

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

### Minutes

March 7, 2016

The South Florida Regional Council met on this date at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District VI – Auditorium, 1000 N.W. 111 Avenue, Miami, Florida. Chair Asseff called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and Councilmember Goldberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

Chair Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey (absent)  
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)  
Councilmember Mark Bogen (absent)  
Councilmember Frank Caplan (absent)  
Councilmember Daniella Levine Cava  
Councilmember Tim Daubert  
Councilmember Furr (absent)  
Councilmember Cary Goldberg  
Councilmember Nelson Hernandez (absent)  
Councilmember Martin Kiar (absent)  
Councilmember George Neugent (absent)  
Councilmember David Rice (absent)  
Councilmember Greg Ross  
Councilmember Xavier Suarez  
Councilmember Paul Wallace  
Councilmember Sandra Walters  
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel was present.

The following Ex-Officio Members were present:

Ms. Lisa Colmenares attended representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI  
Ms. Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Ex-Officio Members were absent:

The Honorable Roberto Martell, representing the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity /  
Mayor of the Town of Medley  
Ms. Jennifer Smith, acting representative, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, stated there is an Executive Committee quorum in which all members of the Council can participate.

Chair Asseff introduced Florida Department of Transportation, District VI Secretary Gus Pego.

Mr. Pego welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Council for inviting him. He informed the Council he will be retiring April 30, 2016 after 30 plus years with FDOT. He stated that it was his pleasure to have the ability to accommodate the Council.

## **II. Approval of Council Agenda**

Chair Asseff reorganized the agenda to move up Mr. Kwiatkowski's presentation to earlier in the meeting. Councilmember Daubert moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

## **III. Action Items**

### **A. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Councilmember Ross moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Councilmember Daubert seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

### **B. Financial Report**

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item III.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

### **C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report**

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item III.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

### **D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews**

- Broward County 15-8ESR
- Broward County 16-1ESR
- Broward County 16-2ESR
- City of Doral 15-4ESR
- City of Fort Lauderdale 15-2ESR
- City of Hialeah 15-4ESR
- City of Hialeah 16-1ESR
- City of Homestead 15-1ESR
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 15-1ACSC
- City of Lauderdale Lakes 15-1ESR
- Village of Palmetto Bay 15-2ER
- Village of Palmetto Bay 15-3ESR
- Village of Palmetto Bay 16-1ESR
- City of Sunny Isles Beach 16-1ESR
- City of Sunny Isles Beach 16-2ER
- City of Sunrise 16-CIE1

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item III.D, Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews. Councilmember Daubert seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. Reorganization of Personnel Schedule of Classes

Executive Director Isabel Cosio Carballo explained in detail the changes in the Council's Personnel Policy regarding the schedule of classes. The position of "Receptionist" has been eliminated as those duties have been absorbed by other Administrative Staff. The position of "Finance Specialist" has been split into two levels to allow flexibility as the Council's loan programs develop. The position of "Graphic Designer" is evolving into "Web and Design Manager" to reflect new responsibilities. The reorganization includes the outsourcing of IT support functions. A survey of the other regional planning councils in the state indicate that five of the nine councils currently outsource their IT services and have found it to be an effective approach and efficient use of resources. A new "Technology Specialist" position has been created to allow a staff person with basic IT skills to provide general maintenance and support in the future as needed. The position of "Chief Information Manager" has been removed.

Councilmember Walters voiced her support for the reorganization of the schedule of classes and complimented the Executive Director for taking leadership in this area. The Executive Director thanked Councilmember Walters, and recognized Deputy Director Cela for his leadership in this area.

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item III.E, Reorganization of Personnel Schedule of Classes. Councilmember Walters seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**IV. Discussion Items**

Chair Asseff announced Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr will be replacing Broward County Commissioner Tim Ryan, and thanked Commissioner Ryan for his service.

Chair Asseff introduced the Council's guest presenter Peter Kwiatkowski, P.G., Manager of the Resource Evaluation Section, Water Supply Bureau of the South Florida Water Management District.

**V. Program Reports and Activities**

A. Presentations

1) "Saltwater Intrusion and its Potential Impact on South Florida's Water Supply"

Guest Speaker: Peter J. Kwiatkowski, P.G., Manager of the Resource Evaluation Section, Water Supply Bureau of the South Florida Water Management District

Mr. Kwiatkowski provided an overview of saltwater intrusion (lateral and vertical) and the potential effects on the water supply in South Florida. He gave details on the sources of the saltwater intrusion, along with information on the Biscayne Aquifer, wellfields, water control structures, the reverse osmosis aquifers, and the importance of maintaining these facilities. He explained the SFWMD Saltwater Interface Mapping Project, the mapping challenges, and the importance of this effort. Mr. Kwiatkowski explained the various chemicals the water is tested for. There was discussion regarding utility companies, pump stations, Turkey Point, sea level

elevation, sea level rise, and the Everglades. He concluded with information on what can be done in the future by the SFWMD at a regional perspective, by monitoring wellfields and through utilities, mapping, and other means of researching the ability to control saltwater intrusion. Councilmember Cava informed the Council on the Water Summit. Councilmember Suarez's staff sent a link to the Councilmembers regarding Turkey Point issues. Ex-Officio Member Laura Corry informed the Councilmembers that the District has a Water Resources Advisory Commission that meets the first Thursday of every month at 9 a.m. The public can view the meetings via webcast. This Commission discusses many of the issues raised today.

