. within reasonable proximity. In particular, promote the inclusion of housing affordable to very low, low and moderate income families in subdivisions. (Former Policy 6.1.3)~~
- Policy 6.15 Promote regional incentives for providers the provision of affordable housing, including development of regional affordable housing production goals, density bonuses and financial subsidy for construction. (Former Policy 6.2.2)
- Policy 6.16 Explore the development of inclusionary housing programs throughout the Region that encourage an affordable housing set-aside in all mixed-use and large-scale market rate housing developments.
- Policy 6.17 By December 31, 2005, the South Florida Regional Planning Council will work with development interests and local governments to explore specific geographic areas in the Region that are appropriate for higher densities that could support affordable housing and identify those areas in the Regional Housing Plan.
- Policy 6.18 Pursue an incentive based Statewide Fair-Share Model and encourage all local governments to work towards achieving the state's affordable housing goal by 2010.
- Policy 6.19 Promote increased use of mixed densities and housing product types within residential zoning and individual parcels to encourage the planning and construction of a greater diversity of housing choices.
- Policy 6.20 Increase public awareness by developing an educational program regarding the positive benefits of good urban and building design on affordable housing, including the aesthetic architectural treatment of increased density to ensure compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods, community livability, and dispelling the myths that lead to neighborhood opposition to affordable housing.
- Policy 6.21 ~~Encourage the development of programs that provide accessible information to very low, low and moderate income families concerning low cost housing opportunities and promote~~ Promote the mixing of income levels in neighborhoods. (Former Policy 6.1.5)

- Policy 6.22 Increase or improve the existing supply of adequate affordable housing through the stabilization and revitalization of existing neighborhoods. (Former Goal 6.2)
- Policy 6.23 As part of a general strategy to increase the supply of adequate, affordable housing in the Region, ~~educate local governments and support their efforts to~~ eliminate sub-standard housing through renovation and rehabilitation where economically feasible. (Former Policy 6.2.2)
- Policy 6.24 Encourage well-designed subsidized housing that is compatible with the surrounding housing.
- Policy 6.25 Discourage community segmentation, displacement, and a net decrease in the ~~low income~~ affordable housing supply caused by the placement of infrastructure or redevelopment activities. (Former Policy 6.2.4)
- Policy 6.26 Encourage both ownership and rental opportunities for all types of housing.
- Policy 6.27 Promote the rehabilitation of neglected historic structures for affordable housing needs.
- Policy 6.28 Promote new housing that is characteristic of or compatible with the community's historic structures, landmarks, districts, neighborhoods and archeological sites.

Special Needs Populations

- Policy 6.29 Provide the least restrictive living environments for those previously institutionalized persons, in accordance the Olmstead decision, and address the housing needs of South Florida's special needs populations, including those with disabilities, the homeless, those earning very low-incomes, seasonal workers, the elderly, and those previously institutionalized for mental or health concerns. (Derived from Former Policies 6.1.11, 6.1.12 & 6.1.13)
- Policy 6.30 Increase options and funding for independent living for senior populations, including home-based alternatives to nursing homes.
- Policy 6.31 Develop programs for short-term emergency housing for those persons displaced through circumstances such as natural disasters, forced relocation, or ~~in~~ cases of extreme hardship. (Former Policy 6.1.8)

7. Potable Water, Wastewater & Stormwater *Goals & Policies*

Goal 7 Protect, conserve, and enhance the Region's water resources.

Water Resources

Policy 7.1 Develop a more balanced, efficient, and ecologically sustainable allocation and reservation of the water resources of the Region. (Former Policy 3.2)

Policy 7.2 Water suppliers, in coordination with the South Florida Water Management District, should address long term water supply alternatives, which include the possibility of utilizing areawide or regional water supply systems as a substitute for, or as a means of augmenting, the present non-regional systems. (Former Policy 2.3.17)

Policy 7.3 Increase the use of public media for water resource related educational statements and symposia. (Former Policy 3.2.1)

Improving Facilities & Water Quality

Policy 7.4 Local governments should provide centralized sewer wastewater service in areas where existing septic tanks are an environmental or human health problem, particularly within densely populated urban services areas and sites where septic tanks and private water wells are jointly utilized. ~~and adopt and implement stormwater level of service standards consistent with those recommended by the South Florida Water Management District.~~ (Former Policy 2.3.13)

Policy 7.5 Implement stormwater quantity and quality level of service standards consistent with those recommended by the South Florida Water Management District. (Derived from Former Policy 2.3.13)

Policy 7.6 Ensure that the recharge potential of ~~the property~~ land is not reduced as a result of a proposed modification in the existing uses by incorporation of open space, pervious areas, and impervious areas in ratios which are based upon analysis of on-site recharge needs. (Former Policy 3.2.5)

Policy 7.7 Require all inappropriate inputs into Natural Resources of Regional Significance to be eliminated through such means as; redirection of offending outfalls, ~~suitable~~ treatment improvements, or retrofitting options. (Former Policy 3.2.9)

Policy 7.8 Existing stormwater outfalls that do not meet or improve upon existing water quality or quantity criteria or standards, or cause negative impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, ~~or suitable adjacent natural buffer areas~~ shall be modified to meet or exceed the existing water quality or quantity criteria or standard. ~~The modification shall be the responsibility of the outfall operator, permittee or applicant.~~ (Former Policy 3.2.11)

Policy 7.9 Restore and improve water quality throughout the system by:

- a. requiring stormwater treatment and management; ~~storage areas for existing and newly developed areas and agricultural lands;~~ and
- b. protecting ~~existing~~ wetlands, native uplands, and identified aquifer recharge areas; and
- c. implementing best management practices, such as utilization of low phosphorus fertilizers. (Former Policy 3.9.6)

Policy 7.10 Protect the habitat and water quality of the Region's Outstanding Florida Water bodies by requiring stormwater discharges to meet applicable non-degradation water quality standards.

Water Conservation

Policy 7.11 Encourage the implementation and further development of water conservation measures. (Derived from Former Policy 3.2.4)

Policy 7.12 ~~Encourage the use of user fees~~ additional water conservation techniques, which discourage excessive use of infrastructure and services in the Region while considering social and economic equity standards. (Former Policy 2.3.36)

Policy 7.13 Utilize measures such as those outlined in the South Florida Water Management District's Model Water Shortage Ordinance and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Water Conservation Initiative to address water usage and require adoption of these measures by local governments so that a reduction in the per capita use of water is realized. (Former Policy 3.2.2)

Policy 7.14 ~~Local governments shall implement~~ Implement water conservation measures including but not necessarily limited to:

