



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.F

DATE: AUGUST 8, 2016
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: FY 2016-2017 MEMBERSHIP FEES

Background

The Council is required to certify membership fees for the upcoming fiscal year to its member counties by August 1st of each year. Following the July 11th Council meeting, the Executive Director communicated to Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties the action taken by the Council at its Board meeting and the counties' membership contribution for FY 2016-17 based on the current per capita rate of 17.5 cents. The Executive Director informed county leadership of the Council's upcoming deliberations at its August 8th meeting.

Established in 1994, the current membership per capita rate is 17.5 cents. Prior to May 1994, the membership per capita rate had been 13.57 cents for a period of ten years. From October 2011 through September 2015 the Council froze the membership fee at April 1, 2010 population levels to assist member counties during the financial difficulties of the Great Recession. Based on residential population projections for April 1, 2017, each half penny increase in the current per capita rate would generate \$22,908.90, with a penny increase generating \$45,817.80.

As requested by the Executive Committee at its June 24th meeting, Council staff presented for discussion purposes information regarding the fee structure of the state's other nine regional councils as well as two sample scenarios for an increase in the per capita rate at the July 11th Council meeting. At its July 11th Council meeting, the Council voted to continue this conversation at its upcoming August meeting and requested a brief report of activities and needed investments that would justify and support a recommendation for modification of the Council's existing membership per capita rate. Included in this report is a brief overview of Selected Activities during FY 15 – 16 that were supported with existing dues and contract work secured by Council staff, and areas of critical investment versus available / potential resources.



Report

Overview of SFRC Activities and Areas of Needed Investment

The Council is a regional, public policy and governmental agency serving Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties. Its mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing Southeast Florida and assist the region's leaders in the development and implementation of creative strategies that will result in more prosperous and equitable communities, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy. The Council works in partnership with the region's public, private, nonprofit, philanthropic, and community stakeholders to advance job creation, regional prosperity, and a superior quality of life in Southeast Florida.

The Council convenes the region's thinkers and doers, and provides "neutral ground" where diverse opinions can be heard and alliances created to carry the region forward to a more resilient and prosperous future. Staff areas of expertise include, but are not limited to, economic and community development, demographic research and analysis, brownfields redevelopment, healthy food access, emergency and hazardous materials preparedness, transportation and transit-oriented development, affordable housing, sea level rise and community resiliency, alternative clean fuels, intergovernmental coordination and collaboration, and local government comprehensive land use plan and large scale development impact review. Over FY 15 – 16, Council staff has been engaged in planning and implementation in the areas of Resiliency/Sea Level Rise Planning and Adaptation; Data and Data Analysis; Mapping and Geospatial Analysis; Economic Development; Transportation/TOD Analysis; Emergency Preparedness; Health and the Built Environment; and Alternative Fuels.

Many of these activities are tied to a specific contract with a time-limited scope of activity. Enhanced subject matter expertise and work products, with applicability and value to the region as a whole, are developed as a result of pilot projects in specific communities. Even though pilot programs are designed to create replicable models for broader implementation, implementation across the region is often limited due to insufficient Council staff resources.

A goal of the Council is to augment staff resources in order to increase the amount of work the Council can undertake to support the region's communities, while investing in the Council's capacity to expand its activities in service of the region. Moving from a "vicious cycle" of diminished investment and potential impact, to a growing "virtuous circle" of investment, with increased return on investment (value added outcomes), with continued growth in capacity and regional leadership should be a key goal of the Council moving forward.

Areas of Needed Investment

Council resources are deployed in three investment categories: (1) Professional Development including recruitment and development of staff capacity and expertise; (2) Infrastructure including technology, data, and training; and (3) General Support including office, supplies, travel, and professional services (legal, auditors, etc.). Investment in these categories, particularly in Professional Development and Infrastructure, is needed to strengthen the agency and support its mission.

While the Council provides expertise, technical assistance, and high quality service on every project and activity, it is on a somewhat limited scale when compared with years past due to greatly reduced personnel, particularly planning staff. Economic downturns and recessions, and the diminished funding which occurs with these events, has contributed to staff turnover and insufficient investment in human

resources and critical infrastructure. As you will see from the quick snapshot below, there has been extensive cost cutting over time. From 2003 to 2016, full-time Council staff has been reduced by more than 50%. Remaining staff has been asked year after year to forego cost of living or merit increases, and take on greater responsibilities without additional compensation. In addition to holding membership dues steady from October 2011 through September 2015, Council staff was reduced to a 32-hour work week from May through September 2008 (five months) and then again from March 2014 through September 2015 (18 months).

