

# SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

## Minutes

July 24, 2017

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met on this date at its corporate office at 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL 33021. Chair Daubert called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey (via phone)  
Councilmember Bruno Barreiro(absent)  
Councilmember Margaret Bates  
Councilmember Frank Caplan  
Councilmember Daniella Levine Cava  
Chair Tim Daubert  
Councilmember José (Pepe) Diaz (absent)  
Councilmember Beam Furr  
Councilmember Steve Geller  
Councilmember Cary Goldberg  
Councilmember Nelson Hernandez (absent)  
Councilmember George Neugent (absent)  
Councilmember David Rice (absent)  
Councilmember Greg Ross  
Councilmember Michael Udine  
Councilmember Sandra Walters (via phone)  
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

Isabel Cosio Carballo, SFRPC Executive Director, and Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, were present.

#### The following Ex-Officio Members were present:

Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District  
Dat Huynh, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

#### The following Ex-Officio Member was on the phone:

Jennifer Smith, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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

Councilmember Ross moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Furr seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

### **III. Special Guests/Presentations - None**

#### IV. Action Items

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

B. Financial Report

Councilmember Furr moved to approve Agenda Item IV.B, Financial Report, Councilmember Bates seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

Proposed

- City of Coral Gables 17-1ESR
- City of Miami Springs 17-1ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 17-1ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 17-2ESR
- Village of Virginia Gardens 17-2ER

Adopted

- Village of El Portal 17-1ESR
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 17-3ACSC

Councilmember Bailey recused himself from voting on the City of Miami Springs 17-1ESR and the Village of Virginia Gardens 17-2ER amendments due to a conflict of interest.

Councilmember Bates moved to approve Agenda Item IV.C, Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted, Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review – None

E. Nomination to the Selection Committee – Planning and Engineering Services

Ms. Cosio Carballo explained the South Florida Regional TOD (SFTOD) Pilot Program, a project being implemented in partnership with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC). The SFRPC issued an RFQ for (4) separate individual tasks, to be completed in collaboration and coordination with the SFRPC and TCRPC staff: affordable housing study services; business plan development services; professional bicycle and pedestrian planning and engineering services; and professional planning and engineering services to conduct a water and wastewater capacity analysis. The SFRPC would like to form a committee to review submissions, and recommend firms. The committee should be comprised of three members: one Councilmember, one SFRPC staff, and one from TCRPC staff. The committee will meet in early August.

Councilmember Goldberg volunteered to be nominated to the Selection Committee. It was carried by unanimous vote.

F. FY 2016-17 Operating Budget Amendment – Information Only

Manny Cela, Deputy Director, explained the FY 2016 - 17 Operating Budget Amendment and explained in detail the various changes that have happened since September 2016. The history of the Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund and the various funding programs were described by Councilmember Asseff and Ms. Cosio Carballo. Two RPCs of the ten offer the RLF Program in the State, the SFRPC being one, Apalachee RPC is the other. The South Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. and the Urban League of Broward County contracts were explained. The Councilmembers were invited to attend RLF and CDFI meetings for a better understanding of the Programs. Councilmember Asseff reminded the Councilmembers that the SFRPC RLF Program has won many awards from the State of Florida for having one of the best loan programs, and banks refer customers to the RLF Program.

Mr. Cela then gave details on the other projects' funding and the SFRPC expenditures. Discussion ensued on the various opportunities available to the SFRPC, such as, transportation, partnering with other RPCs, dispute resolution, etc. The Councilmembers were reminded that the SFRPC has statutory responsibilities that are not funded and are time consuming. The Florida Regional Council Association membership and fee were discussed. The cost of the lease was mentioned. Ms. Cosio Carballo announced that Councilmember Asseff is on the Lease Committee. This agenda item was incorrectly listed as an "action item." This was corrected to reflect that it is an "information item."

G FY 2017 - 18 Draft Operating Budget - Information Only

Mr. Cela presented the Draft Operating Budget as an information item. The FY 2017-18 Operating Budget will be brought to the Council in September for adoption. Descriptions of the additional revenues, lack of raises, possible new lease, new grants and proposals, grant contracts/employees, etc., were discussed. A few suggestions were made: a line item for "grants" (using the past historical data) and monthly updates. Rene Gonzalez, Finance Director, explained the miscellaneous/direct expenses. There was discussion on the changing role of the SFRPC today in light of state legislative changes. The changing roles of the Council is one of the subjects of the upcoming Strategic Planning Retreat. Councilmember Asseff stated that the SFRPC has always been able to move forward and receive funding. Mr. Cela stated that the grants listed in this budget are fairly certain. Ideas were shared on county/local government funding, how other RPCs are funded, increase of county fees, facilitation, and the changing role of the Council. There was discussion on the SFRPC location and lease. Councilmember Goldberg gave a brief overview on the SFRPC lease/occupancy cost, reduction of space, and the approximate cost savings. Ex-Officio Dat Huynh, representing the Florida Department of Transportation District VI, stated there is a grant from FDOT through Monroe County for a planner. This is a funded position. Conversation ensued on the history of the Council, the original counties that made up the SFRPC, and Palm Beach County's conversation, of recent years, regarding the possibility of rejoining the SFRPC.