Chair Asseff stated that it seems that funding is concentrated on the brown water and vegetation in northern Florida. She would like to see salt water intrusion in South Florida be brought to the forefront. She suggested the Council become involved and asked for Mr. Kwiatkowski's help. Mr. Kwiatkowski stated that this would be geared more toward the Everglades Restoration in which South Florida will receive funding through the Everglades Restoration Project. He stated he is willing to help the Council. There was discussion on the water color, red tide and toxins found in the water and how the water is monitored and tested. Mr. Kwiatkowski explained this in detail. The Councilmembers were very engaged in Mr. Kwiatkowski's presentation and asked many questions. Mr. Kwiatkowski was thanked for a great presentation and his time.

(Note: Subsequent to the meeting, Council staff posted Mr. Kwiatkowski's presentation on the Council home page.)

A. Executive Committee Report: None

B. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Cosio Carballo stated the Economic Development Project, with an appropriation of \$500K, is in the State Budget for the Regional Planning Councils but is not completed. She stated she will be in Tallahassee working with the Department of Economic Opportunity and Michael Busha to discuss this project further. She recognized and thanked House sponsor Representative Jose Felix Diaz and State Senator Jack Latvala for their leadership and support. She also thanked Representative Hazelle Rogers, Democratic leader on the House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations subcommittee, for her assistance.

Ms. Cosio Carballo stated she received an email from Mark Woerner, from Miami-Dade County Planning Division, with respect to a status update on the American Dream Mall proposal. At this time there is nothing new to report. She explained the Council is part of the comprehensive land use plan review process.

Ms. Cosio Carballo recognized Lynda Westin from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) and stated that the Council is continually working with the SFRTA on various issues including the Coastal Link Project and Transit-Oriented Development.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren stated the Sunshine Law Presentation is deferred to April's meeting. He informed the Council about a Public Records Bill pending in Tallahassee. The Southeast Florida Community Development Fund Inc. (SFCDFI) is making great progress. He complimented Ms. Cosio Carballo and professional staff regarding the Personnel Policy and other aspects regarding the organization.

D. Ex Officio Reports

Lisa Colmenares, FDOT, VI, stated that in regards to the proposed American Dream Mall development, District VI received information on the Trip Generation Analysis and is in discussion with Mark Woerner from Miami-Dade County and FDOT District IV. FDOT's joint analysis and comments related to the proposal will be released soon.

**V. Program Reports and Activities**

A. Presentations

- 1) "Saltwater Intrusion and its Potential Impact on South Florida's Water Supply"  
Guest Speaker: Peter J. Kwiatkowski, P.G., Manager of the Resource Evaluation Section, Water Supply Bureau of the South Florida Water Management District  
This item was presented at the Action Items of the Agenda.
- 2) Sunshine Law (Ch. 286, F.S.) and Public Records (Ch. 119, F.S.)  
Deferred to April 4, 2016 Meeting.

B. Revolving Loan Fund Reports

- 1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

C. Developments of Regional Impact: None

D. Southeast Florida Clean Cities Program Update

Christine Heshmati, Council staff, thanked Ms. Cosio Carballo and Council staff for being supportive of the Clean Cities efforts. She informed the Council that Chair Asseff is also the Chair of the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition. Ms. Heshmati updated the Councilmembers on the Transportation Technology Deployment Report where she reaches out to the public and private fleet managers in the region regarding the various fuel alternatives being utilized. She named private companies that are on the cutting edge of compressed natural gas (CNG) usage and stated that Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties have historically been public leaders in alternative fuels. She informed the Council that the Coalition arranged filming clips of two local entities that are engaging in alternative fuels for the public television show *Motor Week*. Council Chair Asseff and she joined Broward County Transit staff for the filming of their paratransit fleet conversion to 100% propane autogas. Filming then moved to the privately owned City Furniture headquarters in Broward County where a CNG station has been installed to fuel the company's fleet of CNG delivery trucks.

Councilmember Suarez mentioned that steam and water vapor can have an effect on carbon dioxide.

Ex-Officio Member Laura Corry informed the Council that with respect to the American Dream Miami proposed development, the SFWMD, a regulatory review agency, will have a pre-permitting discussion before the permitting process begins.

Ms. Cosio Carballo thanked the Councilmembers and guests for attending today's meeting.

**VI. Announcements and Attachments**

- A. Correspondence and Attendance Form
- B. Upcoming Meetings
  - 1) April 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood)
  - 2) May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (MENC, Key Largo)
  - 3) June 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood)

**VII. Councilmember Comments**

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the March 7, 2016 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL adopted the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

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Greg Ross, Secretary

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Date