A quick snapshot of the Council Staff and Program Areas provides insight to how the Council has evolved over time.

Council Staff / Program Areas

2003 – 25 Full-Time Positions

- General Planners (11)
- Conflict Resolution Specialist (1)
- Census/Data/Demographic Analyst (1)
- Support (8) including Administrative Staff, GIS/WEB / IT, Graphics, and Finance
- Program Managers (3) – LEPC, Eastward Ho!/Legislative and External Affairs, Revolving Loan Fund
- Executive Director (1)

2011 – 19 Full-Time Positions

- General Planners (4)
- Economist (1)
- Census/Data/Demographic Analyst (1)
- Support (8) including Administrative Staff, GIS/WEB/IT, Graphics, Finance, RLF Support
- Program Managers (4) Emergency Management/LEPC, HUD Sustainable Communities/Legislative and External Affairs, Revolving Loan Fund, Clean Cities
- Executive Director (1)

2016 – 12 “Full-Time” Positions

- General Planners (2) - 1 full-time General Planner; half-time Transportation Planner; half-time SLR/Resiliency/DataCommon Planner
- Support (7) including Administrative Staff, Graphics, Web, Finance/RLF/CDFI, RLF Support
- Program Managers (1) – Clean Cities; (Note: RLF Program Management has been combined with Finance under the “Support” category; GIS/Emergency Management/LEPC Program Management is accounted for under the “Deputy Director” category)
- Deputy Director/Emergency Management/LEPC/GIS (1)
- Executive Director (1)/Legislative and External Affairs

Notes:

- Census/Data/Demographic Analysis and DRI/General Planning support is available on a “on demand” contractual basis.

- The Transportation Planner and SLR/Resiliency/DataCommon Planner will become full-time employees at the beginning of the October 1, 2016 Fiscal Year.
- No formal staff development or training activities have been made available to staff for at least seven years.

Technology Infrastructure

- Computers: 17 personal computers, 13 of which are more than ten years old
- Software: With the exception of three (3) computers capable of supporting Windows 10, the majority of the computers run on Windows XP, which is no longer supported. Released in 2001, Windows XP has been supplanted by Windows Vista, 7, 8, 8.1 and most recently, Windows 10.
- Servers: Two servers (1 for file storage and printing; 1 for email), purchased in 2006 and 2007, out of warranty, new parts are no longer available, two server failures within recent months.
- Data Projector and Conference Call Phone Unit: Purchased in 2010
- Phone System (Nortel PBX): Purchased in 2007

Conclusion

The capacity constraints and needed investments which face the Council today have developed over many years. It is clear that there is a significant need for increased investment in the Council to enhance its capacity to lead as a regional thought leader providing expertise, technical assistance, and services that will create a more resilient and vibrant region, and add value to the work of the region's counties, cities, private, non-profit, and philanthropic partners. What is not clear today is the strategic vision of the Council Board for the Council moving forward, the current state of the Council's professional and capital infrastructure when compared to organizations that the Council should aspire to become, and the type and level of investment needed in the Council to move that vision forward.

Recommendations

Maintain the existing per capita rate of 17.5 cents for FY 16 – 17. Over the next six to eight months, and prior to the commencement of the local government and state budgetary process for FY 2017-18, the Council should develop a vision, strategy, and funding recommendations for the moving the Council into a "virtuous cycle" of investment with continued growth in capacity and regional leadership.



Selected Activities FY15-16

The Council is a regional, public policy and governmental agency serving Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties whose mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing Southeast Florida and assist the region's leaders in the development and implementation of creative strategies that will result in prosperous and equitable communities, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy. A strength of the Council is its unique public/private governing board consisting of county and municipal officials from Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties; gubernatorial appointees; and ex-officio members representing the South Florida Water Management District, and Florida departments of Transportation, Environmental Protection, and Economic Opportunity.

The Council works in partnership with the region's public, private, nonprofit, philanthropic, and community stakeholders to advance job creation, regional prosperity, and a superior quality of life in Southeast Florida. Council staff conducts research studies, performs analyses, develops reports, and conducts community engagement activities. Staff expertise includes the areas of Sea Level Rise Analysis, Adaptation, and Resiliency; Data and Data Analysis; Alternative Fuels; Economic Development; Emergency Preparedness; Environmental Resiliency; Health and the Built Environment; Housing; Mapping and Geospatial Analyses; Transit-Oriented Development; and Large Scale Development and Local Government Comprehensive Plan Review.