- a. ~~use of xeriscape principals and the adoption of the South Florida Water Management District Model Landscape Ordinance, or similar replacement;~~ adoption of local government Xeriscape/Florida friendly landscape ordinances requiring landscaping methods that maximize the conservation of water by the use of site-appropriate plants and efficient watering systems;
- b. utilization of native plant material as a first priority in landscape;
- c. ~~adoption~~ implementation of a measurable water conservation objectives and public education programs for implementation;
- d. ~~development and implementation of a leak detection and repair programs for~~ public water supply systems;
- e. ~~use of a conservation utility rate structure;~~ adoption of a water conservation-based rate structure by utilities that provides a financial incentive for users to reduce demand;
- f. implementation of water loss prevention programs including adoption of a rain sensor device ordinance for automatic sprinkler systems;
- g. ~~use of water saving devices and plumbing fixtures, and encourage retrofitting of water saving devices and ultra low flow fixtures;~~ adoption of an ultra-low volume fixtures ordinance;
- h. adoption of an irrigation hours ordinance and reduction in reduce the use of potable water for irrigation; and
- i. utilization of reuse water wherever and whenever possible based upon the economic, ecological and technical factors involved, and analysis of reclaimed water feasibility by potable water supply utilities. and
- j. ~~reduction in lawn and exotic turf cover in favor of native shrub and tree covered and mulched areas.~~ (Former Policy 3.2.4)

Policy 7.15 Conserve water, return water lost from entering the Everglades ecosystem, and increase the self sufficiency of urban and agricultural water supplies by:

- a. creating water storage areas near or within urban areas;
- b. ~~promoting increased~~ increasing the efficiency of water use in agriculture, business uses, and residential uses; and
- c. ~~promoting the development of~~ developing alternative water supply sources; and

- d. rehydrating wetlands with water of appropriate quality and quantity that would otherwise be lost from the regional system. (Former Policy 3.9.5)

8. Transportation ***Goals & Policies***

Goal 8 Enhance the Region's mobility, efficiency, safety, quality of life, and economic health through improvements to road, port, and public transportation infrastructure.

Roads

Policy 8.1 ~~Develop and preserve~~ Maintain the Florida Intrastate Highway System, other state roads, local roadways, and public transportation systems to preserve the Region's investment in infrastructure; support daily use and needs; enhance the Region's global competitiveness and economic health; increase safety; ensure for emergency access and response; and provide for evacuation purposes. (Former Policy 5.2.1)

Policy 8.2 Reduce the utilization of the Florida Interstate Highway System and other components of the regional road system for short, local trips.

Ports

Policy 8.3 Plan land use in and around airports and seaports to ~~allow future increased operations and to~~ minimize unnecessary social, environmental, or economic conflicts and costs. (Former Policy 5.1.7)

Public Transportation

Policy 8.4 Expand use of public transportation, including ~~mass transit~~, buses, commuter rail, waterborne transit, and alternative transportation modes that provide services for pedestrians, bikers, and the transportation disadvantaged, and increase ~~their~~ its role as a major components in the overall regional transportation system. (Former Policy 5.1.13)

Funding

Policy 8.5 Identify ~~and support the use of new, stable and adequate~~ all possible existing and future funding sources at the local, state, and federal levels and from the private sector, and facilitate access to these sources in order to meet the Region's transportation needs. (Former Policy 5.3.4)

Efficiency

Policy 8.6 Promote efficiency of the transportation network through the implementation of tools such as Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) that incorporate public transportation information, improvement of signalization systems, and other operational improvements.

Policy 8.7 Ensure that the transportation network, including public transportation, supports the emergency evacuation needs of the Region.

Safety

Policy 8.8 Ensure the safety of the transportation system by implementing measures to reduce vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle crashes, and increase the safety of commercial vehicle operations.

9. Energy Goals & Policies

Goal 9 Develop clean, sustainable, and energy-efficient power generation and transportation systems.

Alternative/Renewable Energy Resources

Policy 9.1 Develop and implement sustainable energy conservation strategies.

Policy 9.2 Encourage the development of renewable, clean fuels and energy-efficient enterprises to serve our communities and national markets.

Policy 9.3 Increase the use of alternative ~~Alternative~~ fueled and hybrid vehicles and ~~mass transit~~ public transportation facilities along with the necessary in part through the provision of adequate funding and support infrastructure. ~~shall be encouraged within the region.~~ (Former Policy 3.3.3)

Air Quality

Policy 9.4 ~~Achieve improved~~ Improve regional air quality throughout the region through a reduction of transportation and electrical power generation related impacts, and the increased use of natural plantings. (Former Goal 3.3)

Policy 9.5 Improve regional air quality and ~~promote~~ energy conservation by promoting the use of alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles and less polluting vehicles, ~~by~~ utilizing Transportation Demand Management alternatives, increasing the use of public transportation, mass transit and other strategies. (Former Policy 5.1.25)

Policy 9.6 Fleet operators within the Region shall be encouraged and given incentives to utilize clean-burning fuels for fleet vehicles. (Former Policy 3.3.4)

Global Climate Change

Policy 9.7 Assess the impacts of global climate change and sea-level rise on South Florida's resources and land uses.

Policy 9.8 Establish greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and implement renewable energy measures to minimize the risks posed by sea-level rise and other effects of global climate change.

Planning

Policy 9.9 Encourage coordination among state, regional, and local economic development agencies and the private sector to develop an alternative and renewable energy technology industry to ensure a sustainable regional community.

10. Green Infrastructure ***Goals & Policies***

- Goal 10 ~~Educate South Floridians to achieve an increased~~ Increase awareness of the Region's green infrastructure, natural system and of its significance to the Region's economy, and the public's role in access and use that is compatible with long-term sustainability. with respect to the overall regional system. (Former Goal 3.7)
- Policy 10.1 Preserve lands designated as open space, parks and recreation, and conservation; these areas shall contain uses that are directly related to active or passive recreation or habitat preservation.
- Policy 10.2 Maintain and revitalize parks so that they offer comfort, sociability, access, and a variety of activities to meet the mixed and varied needs of their visitors.
- Policy 10.3 Encourage interagency cooperation and co-location of parks and other public facilities where appropriate for use and access.
- Policy 10.4 Establish minimum green infrastructure level of service standards such as acres per population or households for publicly accessible recreation and open space within Regional Activity Centers, Community Redevelopment Areas, and urban corridors.
- Policy 10.5 Adopt methods used in other regions to estimate the dollar value added to the regional economy by the extent and proximity of recreation and open space to our citizens.

11. Development & Redevelopment *Goals & Policies*

- Goal 11 Encourage and support the implementation of development proposals that conserve the Region's natural resources, rural and agricultural lands, green infrastructure and:
- utilize existing and planned infrastructure where most appropriate in urban areas;
 - enhance the utilization of regional transportation systems;
 - incorporate mixed-land use developments;
 - recycle existing developed sites; and
 - provide for the preservation of historic sites.

