



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM VI.D

DATE: JUNE 25, 2018

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SOUTH DADE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Over the past twenty-five years, South Miami-Dade County has been subjected to an unrelenting series of disasters, hardships, and disruptive change. Hurricane Andrew, the closure and realignment of the Homestead Air Reserve Base, the passing of NAFTA, the housing market collapse/great recession, and recently Hurricane Irma have negatively impacted the economy of South Miami-Dade County and the Region. Estimated agricultural losses from Hurricane Irma alone totals nearly \$226 million.

Through the leadership of Councilmember and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Dennis Moss, the Council, in its role as the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Economic Development District for South Florida, is spearheading, in partnership with Miami-Dade County staff and key stakeholders from the South Miami-Dade County community, the development of a South Miami-Dade County Economic Development Strategy. Council staff has prepared an EDA Disaster Supplemental grant proposal to secure funding for this initiative. This proposal, submitted on May 4, 2018, cleared the technical review process. The full application will be submitted by June 15, 2018. This 9-month effort will produce the Strategic Plan for South Dade Economic Development. Total project costs are estimated at just under \$300,000 which is inclusive of a \$59,000 in-kind match from Miami-Dade County RER and \$20,000 total cash match from Redland Market Village, Miami-Dade County District 8, Naranja CRA, and West Perrine CRA.

Thus far, the SFRPC staff have participated in the following activities to further this initiative:

- Participated in the South Miami-Dade Solutions Summit on November 30, 2017, including providing information on the Council's Revolving Loan Program for small businesses.
- Met with Diana Gonzalez, a consultant representing the Economic Development Council of South Miami-Dade, to review the history and needs of the South Miami-Dade County community.
- Participated in multiple planning meetings and conversations, convened by Commissioner Levine Cava and staff, to make progress on the written proposal.
- Conducted a site visit of the area with Diana Gonzalez.
- Submitted a preliminary request to Greg Vaday of EDA upon news of Disaster Supplemental Funding.



- Participated in a working group meeting co-convened by Commissioner Levine Cava and Commissioner Moss with attendees including: Greg Vaday of EDA, Beacon Council, the SFRPC, relevant County staff, and representatives from all South Dade Cities and Chambers.
- Received letters of support from all South Dade cities, Dade County Farm Bureau, and South Florida Manufacturers Association.
- Submitted grant proposal and cleared technical review by EDA staff.
- Submitted full application to EDA.

Recommendation

Information Only