Resiliency/SLR Adaptation

Improving the Planning Process to Protect Infrastructure From Emerging Coastal Flood Hazards

Infrastructure Protection Plan (New Pilot Project): The South Florida Regional Council will develop an Infrastructure Protection Plan for six specific local communities in the region, which already have high risks to coastal flooding. The Council will coordinate survey and data collection on existing coastal flooding in two communities from each county in the region and identify discrepancies and gaps with predicted flooding from ongoing regional efforts.

Adaptation Action Areas (Completed): With funding from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) engaged the Council to assist in the research for Adaptation Action Area implementation strategies. The Council worked with the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County to test adaptation policy options to be incorporated into the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Products from the initiative can be found on DEO’s website and include:

- Compendium of National, State, and Local Adaptation Projects
- Adaptation Action Areas Guidebook: A Planning Guidebook for Florida’s Local Governments
- Adaptation Action Areas: Policy Options for Adaptive Planning for Rising Sea Levels

<http://www.floridajobs.org/community-planning-and-development/programs/community-planning-table-of-contents/adaptation-planning>

Local Government Capacity Building (Ongoing): The Council is conducting a “Train the Trainers” program to build coastal flood hazard resiliency in Florida. The Council is training the state’s nine regional planning councils in the use of context-appropriate coastal flooding assessment tools that can be used to lead and assist local governments in building resiliency. The training effort will supply local governments with community engagement and visualization and modeling software to assist policymakers. A statewide vulnerability assessment has also been completed.

Economic Development Assessment of Sea Level Rise Impacts (Proposed): The Council proposes to build on its previous work in the area of sea level rise, resilience, and economic development planning to identify areas of potential impact from projected sea level rise on economic assets such as businesses, residences, and infrastructure, and develop methodologies that could be used to assess economic and fiscal impacts.

NOAA’s Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper (Ongoing): Implementing flood-reduction programs makes communities more resilient and allows homeowners to save on flood insurance premiums—sometimes by as much as 45 percent. The Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper, a new tool from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), can be a valuable ally for communities seeking to reap these rewards.

Communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System can use the data and visualization capabilities found within this tool to support coastal flooding discussions and planning activities. Such activities can help communities improve their Community Rating System score—and pay less in homeowner flood insurance—because they are working to implement flood-reduction efforts that go beyond minimum standards.

The Council can assist the region's local governments by:

- Offering support in helping counties gain credits towards Community Rating System (CRS) points, which gain reductions in flood insurance rates.
- Offering technical support on using NOAA and Geoplan tools to assess vulnerability, thereby gaining credits and reductions in flood insurance rates.

Health and Sea-level Rise: Impacts on South Florida (Completed): Over the past two years Council staff has worked with The Florida Institute for Health Innovation and Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies on a Kresge Foundation funded project to (1) identify the communities in Palm Beach, Broward, Miami Dade and Monroe counties that will be most vulnerable to sea level rise impacts in the coming decades; (2) identify specific potential public health risks and correlate these risks to identified populations under a 2030 and 2060 sea level rise scenario; and (3) share this information with local decision makers to create more robust adaptation plans that include human health considerations. The Study and Tool Kit can be accessed here: <http://flhealthinnovation.org/sea-level-rise-mapping/>

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and Summits (Ongoing): The Council continues to support and advance the work of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact through its participation in Compact activities and learning events. In 2014 and 2015, Council staff was proud to lend its administrative and professional support to the Compact through planning and staffing of the 2014 and 2015 Climate Leadership Summits in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Additionally, Council staff facilitated the involvement of Compact leadership in national peer group learning academies around the intersection of climate change and economic development and the 2015 Policy Link Equity Summit. Council staff secured partial scholarships to defray county and city staff travel expenses from PolicyLink and the Institute for Sustainable Communities. The Council's executive director serves as a member of the Broward County Climate Task Force and Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Steering Committee.

Mapping and Geospatial Analyses

Southeast Florida DataCommon (Ongoing): The Southeast Florida DataCommon is a collaborative project to create an interactive platform for sharing data, information, and other resources and tools designed to enable organizations and the public to better understand the dynamics of individual communities and the larger region through the integration and visualization of available data across issue areas. MySidewalk.com is an online platform used by the DataCommon to enhance data and understanding about community and regional policy issues on a broader scale through access to, and sharing of, up-to-date spatial data, visualization tools, and technical assistance and support opportunities.

The Council can assist the region's local governments by:

- Generating reports on indicators for demographics, health, economy, and other sectors using the MySidewalk tool. These can also be used for blogs and other outreach practices, or for grant

applications. Data can answer questions pertaining to change over time such as, "How has this community changed over the past decade?" and "Where do the vulnerable populations live?"