Alternative Development Patterns

- Policy 11.1 Encourage local ~~Local governments in the region should develop and adopt to implement~~ urban design guidelines to create ~~for physical development with emphasis on~~ attractive, well-planned, compact, mixed-use communities ~~which take advantage of that~~ utilize and conserve the region's Region's existing and planned infrastructure ~~and which provide for adequate amounts of~~ including urban parkland and greenspace green space. (Former Policy 2.2.7)
- Policy 11.2 ~~Local governments should develop, adopt and incorporate mixed land use categories into the future land use element of comprehensive plans to assist in fostering~~ Encourage mixed land uses and activities within communities to foster more balanced and energy-efficient land use development patterns which are characterized by appropriate density, diverse economic, employment, and housing opportunities, and public transportation access. ~~in the communities of the Region.~~ (Former Policy 2.1.11)
- Policy 11.3 ~~Continue the development of the urban core concept and criteria in order to~~ Develop and implement incentives for urban redevelopment to promote:
- a. ~~provide incentives for~~ high density, urban centers;
 - b. ~~allow for~~ flexibility in the expenditure of transportation system capital funds to create a more balanced mix of highways, public transportation, transit, and goods movement; and
 - c. nodes of transit-oriented design of appropriate land use density along major urban corridors of public transportation. ~~identify areas and corridors of high-quality transit service in which transportation levels of service standards may be based on person trips rather than vehicle trips.~~ (Former Policy 2.2.4)
- Policy 11.4 Strengthen neighborhoods by:
- a. increasing and strengthening code enforcement at the local level through additional staffing and funding;
 - b. maintaining and improving infrastructure in neighborhoods and targeting declining neighborhoods for enhancements;
 - c. promoting programs designed to enhance the safety of neighborhoods; and
 - d. protecting the Region's historic structures and promoting the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation, of structures listed at the federal, state, or local level. (Derived from Former Policies 6.2.7, 6.2.8, & 6.2.9)

- Policy 11.5 Encourage infill and redevelopment activities that are compatible with community character. Infill and redevelopment should be encouraged on an areawide basis instead of incrementally on a site-by-site basis.
- Policy 11.6 Revitalize and maintain the Region's deteriorating urban developed areas. (Former Goal 2.2)
- Policy 11.7 Create tangible advantages for ~~Give priority to~~ development in areas that are ~~blighted,~~ characterized by underdevelopment or underemployment, ~~and are in need of redevelopment;~~ among these, secondary priority should be given to areas within which adequate infrastructure and support services are either programmed or available. (Former Policy 2.2.1)
- Policy 11.8 Encourage the use of innovative and creative redevelopment programs, such as brownfields redevelopment programs, area-wide plans, corridor and sector planning, as well as public-private partnerships and collaborations.
- Policy 11.9 Address the full range of redevelopment impacts, including the displacement of existing populations, the loss of historic structures and neighborhood character, and the overburdening of existing infrastructure.

Infrastructure Provision

- Policy 11.10 Decisions regarding the location, rate, and intensity of proposed development shall be based on the existing or programmed capacity of infrastructure and support services or on capacity which will be programmed to serve that proposed development; In ~~in~~ addition, consideration should be given to the impact of infrastructure and support services on natural resources. (Former Policy 2.3.4)
- Policy 11.11 Provide incentives to encourage for development and redevelopment to use the use of existing public facilities and services for development and redevelopment. (Former Policy 2.3.12)
- Policy 11.12 Encourage increased density within appropriate urban areas that are served by adequate and planned facilities and services, including public transportation, and that are proximate to regional activity or employment centers. Ensure that the impacts of increased density are fully mitigated by increased investment in facilities and services.

Brownfield Redevelopment

- Policy 11.13 Promote brownfields redevelopment including environmental assessment and cleanup, public outreach, environmental justice activities, and job training.

Regional Development Districts (RDD)

The following policy provides for the designation of Regional Development Districts (RDDs) to allow for increased Development of Regional Impact (DRI) thresholds in certain areas to facilitate higher density developments.

- Policy 11.14 a. Regional Development Districts may be designated to allow for increased DRI thresholds and be prime candidates for special consideration of transportation levels of service (LOS). For an area to be considered for designation it must be proposed by a local government and meet the following criteria:
1. located outside coastal high hazard areas and within a designated urban central business district or regional activity center in a county with a population greater than 500,000 residents, consistent with Section 380.06(2), F.S., and Section 28-24.014(10), F.A.C.;

2. located within a jurisdiction whose local comprehensive plan is in compliance with Chapter 163, F.S., and Rule 9J-5, F.A.C., and whose land development regulations have been adopted;
 3. infrastructure within the designated area shall be available to meet generated demand and established levels of service (LOS) or the applicable capital improvement programs shall reflect funding of infrastructure to serve generated demand and established LOS in areas of designation where infrastructure capacity is not available;
 4. designations shall provide mitigation of negative impacts and ensure consistency with other local comprehensive plans when impacts upon other local governments occur;
 5. designations shall promote redevelopment, support mixed-use functions, complement adjacent uses, and be serviced by mass transit;
 6. designations shall not contribute to urban sprawl;
 7. designations shall require the provision of adequate, affordable, and reasonably accessible housing opportunities for people employed within the district;
 8. designations shall be consistent with and support appropriate policies delineated in the strategic regional policy plan;
 9. designations shall require the preservation and/or improvements of areas of historical significance, if appropriate; and
 10. designations shall not include areas with a significant presence of threatened species and species of special concern and shall mitigate any adverse impacts which may occur.
- b. Areas meeting the following criteria are presumed not to be candidates for RDD designations, unless rebutted with clear and convincing evidence and/or mitigated in a satisfactory manner:
1. The nominated area is within:
 - the Coastal High Hazard Area;
 - a wellfield protection area;
 - areas of known or potential archaeological significance;
 - areas which serve as habitat for endangered species;
 - environmentally sensitive lands as defined in the applicable local comprehensive plan(s); or
 - an area of critical state concern, designated according to Ch. 380, F.S.
 2. The nominated area adversely impacts a natural resource or facility of regional significance as delineated in the strategic regional policy plan.
- c. Those applications for RDD designation involving increased DRI thresholds for office and hotel will require amendment of the local comprehensive plan and the strategic regional policy plan, consistent with sections 380.0651(3)(d)3 and 380.0651(3)(g)2, F.S. A process for the simultaneous review of local and regional plans will be developed in order to facilitate the RDD designation review process. (Former Policy 2.1.12)

12. Rural & Agricultural Lands *Goals & Policies*

Goal 12 Encourage the retention of the Region's rural lands and agricultural economy.

Development Patterns

Policy 12.1 Maintain the character of rural and agricultural areas by encouraging compatibility of adjacent land uses.

Policy 12.2 Encourage the environmental compatibility of rural and agricultural lands through such means as best management practices for stormwater runoff.

Policy 12.3 Discourage the expansion of urban service areas into agricultural lands except: 1) when the expansion is necessary to accommodate projected population growth; and 2) when the development densities will be sufficient to support public transportation.

Policy 12.4 In the event that land is converted from agriculture to urban uses, local governments should discourage sprawl development patterns and require urban design and density necessary to support pedestrian-orientation, public transportation, and the efficient provision of other infrastructure.

Agricultural Competitiveness

Policy 12.5 Promote the local agricultural economy by:
a. developing cooperative value-added processing activities for locally-grown produce;
b. establishing a brand identity for locally grown and processed goods;
c. promoting farmer's markets in each of our Region's urban centers;
d. marketing local brands to the Region's restaurants and tourist destinations;
 and
e. supporting the establishment of a County Farmbudsman position to assist in these endeavors;
f. utilizing Best Management Practices in agricultural activities.