Discussion began on the legal fees for the SFRPC. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, explained it has been his honor and pleasure to be the SFRPC's Legal Counsel for 35 years. He works with many governmental agencies and understands the nature of how government works (budgets, obligations, and business). There are some ethical obligations to make sure the work is performed both aggressively and appropriately consistent with the Florida Bar requirements. Mr. Goren has had a contract for 35 years with the SFRPC. He recognizes that the regulatory role of the Council

has changed over the years. Mr. Goren stated his ethics predominate over economics and that he is willing to accept the SFRPC's decision to reduce legal expenses in advance of the contract expiring on September 30, 2017. He plans to charge hourly billing for August and September instead of the retainer. His concern is to do what is best for the Council and the people served by the Council. There were various suggestions regarding legal fees, hourly fees, annual fee, caps, etc.

Councilmember Geller moved to have a three-member negotiating committee to discuss Mr. Goren's legal contract. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Geller moved to modify Mr. Goren's legal contract to an hourly rate starting August 1, 2017. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmembers Caplan, Geller, and Ross were selected for the negotiating committee to discuss Legal Counsel's Contract. Councilmember Asseff moved to nominate Councilmembers Caplan, Geller and Ross to the three-member negotiating committee to discuss Mr. Goren's legal contract. Councilmember Udine seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

H. FY 2017-18 Membership Fees

Councilmember Ross moved to approve the FY 2017-18 Membership Fees based on the population projection at the current rate, Councilmember Furr seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

**V. Discussion Items**

A. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Cosio Carballo invited the Councilmembers to attend The Sayfie Review Florida Leaders' Summit that will be held on September 14 - 15, 2017, at Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida.

The National Association of Development Organizations has recognized the SFRPC as one of the winners of the 2017 NADO Innovation Awards for work done on the Sea Level Rise Resiliency Plan.

The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force will meet at the Marriott Harbor Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Florida on August 7 - 14, 2017.

The 9th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, will be held Thursday, December 14 - 15, 2017 at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale.

Ms. Cosio Carballo announced that Councilmember Walters was appointed to the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board Executive Committee as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

Ms. Cosio Carballo stated that with the assistance of S. Davis and Associates. P.A., the SFRPC Auditors, and Council staff, the financials were finalized and submitted on time. She thanked Councilmember Ross and Council staff for their assistance.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren stated that the issue with the former Finance Director has been resolved favorably through the efforts of various individuals.

As a point of information, Mr. Goren informed the Council that the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council requested the Attorney General's (AG) opinion on two subjects: 1) must a county participate in its statutorily designed RPC, despite an Inter Local Agreement (ILA), provision pertaining to procedures for terminating membership? 2) May a member county cease to pay dues that are established by RPC ILA?

C. Ex Officio Reports

Ex-Officio Mr. Huynh, announced the TransPlex/Focus on Community Conference will be August 8 - 10, 2017, at the Marriott, 1000 PGA Tour Boulevard, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. The focus will be on transportation and planning. The American Planning Association will be meeting September 5 - 8, 2017. A meeting of the Complete Streets Handbook Workshops for locals is tentatively set for September 27, 2017.

Councilmember Caplan gave an update on the FRCA Policy Board. Councilmember Walters was elected to serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair. Tod Mowery, Indian River County Commissioner from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, was appointed as Chair. A committee was formed regarding the SWFRPC "opt-out" issue. Councilmember Bailey is part of that Committee. Another committee will be formed to review future legislative requests. Councilmember Caplan will be a member of that Committee. Councilmember Caplan provided FRCA a report of Council activities.

**VI. Program Reports and Activities**

A. Revolving Loan Fund Reports – Information Only

1) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

B. Development of Regional Impact Status Review Report - Information Only

**VII. Announcements and Attachments**

A. Attendance Form, Correspondence, and Articles

B. Upcoming Meetings

1) August 2017 - No Meeting Scheduled

2) September 25, 2017, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC Offices, Hollywood)

3) October 23, 2017, 10:30 a.m. (FDOT, Dist. 6, Miami)

4) November 27, 2017, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC Offices, Hollywood)

**VIII. Councilmember Comments**

**IX. Public Comments – none**

**X. 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 PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the July 24, 2017 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

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Daniella Levine Cava, Secretary

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Date