- Offering technical support, aggregating various GIS data, and creating maps for the counties and municipalities.

Economic Development

South Florida Economic Forecasting Partnership (Ongoing): Council staff continues to convene and staff the South Florida Economic Forecasting Partnership. Economic impact analysis supports local authorities in making economic development investment decisions by providing consistent assessments of the magnitude and characteristics of the economic benefits related to those decisions.

The purpose of the Partnership is to enhance the ability to conduct demographic and economic analysis and forecasting in the Southeast Florida Region, composed of the seven counties in the jurisdiction of the two Regional Planning Councils. In order to support this purpose, the Partnership acquired an 8-area, 53-sector (SIC) version of Policy Insight, a demographic and economic forecasting model developed by Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI). The Model was subsequently upgraded to a 70-sector version based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The eight "regions" of the model are: Monroe County, Miami-Dade County, Broward County, Palm Beach County, Martin County, St. Lucie County, Indian River County, and the remainder of the State of Florida.

With the REMI Model, multi-year estimates of the comprehensive economic and demographic effects of regional initiatives are now available. The resulting evaluation of policies and plans can aid decision-making in the public and private sectors and maximize the positive impacts of regional investments.

South Florida Brownfields Partnership (Ongoing): The Eastward Ho! Brownfields Partnership was initiated in February 1997 to return abandoned and underutilized sites in urban areas to productive use. The Partnership was one of the initial 16 National Brownfields Showcase Communities designated in March 1998. The Eastward Ho! Partnership was originally established to bring together local, state, regional and federal agencies with private sector, non-profit and community organizations to undertake urban infill and redevelopment projects that will improve the quality of life for residents of Southeast Florida's historic urban core. Actual or perceived environmental contamination in urban infill sites, and the risks and costs associated with addressing them, was determined to be a significant barrier to redevelopment.

To address this barrier, the Council and the Partnership members designated approximately 55,453 acres as Brownfields under the Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Program, which accounts for 38% of the total acreage in the Program. Now called the South Florida Brownfields Partnership, the Partnership remains a regional collaboration for public and private entities and continues to support and promote Brownfield education, outreach, redevelopment opportunities, job training, funding and incentives.

Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund (Ongoing): The South Florida Regional Council operates a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund to facilitate the transformation of vacant, under-utilized, and under-performing sites into viable and valuable community assets by providing low-interest loans to developers, non-profits and local governments for site clean-up in Monroe Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

Brownfield loans can help alleviate some of the investment risk and attract more experienced developers. The Brownfields redevelopment program allows many of the environmental and social justice issues such as soil contamination, blight, lost revenues, unemployment, crime and poor health to be addressed. Brownfields redevelopment is an excellent opportunity for communities normally passed over for major development and capital investments to leverage vacant and abandoned properties into workforce housing, mixed-use and transit-oriented developments, community gardens, farmers markets, agribusiness enterprises, and neighborhood commercial businesses. There is approximately \$1,000,000 available in revolving loan funds for site remediation.

Brownfields Coalition Assessment Technical Assistance (Ongoing): In 2015, the U.S. EPA awarded a Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) and its partners, the South Florida Regional Council (SFRC), and Palm Beach County. The assessment grant funds will be used to inventory, characterize, and test potential Brownfield sites in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process was used to vet and subsequently select three qualified brownfields/environmental consultants. Assessments will be conducted between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2018.

Revolving Loan Program (Ongoing): The South Florida Regional Council Revolving Loan Program (RLF) is funded through the U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Adjustment Program. The current fund is the accumulation of various grants received over the years in the South Florida Region. Since the inception of these grants there have been 409 loans made to area businesses. These loans helped fund projects totaling over \$112 Million. The total amount loaned to these businesses was \$36.5 million. As a result of these investments, 8,081 jobs have been created or saved. All these projects were funded with RLF monies because conventional financing was not available, or these projects could not have been implemented without the RLF funding.

New Market Tax Credits (Ongoing): Council staff is developing an application for New Market Tax Credits (NMTC) for the South Florida Region and creating a Community Development Entity (CDE). The NMTC credit application is currently on track for submittal in November 2016. The Council believes an attractive case can be made for New Market Tax Credits in the region. The expected transportation gains with the addition of All Aboard Florida and the Tri-Rail Coastal Link projects centered on Transit Oriented Development (TOD) is expected to drive development and redevelopment. The availability of NMTC financing will provide incentives to develop areas in critical need of investment.