Policy 12.6 Review the recommendations of the *Agriculture and Rural Area Study* and the *South Miami-Dade Watershed Study* and formulate policies adapted from them to sustain the agricultural economy and environment.

13. Historic Preservation ***Goals & Policies***

Goal 13 Preserve, restore, and rehabilitate South Florida's historic structures, landmarks, districts, neighborhoods, and archaeological sites. (Derived from Former Policy 2.2.9)

Education & Appreciation

Policy 13.1 Promote public information and education programs to increase understanding, appreciation and access to the Region's historic resources.

Tools and Planning

Policy 13.2 Identify, evaluate and inventory historic structures, landmarks, districts, neighborhoods and archaeological sites.

Policy 13.3 Encourage local, state and federal designation of historic structures, landmarks, districts, neighborhoods and archaeological sites.

Policy 13.4 Urge local governments to incorporate a historic preservation element in their local comprehensive plans.

Policy 13.5 Promote the exploration and adoption of innovative regulatory and incentive-based tools for historic preservation.

Policy 13.6 Promote historic preservation as a tool for community revitalization and economic development.

Partnerships

Policy 13.7 Foster multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary, multi-sector dialogue, partnerships, and collaboratives in addressing historic preservation issues.

14. Natural Resources *Goals & Policies*

Goal 14 Preserve, protect, and restore Natural Resources of Regional Significance

Protection and Acquisition of Natural Resources

Policy 14.1 Address environmental issues, including the health of our air, water, habitats, and other natural resources, (e.g. water quality, water quantity and air quality) that affect quality of life and sustainability of our Region. for residents and businesses. (Former Policy 4.1.36)

Policy 14.2 Improve the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance by ~~Eliminate~~ eliminating the inappropriate uses of land, by improving the land use designations, and ~~utilizing~~ utilize land acquisition where necessary, so that the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable high quality natural areas is improved. (Former Goal 3.1)

Development Patterns

Policy 14.3 Protect native habitat by first avoiding impacts to wetlands before minimizing or mitigating those impacts; development proposals should demonstrate how wetland impacts are being avoided and what alternative plans have been considered to achieve that objective.

Policy 14.4 Direct ~~inappropriate uses of land~~ uses that are not consistent with the protection and maintenance of natural resource values away from Natural Resources of Regional Significance, and adjacent buffer areas. and suitable natural resource areas. (Former Policy 3.1.2)

Policy 14.5 Use incentives to direct ~~inappropriate uses of land~~ uses that are not consistent with the protection and maintenance of natural ~~system~~ resource values away from Natural Resources of Regional Significance Suitable adjacent buffer areas. Such incentives should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- a. conservation easements;
- b. mitigation banks;
- c. tax breaks;
- d. regional transferable development rights; and
- e. transferable densities. (Former Policy 3.1.6)

Policy 14.6 ~~Proposed projects shall include~~ Include adequate buffer zones between development and ~~existing~~ Natural Resources of Regional Significance, ~~and other suitable natural resources.~~ The buffer zones shall provide complementary natural habitat values and functions ~~that compliment~~ complement Natural Resources of Regional Significance values so that the natural system values of the site are not negatively impacted by adjacent uses. The buffer zones shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width. and in proportion to the scale of project, taking into account the needs of the adjacent natural resource. ~~Alternative widths may be proposed if it is demonstrated that the alternative~~ The buffer zones should further the viability of the adjacent natural resource, Natural Resource of Regional Significance, effectively separating the development impacts from the natural resource ~~or contributing to reduced~~ and reducing habitat fragmentation, ~~of identified~~ of identified Natural Resources of Regional Significance. (Former Policy 3.1.10)

Habitat Quality

- Policy 14.7 Restore, preserve, Identify and protect the habitats of rare and state and federally listed species. For those rare and threatened species that have been scientifically demonstrated by past or site specific studies to be relocated successfully, without resulting in harm to the relocated or receiving populations, and where *in-situ* preservation is neither possible nor desirable from an ecological perspective, identify suitable receptor sites, guaranteed to be preserved and managed in perpetuity for the protection of the relocated species that will be utilized for the relocation of such rare or listed plants and animals made necessary by unavoidable project impacts. Consistent use of the site by endangered species, or documented endangered species habitat on-site shall be preserved on-site. (Former Policy 3.4.5)
- Policy 14.8 Remove invasive exotics plants and animals from all Natural Resources of Regional Significance and associated buffer areas. Require the continued regular and periodic maintenance of areas that have had invasive exotics removed. (Former Policy 3.4.8)
- Policy 14.9 ~~Local governments shall be encouraged~~ Encourage local governments to require invasive exotic removal as a condition of development approvals. (Former Policy 3.4.10)
- Policy 14.10 Maximize the use of native plants in landscaping to provide and improve urban habitat and connectivity for native species.
- Policy 14.11 Encourage local governments to utilize pervious areas in public rights-of-way as opportunities to re-establish native vegetation, particularly in residential swales.
- Policy 14.12 Restore and enhance upland habitat for native plants and animals and increase the Region's urban tree canopy.
- Policy 14.13 Natural system corridors shall include upland as well as wetland habitat areas to facilitate the re-establishment of regional system ecological values and functions. (Former Policy 3.4.7)

Education & Access

- Policy 14.14 Increase ~~the public awareness~~ and continue to support programs regarding ~~of the importance of~~ maintaining and enhancing the tree canopy and other native vegetative cover in ~~the role of~~ improving air quality and natural habitat. (Former Policy 3.3.5)
- Policy 14.15 Require the ecologically sensitive use of natural areas as a condition to access and utilization. Promote environmental education through parks, nature centers, and schools. (Former Policy 3.5.3)
- Policy 14.16 Coordinate funding from various groups to produce common documents to be distributed to the public regarding natural resource protection, appropriate recreational opportunities, and access.
- Policy 14.17 Educate property owners about the environmental benefits of landscaping with drought-tolerant, native plants and support local efforts to do so.
- Policy 14.18 Educate the public in regard to the benefits of avoiding development impacts to wetlands and the statewide wetland protection requirements that mandate avoidance prior to minimization and mitigation.

