



AGENDA ITEM #VI.D

DATE: JUNE 22, 2020
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Attached are brief descriptions of activities in which the Council has been involved since May 2020.

Information only.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 2020

Economic Development



The Council has served as the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration's designated [Economic Development District](#) for South Florida since 1994. The Economic Development District service area is Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties where the Council helps lead a locally-based, regionally driven, economic development process.

In its role as the Economic Development District for South Florida, Council staff continuously meets with and provides technical assistance and information regarding state and federal funding opportunities to local governments and other stakeholders. The Council is also working with potential applicants to EDA CARE Grant Funding program and providing technical assistance and support. To date, Council staff has met with Broward County, Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami, Nova Southeastern University, and the Economic Development Council of South Dade.

Additionally, Council staff is spearheading a regional application to support the creation of a regional ***South Florida Economic Resiliency Strategic Plan*** focusing on the areas of Talent Development, Manufacturing, the Life Sciences Supply Chain, and Technology Utilization to respond to the coronavirus and its economic injury in the four-county area of Monroe to Palm Beach County. The Council has convened and is staffing a broad coalition effort which has included to date the region's Economic Development Organizations – The Beacon Council, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Palm Beach Business Development Board, CareerSource Broward, TechLauderdale, South Florida Manufacturers Association, the Florida Small Business Development Council at Florida International University; Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe counties; and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. Additional partners are joining the effort every day. These regional stakeholders agree that existing county-based strategies created in a pre-COVID-19 pandemic environment must be reassessed and updated to reflect new economic, business, and workforce realities. This effort will help South Florida address post-pandemic economic development challenges and emerging opportunities and examine industry impacts that are not yet fully understood and continue to evolve.

This critical analysis of economic development strategies in a post COVID-19 economy will develop recommendations (including assigning implementation partners) for cohesive regional strategic initiatives to accelerate the recovery of the South Florida regional economy by further diversifying the economy and retaining and attracting new talent. It has become clear that there are aspects of the economy that are potential opportunities for recovery while others will need assistance to remain relevant.

The Council has applied for a supplemental financial assistance award of up to \$400,000 to EDA preapproved activities including (1) development of an economic recovery and resilience plan; (2) the deployment of disaster recovery coordinator(s); (3) the provision of technical assistance; and (4) the funding of appropriate technology and staff support for these pandemic-response activities. The period of performance is 24 months. EDA is funding the supplemental award at a 100 percent federal grant rate.

Staff Contact: Arlene Davis-Walcott; Mark Cassidy, Mark Anthony-Smith

Revolving Loan Fund



The Council submitted its request for a single supplemental financial assistance award for up to \$5,380,000 to capitalize a new revolving loan (RLF) fund for COVID-19 impacted businesses to alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the pandemic in the four county area of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. It is expected that this fund will be operational this summer.

Staff Contact: Jeff Tart

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Work Program



Council has entered into a new five-year professional services agreement with the SFRTA to provide technical assistance on regional and local land-use planning issues. The agreement covers the period 2020-2025 and builds on the successful, collaborative work of prior years at the same funding level. The renewed agreement will enable staff to continue conducting tasks in a TOD Work Program, furthering the regional goal of a robust regional transit system that connects vibrant and prosperous communities. The TOD Work Program will continue to evolve along with the needs of the SFRTA and the land-use planning context.

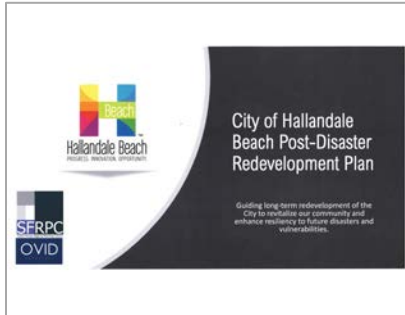
The Council’s “TOD Readiness Report for Select Station Areas” (Report) was presented to the SFRTA Board on May 29, 2020. It is anticipated that the findings of the Report will be implemented with the issuance of Requests for Proposals for SFRTA-owned land in the coming months. The Report was prepared in coordination with SFRTA and the Treasure Coast



Regional Planning Council was completed in March 2020. Three stations were found to have immediate market potential: Boca Raton, Boynton, and Cypress Creek Stations and three stations were found have longer term opportunities: Hialeah Market, Sheridan Street, and Delray Beach Stations.

Staff Contact: Christina Miskis

Hallandale Beach Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan



Council staff is developing a Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) for the City of Hallandale Beach, following guidance documents published by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Florida Division of Emergency Management. Council staff convened a group of stakeholders to provide feedback on the development of the Plan. Council staff has completed a draft version of the plan and is currently working on the final plan. The final PDRP will be presented to the City of Hallandale Beach in August 2020.

Staff Contact: Mark-Anthony Smith

South Dade Economic Development Strategy



Council staff has been working with Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER), Lambert Advisory, and the Economic Development Council of South Miami-Dade (EDC) to develop a strategic plan for South Miami-Dade. Two community meetings were held prior to the pandemic related lockdowns where feedback from the community was encouraged. The final community meeting was June 9, 2020 and included multiple stakeholders and elected officials, as well as representative from the U.S.EDA.

The project team solicited information from key industries in the region. These included stakeholders from the retail, healthcare, and agricultural industries in South Miami-Dade. Their insights, along with community feedback, will strengthen the finalized strategic plan. The development of this Plan is expected to be completed Summer 2020.

Staff Contact: Arlene Davis-Walcott

Miami-Dade TPO County-wide Public-Accessed Parking Assessment

Miami-Dade TPO Mode Split Study



Council staff is finalizing the parking assessment for the Miami-Dade TPO. Using readily available sources, the assessment identified:

- The location of all paid publicly accessible parking facilities (on and off-street) in Miami-Dade County;
- Which, of the approximately 5,400 Micro-Analysis Zones in Miami-Dade County (which are used in transportation modeling), contain paid publicly accessible parking facilities; and
- The average cost of parking in each Micro-Analysis Zone

The average cost of parking in each Micro-Analysis Zone is to be used by TPO as a variable in the Southeast Regional Planning Model (SERPM) in relation to the SMART transportation improvement plan.

Study Completion: June 30, 2020

Staff Contact: Mark Cassidy

Community Economic Development Strategy



Council staff is developing a timeline to execute the 2022-2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy update. This includes researching the required components, reviewing the suggested methodology by EDA, and convening of regional stakeholders serving on the CEDS committee to guide development of the Strategy.

Mark Cassidy of Council staff has been coordinating with other staff members to complete a timeline to execute the 2022-2027 CEDS document update. This has included researching the EDA required components and suggested methodology. Mark has also begun collecting and analyzing the metrics used in the CEDS performance measures and background economic summary.

Study Completion: December 2021

Revolving Loan Fund



Council staff used census data and the definitions of essential businesses outlined by executive orders to identify the number of small essential businesses in the 7 counties of SFRPC and TCRPC. This data was compiled to highlight the mass and concentration of small businesses in the region relative to the state.

Staff Contact: Jeff Tart