Community Development Financial Institution (Ongoing): In 2015, the Council established a contractual relationship with the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI) to perform the administrative services of the organization. The SFCDFI was formed to provide additional funds to Southeast Florida businesses, which meet the U.S. Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institution goals of providing additional funding to businesses in low to moderate income communities and minority-owned businesses throughout our region.

The SFCDFI was contracted by the Urban League of Broward County (ULBC) to provide loan servicing capacity for the ULBC's new Small Business Loan Fund. The ULBC's Small Business Loan Fund (SBLF) is the result of a grant provided by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. The Small Business Loan Fund will provide administrative expense and loan loss reserve funding for this new loan fund for a minimum of four years. Since the fund was formed in 2014, it has been capitalized with \$1,250,000 in equity from two local banks. The ULBC Small Business Loan Fund fundraising goal is to reach a raise a minimum of \$4,000,000 within the next three years. The Loan Fund aims provide over \$18,000,000 in total loans to small businesses, during the next 10 years.

Council staff is currently assisting the SFCDFI to attain its Community Development Fund Certification from the U.S. Department of Treasury. Once certified as a Community Development Financial Institution, the SFCDFI will become an additional source of funding to targeted small businesses in our region.

South Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) (Ongoing): The state's ten regional planning councils are U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) designated Economic Development Districts. As such, one of the Council's responsibilities is the development of the South Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The South Florida CEDS is a roadmap to diversify and strengthen the regional economy of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) is embarking on an update of their region's CEDS. The Council will be collaborating with the TCRPC to develop a shared element of the respective CEDS that will reflect the connectivity of both regions through the Metropolitan Statistical Area of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

The CEDS contributes to effective economic development in America's communities and regions through a locally based, regionally driven economic development planning process. Economic development planning – as implemented through the CEDS – is not only a cornerstone of the U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) programs, but successfully serves as a means to engage community leaders, leverage the involvement of the private sector, and establish a strategic blueprint for regional collaboration. The CEDS provides the capacity-building foundation by which the public sector, working in conjunction with other economic actors (individuals, firms, industries), creates the environment for regional economic prosperity.

The South Florida CEDS is updated every five years. The CEDS update process will begin this year with the newly updated version of the CEDS due to the EDA in 2017. A CEDS Strategy Committee will be assembled to guide Council staff with the development of the new CEDS. The Committee will include representatives of public and private sectors, non-profits, community organizations, workforce boards, institutions of higher education, minority and labor groups, and private individuals and meet several times during 2016 and 2017.

Technical Assistance on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation and EDA Grant Opportunities (Ongoing): The Council continues to provide grant assistance outreach to local governments and the private sector through the various Economic Development Administration (EDA) Programs and other federal and state agencies to encourage communities with creative and viable development projects to apply for available program assistance. These projects will provide jobs and economic stability in the South Florida Economic Development District (EDD). As part of the outreach activities, an economic development website has been developed and can be accessed at <http://sfregionalcouncil.org/programs/economic-development-finance/>. The website includes the Council's CEDS, as well as information on programs and grant applications; the South Florida EDD Goals; an updated and on-line South Florida Small and Minority Business Directory; and links to federal, state, and local economic development organizations.

Transportation/TOD Analysis

Improving the relationship between land use patterns and transportation planning will enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the transportation network, create better opportunities for multi-modal mobility, reduce non-renewable energy usage and air quality impacts, and enhance public health and quality of life throughout the region.

Transit-Oriented Development Pilot Program (Ongoing): For more than a decade, the Council has assisted the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), Florida Department of Transportation, agencies, and local governments with planning and technical assistance in support of the expansion of Tri-Rail service onto the Florida East Coast rail corridor. The Tri-Rail Coastal Link (TRCL) project is currently anticipated to include up to twenty-five stations between Miami and Jupiter. The land use/transit relationship has become increasingly important in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding process. To increase transit-oriented development along passenger rail corridors, the FTA recently awarded a series of planning grants to regions. Working in collaboration with the South Florida Regional Council and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, the SFRTA was recently awarded a \$1.25 million grant to support TOD planning and analysis along the TRCL corridor. Grant funded activities are expected to begin in the Summer/Fall of 2016 and be completed within two years.

The South Florida Regional Council will lead the effort for corridor length analyses including assessments of water/sewer infrastructure capacity, affordable housing, bicycle/pedestrian planning, opportunities to develop a TOD business fund, and community engagement.