15. The Everglades Goals & Policies

- Goal 15 Restore and protect the ecological values and functions of the Everglades Ecosystem System by increasing habitat area, increasing regional water storage, and restoring water quality. (Former Goal 3.9)
- Policy 15.1 ~~Direct~~ Encourage development and land uses and development patterns of land that are ~~would be~~ inconsistent with Everglades Ecosystem restoration away from the Everglades System and adjacent and with the protection of Natural Resources of Regional Significance. (Former Policy 3.9.1)
- Policy 15.2 Restore natural volume, timing, quality, and distribution of water to the Everglades, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay, other ~~eastern~~ estuaries, and the Atlantic Ocean by:
- a. ~~supporting~~ implementing structural and operational modifications to the Central and Southern ~~Flood Control~~ Florida Project including Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park, the C-111 Project, and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan; and recommended by the US Army Corps of Engineers C&SF Feasibility Study;
 - b. ~~supporting~~ implementing implementation of the East Coast Buffer/Water Preserve Areas; Plan; and
 - c. ~~supporting~~ implementing the Lower East Coast a water sSupply pPlan so that ~~meets~~ the needs of the natural system are met consistent with ecosystem restoration. (Former Policy 3.9.4)

16. Marine & Coastal Resources *Goals & Policies*

Goal 16 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats, including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay, tropical hardwood hammocks, and the coral reef tract. (Former Goal 3.8)

Water Quality

Policy 16.1 ~~As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves~~ Restore and improve marine and estuarine water quality by:
a. improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
b. reducing turbidity, nutrient loading, and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities, septic systems, and vessels;
c. reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
d. requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans. (Former Policy 3.8.3)

Policy 16.2 Protect the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve (BBAP) through such measures as:
a. discontinuing all untreated stormwater discharges to the Bay;
b. requiring stormwater treatment systems to meet the required non-degradation water quality standards for this Class III, Outstanding Florida Water body;
c. discouraging development that proposes to fill within the Bay or discharge contaminants to its waters; and
d. connecting developments that are served by septic tanks within the watershed of the BBAP to central sanitary waste treatment facilities to treat pathogens and remove nutrients from the wastewater effluent.

Habitat Quality

Policy 16.3 Enhance and preserve coastal, estuarine, and marine resources, benthic communities, including but not limited to, tropical hardwood hammocks, mangroves, seagrass and shellfish beds and coral habitats, ~~by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities. Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.~~ (Former Policy 3.8.2)

Policy 16.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting, education, and protection of nursery habitat, ~~and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:~~
a) ~~avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;~~
b) ~~replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or~~
e) ~~improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.~~ (Former Policy 3.8.4)

17. Economic Expansion & Diversification

Goals & Policies

Goal 17 Maintain a competitive, diversified, and sustainable regional economy.

Employment & Quality of Life

Policy 17.1 ~~Achieve a competitive and diversified regional economy, including lower unemployment rate and higher per capita income than the state and national average for the Region. Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties through the achievement of cutting edge human resources, economic development infrastructure and other resources to ensure a sustainable regional community.~~ (Former Goal 4.1)

Policy 17.2 Address quality of life issues including education, access to services, and safety, ~~(crime and education)~~ in order to make South Florida a more attractive location for domestic and international talent and businesses. (Former Policy 4.1.2)

Economic Diversification

Policy 17.3 ~~Encourage the full utilization of~~ Utilize economic development enhancement resource agencies and programs ~~implemented~~ designed to involve small and minority private businesses in the development and expansion of permanent job opportunities. ~~Concentrate on the economically disadvantaged, through the utilization of enterprise zones, community development corporations and other economic and employment opportunity programs.~~ (Former Policy 4.1.6)

Policy 17.4 Continue to seek and take advantage of global opportunities that increase diversification of the Region's economy.

Policy 17.5 Support efforts to solidify the role of international trade in the Region, including South Florida's role in the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Policy 17.6 ~~Achieve a coordinated regional strategy to address opportunities and threats and promote the region's~~ Improve economic diversification in South Florida and enhance the Region's assets for international business, tourism, technology, sports, and entertainment, and other economic development activities. (Former Goal 4.2)

Policy 17.7 ~~Continue to diversify diversification of the industry economic based to accommodate~~ utilize the range of skills in the Region's labor force. (Former Policy 4.1.8)

Policy 17.8 ~~Enhance~~ Develop and enhance the role of sustainable tourism in economic development by:

- a. ~~encouraging co-operative~~ cooperative partnerships of public and private agencies to promote tourism;
- b. encouraging the promotion of South Florida as an attractive and safe place to live, ~~to do business work,~~ and visit; ~~to our domestic and international visitors;~~
- e. ~~educating local educators, communities, retailers, government entities and others through public awareness about the importance of tourism;~~
- d. ~~c.~~ further expand the region's ecological attractions and visitor increasing resident and visitor appreciation of the Rregion's natural and historic resources; ~~through programs such as greenways, etc.;~~
- e. ~~d.~~ provide hotel and camping facilities for ecotourists at convenient locations enhancing appropriate eco-tourism opportunities throughout the Region; and
- f. ~~e.~~ providing exceptionally high quality levels of services for public transportation, walking, and bicycling in strategically important tourist development areas. (Former Policy 4.2.13)

- Policy 17.9 ~~Protect the region's natural areas (e.g. preserves, beaches, and parks) and resources, and promote ecotourism in order to maintain economic vitality and tourism.~~ Promote eco-tourism that enhances the Region's economic vitality while protecting South Florida's natural resources. (Former Policy 4.1.35)
- Policy 17.10 Protect marine related industries through innovative comprehensive planning and zoning regulations that provide incentives such as mixed use in areas that can sustain both residential and non-residential water-dependent uses.

18. Emergency Planning *Goals & Policies*

Planning and Coordination

- Goal 18 Ensure regional coordination, preparation, and response to emergencies.
- Policy 18.1 ~~In the review of new development and redevelopment proposals within the Categories 1 to 5 Hurricane Evacuation areas, include analysis of~~ Analyze the impacts of proposed development on evacuation times, the availability of off-site shelter capacity, and the potential loss of life and property from hurricanes. (Former Policy 2.1.9)
- Policy 18.2 Develop and implement additional disaster preparedness requirements for new developments whose future residents might have limited mobility or demand specialized attention. (Former Policy 7.4.6.c)
- Policy 18.3 ~~prioritization of~~ Prioritize funding for evacuation routes in need of enhancement in all capital facility programs affecting the Region. (Former Policy 7.4.6.h)
- Policy 18.4 ~~coordination of~~ Ensure coordination of all public and private relief agencies' activities in preparation and response to a disaster. (Former Policy 7.4.6.f)
- Policy 18.5 ~~allocate necessary funding to local governments to develop~~ Develop and implement a Regional Emergency Preparedness Plan. (Former Policy 7.4.3.b)
- Policy 18.6 Utilize an Incident Command System (ICS) to establish unified command for all public safety agencies during an emergency.

Economic Impact

- Policy 18.7 Minimize future risk to lives and property partly through the timely completion of post-disaster redevelopment plans. (Former Goal 7.5)
- Policy 18.8 Public agencies and private businesses should develop continuity plans in order to safely resume and maintain operations to the maximum extent possible following an emergency.
- Policy 18.9 Local governments should designate sites and facilities to serve as post disaster shelters for temporary housing in order to allow schools to return to normal operations. Local governments should develop site designation plans for relief staging and distribution, military and volunteer encampments, and debris storage, disposal and burning away from environmentally sensitive areas or areas of historic or archaeological importance. (Former Policy 7.5.3)
- Policy 18.10 Encourage local governments to distribute the *Hurricane Survival Guide for Small Businesses*, published by the South Florida Regional Planning Council in 2000, to all holders of occupational licenses within their jurisdictions.
- Policy 18.11 Encourage local governments to establish a Disaster Resistant Economic Action for Mitigation (DREAM) Team to assist businesses within their jurisdictions to mitigate for future disasters and increase the likelihood of their continuity.
- Policy 18.12 Encourage local governments to work with the South Florida Regional Planning Council in its role as the Region's Economic Development District Coordinator to seek hazard mitigation funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration to fund the organizational and training activities of the DREAM Teams. The DREAM Teams should be constituted with members representing local government departments of economic development, community

redevelopment, building, risk management, historic preservation, and other entities, such as the County Emergency Management department, South Florida Regional Planning Council, local Chambers of Commerce, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Emergency Management, Florida Insurance Commissioner's Office, and local businesses choosing to participate. The duties of the DREAM Teams would include, but not be limited to:

- a. Assist each participating local business in developing an emergency plan;
- b. Educate businesses regarding insurance options;
- c. Arrange group discount insurance rates from competing insurers for property and business continuity insurance for participating businesses;
- d. Educate businesses about physical improvement options to promote disaster mitigation;
- e. Arrange group discounts from competing contractors for the installation of hurricane shutters, doors, windows, and roof clips to protect business properties;
- f. Develop a strategy to provide a network of secondary suppliers of goods and services for local businesses outside the Region for the duration that local suppliers within the Region are disrupted;
- g. Establish a low-interest revolving loan fund for participating small businesses to retrofit their structures to be more disaster resistant; and
- h. Promote DREAM Team membership among local businesses.

Policy 18.13 Encourage local government building departments to reduce the permit application fees for disaster resistant shutters, doors, windows, and roof clips for DREAM Team participating businesses.

Beyond Hurricanes

Policy 18.14 Achieve flexible, and comprehensive, and coordinated emergency planning for a variety of emergencies. (Former Goal 7.6)

Policy 18.15 Enhance public awareness and education regarding appropriate responses to a variety of emergencies.

Policy 18.16 Promote the federal, state, and regional coordination of a public information and awareness program concerning various types of hazards and appropriate response. (Former Policy 7.6.3)

Evacuation and Sheltering

Policy 18.17 ~~Encourage the construction of new public buildings greater than 10,000 square feet in floor area not exclusively for mechanical or storage uses, to withstand a Category 3 hurricane. . Limit~~ Discourage the development of public facilities in the storm surge areas except when necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare for of existing residents. Government entities should retrofit all existing public facilities as described above, under their jurisdiction outside of the storm surge areas to shelter specifications until adequate regional shelter capacity is met. Define adequate regional shelter capacity as a shelter space within the region, whether provided publicly or privately, for each person residing in the storm surge areas in the region. (Former Policy 7.3.1)

Policy 18.18 ~~Local governments and the private sector should develop an integrated plan to provide~~ Provide adequate shelter capacity for vulnerable populations in the region within the Region. Local governments should include emergency shelter capacity as

part of the development review. Adequate shelter capacity outside the evacuation areas should be in place for the projected population of new development in evacuation areas prior to occupancy. Developers should expect to reasonably contribute to the provision of additional shelter supply as part of development approval in these areas. (Former Policy 7.3.4)

- Policy 18.19 Discourage the development of new manufactured mobile home parks in South Florida. Local governments should require existing mobile manufactured home parks to have on-site shelter facilities for their residents or plans for alternative off-site shelters. (Former Policy 7.3.3)
- Policy 18.20 Ensure the availability of emergency shelter for residents required to evacuate areas adversely affected by natural or technological disasters.
- Policy 18.21 ~~Encourage a~~ All levels of government and the private sector, including schools and the Red Cross, shall work together to ensure adequate and timely sheltering within the Region for those residing in the hurricane evacuation areas. (Former Goal 7.3)
- Policy 18.22 State, regional, and local governments should have coordinated emergency evacuation plans for hurricanes, other weather-related events, and technological disasters, which include: (Former Policy 7.4.6)
- a. ~~participation in the Federal Flood Insurance Program where applicable;~~
 - b. ~~pertinent requirements for structural wind resistance which are at least as stringent as those stated in the South Florida Building Code;~~
 - c. ~~additional disaster preparedness requirements for new developments whose future residents might have limited mobility or demand specialized attention;~~
 - d. ~~identification of appropriate evacuation routes;~~
 - e. ~~identification of appropriate shelters with essential emergency provisions;~~
 - f. ~~coordination of all public and private relief agencies' activities;~~
 - g. ~~promotion of the integration and enhancement of local, county, regional and state emergency warning systems; and~~
 - h. ~~prioritization of evacuation routes in need of enhancement in all capital facility programs affecting the Region.~~
- Policy 18.23 Provide access to regional, system-wide information, such as Intelligent Transportation Systems, so that the populace, including the transit public transportation dependent, will be alerted to transportation system conditions and receive effective response and recovery information. ~~can be received.~~ (Former Policy 5.2.3)
- Policy 18.24 Local governments should inventory special needs populations, and designate a special shelter(s) to accommodate their needs, and establish. ~~Establish~~ an outreach program to assist the special needs population in evacuation and sheltering. (Former Policy 7.2.4)
- Policy 18.25 ~~No increased~~ Reduce risk to hospital patients and special needs population due to an emergency natural or technological emergencies. (Former Goal 7.2)

19. Coastal High Hazard Areas *Goals & Policies*

- Goal 19 ~~The following policies are intended to direct~~ Direct future development away from the areas most vulnerable to storm surges. (Former Goal 7.1)
- Policy 19.1 Local governments should reduce allowable residential development densities in the ~~Category 3 Hurricane Evacuation~~ Coastal High Hazard Area to densities no greater than the current use of the property, if developed. Local governments should ensure that new development and redevelopment in the ~~Category 3 Hurricane Evacuation~~ Coastal High Hazard Area complies with the National Flood Insurance Program, South Florida Building Code, and hurricane shelter policies promoted by the *SRPP*. Local governments should consider undeveloped land in the ~~Category 3 Hurricane Evacuation~~ Coastal High Hazard Area for reservation as agriculture or as recreation and open space, whether for public or private use. All levels of government should place priority on the acquisition of this land for restoration to its natural state. (Former Policy 7.1.1.b)
- Policy 19.2 All levels of government should review alterations in ground elevations in the Category 5 Hurricane Evacuation Area and develop policies to guide future development densities based on performance standards and acceptable risks. Local governments should consider the long-term economic and environmental impacts of increasing allowable development densities in the Category 5 Hurricane Evacuation Area. Local governments should ensure that new development and redevelopment in the Category 5 Hurricane Evacuation Area comply with the National Flood Insurance Program, the South Florida Building Code, and hurricane shelter policies promoted by the *SRPP*. (Former Policy 7.1.1.c)
- Policy 19.3 Discourage local governments from permitting the filling of land, new development, or expansion of existing development in floodways passing through the coastal ridge between the western floodplains and the storm surge areas. Local governments should consider undeveloped land in this area for reservation as agriculture, or as recreation and open space, whether for public or private use. All levels of government should place priority on the acquisition of this land for restoration to its natural state. (Former Policy 7.1.1.d)
- Policy 19.4 Limit the development of non-recreational public facilities in the storm surge areas except when necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare ~~for~~ of existing residents. (Former Policy 7.1.3)
- Policy 19.5 Incorporate buffer and conservation zones into site designs for new development and redevelopment in the storm surge areas to mitigate possible damage. Consider the inevitable rise in sea level in all decisions regarding the design, location, and replacement of coastal development or redevelopment. (Former Policy 7.1.4)
- Policy 19.6 All levels of government should give priority to the public acquisition of property in areas that have been destroyed as the result of a hurricane. Public acquisition priority listing should include indicators of vulnerability to destruction by hurricanes. Local governments should identify and put in priority order properties within the hurricane evacuation areas for use in state and federal acquisition programs. (Former Policy 7.1.5)
- Policy 19.7 Require any development or redevelopment that occurs in a Coastal High Hazard Area to include features that mitigate hazard impacts and promote public safety and welfare.