Attainable Housing for South Florida's Residents and Work Force (Ongoing): A key focus of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's work and Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan is the Fair Housing Equity Assessment (FHEA). This assessment, focused on growing opportunity and equity in Southeast Florida, highlights communities of concentrated poverty and low access to opportunity as well as communities that could transition from moderate-income to low-income absent targeted investment. Needed investments include improved access to education and workforce training, transportation, affordable housing, employment, healthy foods, and quality day care and pre-school programs.

A key component of the SFRTA Transit-Oriented Development Pilot Program will be an update of the FHEA along the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Corridor. The Project Team will analyze each of the selected transit stations and develop a GIS-based model to address affordable housing opportunity. The model will estimate and project demand, and identify the spatial relationship between jobs and housing at both neighborhood and regional levels. The results of this analysis will result in benchmarks for the location and type of housing to support transit, and community and economic development.

Emergency Preparedness

Hurricane Evacuation Study (completed): Since completion of the South Florida Regional Evacuation Study on December 15, 2010, Council staff has prepared a set of depth analysis atlases for each of the five storm levels in each county (Volume 9-11). Staff worked with the office of the Area of Critical State Concern at the Department of Economic Opportunity to refine the clearance time analysis for Monroe County in support of growth management objectives. Staff worked with the emergency managers in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties to incorporate newly delineated storm surge planning zones developed by Miami-Dade County Emergency Management and to estimate new clearance times for base and operational scenarios in 2010 for storms of levels A through E.

This year Council staff completed an update to include small area data from the 2010 Census, along with projections for 2015 and 2020, in the Transportation Interface for Modeling Evacuations (TIME) software for South Florida counties. Council staff, as the lead for the demographic data component of SRESP and TIME for all ten regional councils, developed the methodology and collected and distributed the 2010 Census data and American Community Survey (ACS) data required for the small area data update for all 67 Florida counties. Finally, staff prepared a set of directional storm tide atlases for the region. These atlases show the extent of surge for storms coming from different directions (landfalling, paralleling and exiting), which enhances the ability of emergency managers to identify the areas that require evacuation based on the direction of approaching storms.

South Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee (SoFlaLEPC) (Ongoing): LEPCs were created by the Florida Legislature in 1988 to implement EPA's Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). LEPC activities include public outreach and hazardous materials training and exercises for first

responders and others provided free of charge. This year the SoFlaLEPC sponsored six hazmat classes. The classes included two 8-hour OSHA HAZWOPER classes, two How-to-Comply training sessions, sponsorships to the annual HazMat Training Symposium, two 8-hour LNG Training sessions, and one 160-hour Hazardous Materials Technician Class. The SoFlaLEPC also hosted a facilitated tabletop training exercise on Liquid Natural Gas Transport.

Southeast Regional Domestic Security Task Force (SERDSTF) Activities (Ongoing): Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) established a Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) in each of its seven regions. Their responsibilities include establishing, implementing, and maintaining public information/awareness programs; planning and coordinating training and exercises; and providing direction and oversight to interdisciplinary workgroups such as law enforcement, fire rescue, medical/health, emergency management, K-24 and others.

Council staff planned and coordinated a major full-scale training exercise, which was held on February 6, 2016. Operation HeatShield brought together two major fire departments and ten SWAT teams from across the region to participate in Active Shooter (AS) and Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) events over eight venues across Miami-Dade County. The Florida departments of Health (FDOH) and Law Enforcement (FDLE) participated as well as many local hospitals.

Health and the Built Environment

Healthy Happens Here Corner Store Conversions (Ongoing): The Council was contracted by the Miami-Dade County Health Department (MDCHD) to increase the accessibility, availability, and affordability of healthful foods in communities, with diet-related health disparities. The Council and Florida International University's Green Family Foundation NeighborhoodHELP™ staff are partnered to develop and implement a "Healthy Happens Here" Corner Store Conversion Initiative. This program builds upon the nutritional environment assessment of 44 convenience and corner stores within targeted areas of Miami-Dade County, conducted by the project team in 2012. Although the project was suspended due to a reduction in federal funding, Council staff is seeking grants to enhance the ability of interested convenience store owners in Miami-Dade County to supply, display, and sell healthy food items. Grant dollars would also be used to provide incentives, marketing materials, resources, and technical assistance to participating stores. Council staff would build human capital by hiring area residents to maintain and market healthy food options.