20. Connecting People & Places *Goals & Policies*

Goal 20 ~~Achieve long-term efficient and sustainable development patterns that protect natural resources and connect diverse housing, transportation, education, and employment opportunities, by guiding new development and redevelopment within the region to areas which are most intrinsically suited for development, including areas (1) which are least exposed to coastal storm surges; (2) where negative impacts on the natural environment will be minimal; and (3) where public facilities and services already exist, are programmed or, on an aggregate basis, can be provided most economically. (Former Goal 2.1)~~

Guiding Growth to Enhance Connectivity

Policy 20.1 ~~Local governments should provide for the compatibility of adjacent land uses and assess the impacts of land uses on the surrounding environment in comprehensive plans and development regulations. (Former Policy 2.1.10)~~

Policy 20.2 ~~Achieve long term efficient and sustainable development patterns by guiding~~ Guide new development and redevelopment within the Region to areas which are most intrinsically suited for development, including areas:
(1)a. which are least exposed to coastal storm surges;
(2)b. where negative impacts on the natural environment will be minimal; and
(3)c. where public facilities and services already exist, are programmed or, on an aggregate basis, can be provided most economically. (Former Goal 2.1)

Policy 20.3 Direct future development and redevelopment first to areas served by existing infrastructure and to other locations that are suitable for development, as identified in their comprehensive plans. In particular, local governments should coordinate with state and regional officials to identify public transportation corridors and to promote development along those corridors by implementing investment strategies for providing infrastructure and services, which are consistent with them. (Former Policy 2.1.6)

Policy 20.4 Concentrate ~~high density~~ dense land uses, including residential, commercial, and mixed-use, ~~land use sites, along major public transportation corridors and at intermodal centers in concert with locally adopted long-range transportation plans.~~ promote transit service, develop infill parcels and cultivate greenways along multimodal transportation corridors, particularly within the Transportation Concurrency Exception Areas. (Former Policy 5.1.3)

Policy 20.5 Improve regional air quality and reduce negative impacts to other natural resources by connecting development with multimodal transportation systems. (Former Policy 5.1.24)

Movement of People

Policy 20.6 Develop a transportation system that connects people to places, is accessible to the greatest number of people; offers alternatives to the single-occupant vehicle; provides for the safety and mobility of pedestrians and bicyclists; accommodates sustainable growth; and functions efficiently as a regional system.

Policy 20.7 Facilitate pedestrian and bicycle movement, increase the use of public transportation, and decrease the use of single occupant vehicles through such measures as Use innovative site design such as and transit-oriented development, ~~at the planning~~

~~stage to facilitate pedestrian movement, bicycle use, transit use and to decrease the use of the single occupant vehicle. (Former Policy 5.1.6)~~

Policy 20.8 Coordinate and develop an ~~totally~~ integrated and comprehensive, multi-modal regional transportation system whereby heavy and light rail ~~transit~~, people movers, ~~Tri-Rail Commuter Service trolleys, shuttles, trolleys,~~ express and local bus service, and other forms of public transportation ~~transit-related travel~~ play a more active role in the movement of people, particularly between regional centers. When modernizing or creating new transportation systems, utilize land use/transportation strategies to reduce congestion and allow for sustainable growth in the Region. (Former Policy 4.1.10)

Policy 20.9 Establish a coordinated system for the transportation disadvantaged, including the elderly, in all counties of the ~~region~~ Region and ~~assure~~ ensure coordination of service delivery between the transportation disadvantaged and public transportation ~~transit~~ system. (Former Policy 5.1.27)

Movement of Freight and Goods

Policy 20.10 Enhance the roles of airports and seaports in economic development by:

- a. ~~making~~ improving airport conditions at ~~Miami International and Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport~~ for the movement of passengers, freight, and goods; and cargo movement a regional priority;
- b. addressing aviation system linkages for international connections from a regional perspective;
- c. ~~creating a center at Miami International Airport for South American and other international business persons to meet and conduct business;~~
- d. ~~enhancing the accessibility for visitors traveling between to and from airports and seaports, to hotels, and other destinations; and~~
- e. ~~addressing efficient, dependable, cost-effective intermodal movement of goods and people in order to ensure ensuring competitive ship- port-to-rail and ship- port-to-highway connections through efficient, dependable, and cost-effective intermodal movement of freight, goods, and people.~~ addressing efficient, dependable, cost-effective intermodal movement of goods and people in order to ensure ensuring competitive ship- port-to-rail and ship- port-to-highway connections through efficient, dependable, and cost-effective intermodal movement of freight, goods, and people. (Former Policy 4.1.15)

Policy 20.11 Support the movement of freight and goods through the development of a transportation system that efficiently connects ports, distribution centers, intermodal centers, and other appropriate areas. (Derived from Former Policy 5.1.18)

Greenways

Policy 20.12 Support the linkage of existing and new conservation areas, parks, open space, cultural and historic sites, and urban areas with greenway systems.

Policy 20.13 Establish ~~regional~~ greenway networks and multi-use recreational trails throughout the Region. ~~that accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.~~ (Former Policy 5.1.26)

Waterways

Policy 20.14 Encourage coordination among state, regional, and local governments and the private sector in the development of waterway transportation strategies and polices, consistent with protection of the Region's water resources, which can be integrated into the local comprehensive planning process.

Policy 20.15 Require development and redevelopment plans of properties fronting on navigable waters under the jurisdiction of the Florida Inland Navigation District to provide continuous public access along the waterfront, including waterbus access.

21. Coordinated and Integrated Planning ***Goals & Policies***

Goal 21 Assume a leadership role to enhance regional cooperation, multi-jurisdictional coordination, and multi-issue regional planning to ensure the balancing of competing needs and long-term sustainability of our natural, developed and human resources.

Coordinated Planning

Policy 21.1 ~~Promote~~ Implement better coordination of land use, natural resource, and water supply infrastructure planning, with special attention to regional and ecosystem management approaches. (Former Policy 2.1.7)

Policy 21.2 ~~Work~~ Strengthen intergovernmental coordination processes with state, regional, and local governments and agencies to ~~develop a system for~~ effectively linking land use decisions with affordable housing, transportation/air quality, natural resource protection, preservation, and restoration and water supply planning. (Former Policy 3.9.2)

Policy 21.3 The South Florida Regional Planning Council will work with its regional partners to establish a Regional Economic Foundation, which will operate as an umbrella organization and provide direction to other existing and future regional initiatives, and will focus on economic development, healthcare, transportation, education, housing, creative industries and quality of life.

Policy 21.4 ~~Encourage the establishment of~~ Establish a uniform 20-year planning horizon ~~encompassing the period 1995-2015 for the future land use element in all local government comprehensive plans in the Region. for the next update of those plans.~~ Further encourage ~~Encourage~~ related long-range plans, ~~for the region~~ such as, education, transportation, and water supply, to provide a policy framework consistent with the same 20-year period. (Former Policy 2.1.1)

Policy 21.5 ~~Strengthen the coordination and understanding of the linkage between land use and transportation/air quality planning.~~ (Former Policy 3.3.7)

Regional Transportation

Policy 21.6 ~~To a~~ Achieve mutually supportive transportation planning and land use planning that promotes ~~both~~ mobility, efficiency, and accessibility, ~~in order to foster~~ economic development, preserves natural systems, improves air quality, increases access to employment centers and affordable housing, and promotes safety. (Former Goal 5.1)

Policy 21.7 ~~To achieve~~ Achieve a coordinated transportation system planning process across jurisdictions and across issue-areas so that barriers are minimized and consistency across the ~~region~~ Region is achieved. (Former Goal 5.3)

Policy 21.8 Enhance regional transportation and transit planning and funding through the development of a regional land use and transportation strategy and improved coordination with the region's transportation entities, particularly the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

Policy 21.9 ~~Promote the participation of the private sector~~ public involvement, including the business community, in transportation planning and ensure that public and private responsibilities for transportation improvements are determined equitably and on a fair share basis. (Former Policy 5.3.5)

Policy 21.10 Ensure coordination between emergency management and transportation systems, including public transportation and statewide intermodal systems.

Policy 21.11 ~~To enhance~~ Enhance the regional transportation system's role in system-wide preparedness for emergency situations. (Former Goal 5.2)

Inter-regional cooperation

Policy 21.12 Ensure that economic development efforts have a strong inter-regional focus.

Affordable Housing

Policy 21.13 Work cooperatively with local governments, the state, and the private sector to develop a regional understanding of the need for affordable housing and to identify opportunities to create affordable housing. ~~by:~~ (Former Policy 6.3.1)

- ~~a. — developing a regional database of potential sites for low income housing that can be made readily available to developers;~~
- ~~b. — preparing an inventory of attractive affordable housing in the region, with visual supports, to aid in the changing attitudes toward affordable housing as a Not In My Back Yard (NIMBY);~~
- ~~c. — improving the regional housing needs database through monitoring and compiling the number and location by area or jurisdiction of very low, low and moderate income dwelling units;~~
- ~~d. — providing input into the preparation of the statewide needs assessment for affordable housing;~~
- ~~e. — working with federal, state and local agencies to develop a consistent definition of affordable housing, including the income criteria used as the basis for calculating appropriate housing costs for low income programs;~~
- ~~f. — clarifying the significance of income differentials among South Florida counties for housing analysis;~~
- ~~g. — creating a regional clearing house for information on affordable housing programs and providers (the South Florida Regional Information System BBS – SoFlARIS); and~~
- ~~h. — working with financial institutions in the region to ensure the adequate implementation of the Community Reinvestment Act.~~

Broadening Awareness of Decision-Making Impacts

Policy 21.14 Ensure that decisions regarding the future of the Region balance competing needs and provide for the long-term sustainability of our natural, developed, and human resources.

Policy 21.15 Ensure that the need for a healthy and sustainable regional economy is balanced against other regional needs, including environmental and community concerns.

Policy 21.16 Ensure that infill and redevelopment efforts are balanced with the need to protect the safety and welfare of our communities and sustain the Region's natural resources.

Policy 21.17 Ensure that infill and redevelopment efforts are balanced with the need to preserve community character, provide affordable housing, and preserve historic resources.

22. Cultural Competence Goals & Policies

- Goal 22 Create a ~~work~~ regional environment that is aware of and sensitive to cultural diversity, and that provides opportunities for all to become successful regional citizens. ~~of the work force.~~ (Former Policy 4.1.9)
- Policy 22.1 Promote cultural competence and community pride through the preservation and rehabilitation of historic structures, landmarks, and neighborhoods.
- Policy 22.2 ~~Local governments should adopt goals, objectives and policies in their comprehensive plans which enhance~~ Provide diverse housing, employment, and educational opportunities throughout the Region for all households of diverse racial, ethnic, and income groups, ~~to live within their communities.~~ (Former Policy 2.1.16)
- Policy 22.3 Strengthen the role of small and minority business in economic development, ~~by:~~ (Former Policy 4.1.20)
- ~~a. — advocating for a commitment from large corporations to do business with small and minority businesses;~~
 - ~~b. — developing and implementing mechanisms to ensure that equity issues are being addressed for small and minority businesses where there is distribution of funds by private and public sector entities;~~
 - ~~c. — advocating to ensure that small and minority businesses are given a fair and equal opportunity in obtaining state, local and federal grants and contracts;~~
 - ~~d. — advocating that government, education, economic development agencies and business assistance agencies work together in assisting small and minority businesses;~~
 - ~~e. — advocating that state government and other initiatives create funds to serve as the capital requirement of the minority business communities;~~
 - ~~f. — advocating the removal of impediments for small and minority businesses to compete in international trade markets;~~
 - ~~g. — ensuring that small and minority businesses will have an opportunity to access direct or indirect business from proposed large, medium and small scale projects and developments impacting the region;~~
 - ~~h. — implementing fiscal mechanisms to create direct accessibility to venture capital for small and minority businesses;~~
 - ~~i. — creating and developing a state and /or regional finance corporation empowered to enter interlocal agreements with cities and counties to increase available credit for new and expanding businesses; and~~
 - ~~j. — advocating reinvestment in the local economy where there are slum and blighted conditions, low income neighborhoods, commercial deteriorated areas, etc.~~
- Policy 22.4 Support the diversification of the representation of elected and appointed officials to better reflect our Region.
- Policy 22.5 Provide public education in regard to natural resource protection and access to the diverse population of the Region in multiple languages, including Spanish and Creole.
- Policy 22.6 Require a minimum of 15% minority participation in the development of developments of regional impact.

- Policy 22.7 Support the continued effort to ensure that all residents who need it will have access to classes that will give them competency in written and spoken English.
- Policy 22.8 Promote the development and adoption of cultural competence standards by public and private organizations in the Region.
- Policy 22.9 Promote the creation of opportunities for representatives of minority communities to participate in leadership training.

South Florida Regional Planning Council

3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140

Hollywood, Florida 33021

954-985-4416

954-985-4417 (FAX)

www.sfrpc.com