79th Street Community Action Plan (Ongoing): In August 2014, Council staff was asked to assist the Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida (NHSSF), the 79th Street Corridors Initiative, residents and community stakeholders with the development of a Community Action Plan (CAP). Completed in 2015, the Action Plan builds upon the many assets which can be found in the community, including residents and leaders, businesses, housing, and transportation infrastructure. The Community Action

Plan is being used to guide community enhancement and strategic investment opportunities to advance the economic, environmental, and social well-being of the community. Council staff continues to assist the 79th Street Corridor Initiative and Steering Committee on implementation of the Action Plan.

Access to Healthy Living - Transportation Planning in Miami-Dade County (Completed): The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) was contracted by the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization to create an *Access to Healthy Living Plan*. The purpose of the study was to i) identify gaps in transit and mobility infrastructure which make it difficult or impossible for transportation system users to access educational resources, health care services, healthy foods, cultural, employment, and recreational opportunities; ii) provide recommendations on how transportation system can be improved to ensure access to opportunities; and iii) ensure that results are useful to a variety of agencies and practical in terms of implementation and applicability. Through Council staff's research, a crucial component of health and built environment planning was identified regarding adequate types of transit-supportive infrastructure that would facilitate healthier living. The availability of this infrastructure in communities with the greatest need was also assessed.

Alternative Fuels

Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition (Ongoing): The Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition (Coalition) was designated by the U.S. Department of Energy in 1994 and is hosted by the South Florida Regional Council. Council staff serves as the Coalition's Coordinator. The Coalition operates as a public-private partnership composed of government and commercial sector members concerned with idle reduction and alternative fuel technologies and programs. The role of the Coalition is to provide a fuel-neutral policy direction to maximize the use of vehicles operating on clean, alternative fuels throughout its region of nearly six million people living in Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties.

Activities include, but are not limited to:

Alternative Fueling Station Assessment & Verification: The Coalition embarked on a new funding structure that now includes an opportunity for Coordinators to assess and verify alternative fueling stations in their regions. Council staff is conducting expanded alternative fuel station locator activities, which involve incorporating photos and additional information into the U.S. Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Data Center (AFDC) station locator website. This site guides electric and alternative fuel motorists to appropriate service stations and pumps around the nation, providing location and fueling information. This Coalition is in the process of completing over sixty verifications by early 2017.

Clean Cities National Parks Initiative: During the past year, Council staff worked with all four National Park units in South Florida to develop Clean Cities National Parks Initiatives (CCNPI) for funding alternative fuel vehicles, infrastructure and visitor education opportunities. In early November, Council staff organized funding application meetings with key staff at Big Cypress, Biscayne, Everglades, and Dry Tortugas Parks. Assistance was also provided to Central Florida and Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalitions in

order to submit a statewide total of eight funding applications in early 2016 for national Clean Cities' review. In June, the Council staff began working with the San Juan National Historic Site in Puerto Rico on another CCNPI application. For more information, please see the following link:

www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/national_parks.html

Southeast Florida Clean Cities Convening: In April 2016, the Coalition invited members and stakeholders to hear panelists discuss EV 101 factual information, the OEM perspective on EVs, a progressive local city's perspective and how university students designed, built and race a rebuilt Chevy Camaro that now runs on electric battery and E85 fuel. Also featured at the event were indoor EV infrastructure displays and outdoor EV Displays.

National Drive Electric Week: In September 2016, electric vehicle (EV) drivers, enthusiasts, and those intrigued by the benefits of driving electric vehicles, will take part in the annual National Drive Electric Week events in West Palm Beach. This event, co-hosted by the City of West Palm Beach and the Coalition, brings together enthusiasts to highlight the clean-air benefits and cost-savings of electric cars as part of the annual National Drive Electric Week events around the U.S. and beyond. The Coalition's goals for the event include educating attendees and empowering families with the knowledge needed to feel confident in choosing electric for their next car purchases. The Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition, the City of West Palm Beach, and sponsors like Florida Power & Light Company will team up with National Drive Electric Week national organizers Nissan Motors, Plug-In America, the Sierra Club, and the Electric Auto Association to host this family-friendly event.

Florida Becomes a Winner in E15 and E85 Ethanol Funding: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently announced that 21 states will be receiving grants through the Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership (BIP). This funding will support infrastructure needed to supply more renewable fuel for transportation. The USDA estimates that this investment will more than double the number of stations that offer intermediate blends of ethanol, both E15 and E85, nationwide. Florida was awarded up to 892 ethanol pumps, more than any other awarded state, and was fortunate to host the national announcement in October. The Coalition and one of its key members, Protec Fuel, have been working together in coordination with the Region's local governments to educate local decision-makers about this opportunity.

For additional information, please contact:



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**South Florida Counties
SFRC Membership Fees
Fiscal Year 2016/17**

COUNTY	FY 2015-16 (1) Population April 1, 2016	FY 2016-17 (2) - Population Projection for April 1, 2017												
		Alternatives for Membership Fees*				Differences								
		Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4					
<u>Population Estimate (residents)</u>														
Broward (40%)	1,833,220	1,867,095	1,867,095	1,867,095	1,867,095	33,875	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miami-Dade (58%)	2,674,400	2,730,396	2,730,396	2,730,396	2,730,396	55,996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monroe (2%)	74,160	74,319	74,319	74,319	74,319	159	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Florida	4,581,780	4,671,810	4,671,810	4,671,810	4,671,810	90,030	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>County Contribution per Resident</u>	\$0.175	\$0.175	\$0.200	\$0.225	\$0.250									
<u>Membership Fees</u>														
Broward	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17												
Miami-Dade	\$320,813.50	\$326,741.63	\$373,419.00	\$420,096.38	\$466,773.75	\$5,928.13	\$46,677.37	\$93,354.75	\$140,032.12					
Monroe	\$468,020.00	\$477,819.30	\$546,079.20	\$614,339.10	\$682,599.00	\$9,799.30	\$68,259.90	\$136,519.80	\$204,779.70					
South Florida	\$12,978.00	\$13,005.83	\$14,863.80	\$16,721.78	\$18,579.75	\$27.83	\$1,857.97	\$3,715.95	\$5,573.92					
	\$801,811.50	\$817,566.76	\$934,362.00	\$1,051,157.26	\$1,167,952.50	\$15,755.26	\$116,795.24	\$233,590.50	\$350,385.74					

* For Discussion Purposes Only

Every penny generates: \$ 45,817.80
 Every 1/2 penny generates: \$ 22,908.90

Sources:

- US Bureau of the Census
- University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR)
- Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR)
- Option 1 = Increase in dues due to population increase at existing 1994 rate of 17.5 cents per capita
- Option 2 = Additional increase in dues due to population increase and an increase of the per capita rate by 2.5 cents to \$.20 cents
- Option 3 = Additional increase in dues due to population increase and an increase of the per capita rate by 5.0 cents to \$.225 cents
- Option 4 = Additional increase in dues due to population increase and an increase in the per capita rate by 7.5 cents to \$.25 cents

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERSHIP DUES

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL	COUNTY	MUNICIPALITY
Apalachee	\$4,000 base fee plus \$0.07/capita	N/A
Central Florida	\$0.25/capita	N/A
East Central Florida	\$0.16/capita	N/A
North Central Florida	\$0.30/capita	\$750 minimum \$0.30/capita ¹
Northeast Florida	\$0.41/capita	N/A
South Florida	\$0.175/capita	N/A
Southwest Florida	\$0.30/capita	\$0.30/capita ¹
Tampa Bay	\$2,000 base fee plus \$0.32/capita	\$2,000 base fee only
Treasure Coast	\$0.43/capita	N/A
West Florida	\$1,000 base fee plus \$0.0325/capita	\$500 base fee plus \$0.0325/capita

¹Optional dues paid by municipalities are subtracted from the share paid by the County.

N/A Not applicable, no membership dues assessed.

BY THE NUMBERS

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL	DATE ESTABLISHED	2014 REGIONAL POPULATION ¹	GOVERNING BOARD SIZE	STAFF SIZE (FTE) ²	SQUARE MILES	2014-15 BUDGET
Apalachee	Aug. 23, 1977	477,098	27	6	5,855	\$693,785
Central Florida	July 1, 1974	824,958	18	16	5,287	\$3,179,548
East Central Florida	Feb. 22, 1962	3,437,773	32	16	6,502	\$2,792,896
North Central Florida	May 7, 1969	882,113	48	13	9,516	\$1,688,600
Northeast Florida	April 14, 1977	1,568,868	35	10	4,428	\$2,425,910
South Florida	July 1, 1974	4,581,780	19	14	4,091	\$2,284,711
Southwest Florida	Nov. 8, 1973	1,592,622	36	12	6,023	\$2,656,064
Tampa Bay	Feb. 16, 1962	3,369,783	44	12	4,179	\$2,317,120
Treasure Coast	Aug. 19, 1976	1,932,599	28	10	3,555	\$2,010,112
West Florida	Oct. 1, 1964	929,916	33	28	6,026	\$2,954,512

¹Source: [Florida Estimates of Population, 2014](#), Table 1, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida, 2015.

²FTE means Full-Time Equivalent.