

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

May 29, 2020

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually on this date. Chair Levine Cava welcomed everyone participating in the meeting via the web and phone. Chair Levine Cava called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Patricia Asseff  
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey  
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)  
Chair Daniella Levine Cava  
Councilmember Michelle Coldiron  
Councilmember Joseph Corradino (absent)  
Councilmember José (Pepe) Diaz (absent)  
Councilmember Beam Furr (absent)  
Councilmember Steve Geller  
Councilmember Cary Goldberg  
Councilmember Samuel Kaufman  
Councilmember Jordan Leonard  
Councilmember Jean Monestime  
Councilmember David Rice  
Councilmember Greg Ross  
Councilmember Michael Udine  
Councilmember Sandra Walters (absent)

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

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

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

The meeting was conducted as a Virtual Meeting. A quorum was present.

Chair Levine Cava began the meeting with remembrance of Representative Kristin Jacobs and her many accomplishments. There was moment of silence in her honor. A moment of silence was also requested for Councilmember Ross' father, Leonard Ross. Councilmember Ross stated that he was a great Dad.

The Agenda was modified to move Agenda Item IV.A Communications Media Technology Meeting Procedures to the beginning of the meeting.

A. Communications Media Technology Meeting Procedures

Sam Goren of Legal Counsel explained the various Executive Orders by Governor DeSantis and the two Executive Orders of relevance for this morning's meeting. He explained Executive 20-69, which suspended the statutory requirement of a physical quorum be present. Executive Order 20-112 makes virtual quorum indefinite until the Governor makes further changes. Mr. Goren explained the applicable laws and procedures the Council must adhere to for the Council's public meetings, as determined by the Executive Director, utilizing communication media technology. He requested that the record reflect that Council staff and the Executive Director have properly noticed and posted this meeting accordingly. The details of

the SFRPC Council Meeting Procedures with Communications Media Technology were defined. All actions taken by the Council will be taken via Roll Call.

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve the Communications Media Technology Meeting Procedures. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

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

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve the Agenda. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

## **III. Presentation**

SFRPC Audit Presentation FY 18/19

- Tanya I. Davis, CPA, Partner – S. Davis and Associates

Mrs. Tanya I. Davis, CPA, Partner of S. Davis and Associates thanked everyone for the opportunity to present to the Councilmembers the results of the SFRPC FY 18/19 Audit. Also joining her was Joy Chamber Nicholas, Senior in Charge of the Audit. Mrs. Davis summarized the details of the Audit Results and Financial Overview, Single Audit under Uniform Guidance, and the various required Reports. Along with describing the process, Mrs. Davis noted that there were no instances of non-compliance or other matters requiring reporting under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Chair Levine Cava thanked Mrs. Davis for an excellent report and commended Mrs. Cosio Carballo and Council staff for putting the Council in good standing.

The Agenda was modified to proceed with Agenda Item IV.E. Audit Presentation.

### **E. Audit Presentation**

Mrs. Davis thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo and Council staff for their cooperation and time completion of the Audit. Mrs. Cosio Carballo thanked Rene Gonzalez, Finance Director, in cooperation with Leo Braslavsky Soldi, Finance Manager, and Mrs. Davis.

Chair Levine Cava opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was any correspondence from the public via emails or in the “chat” section in GoToMeeting. There was no correspondence of any form to report. No member of the public offered comment. The Public Hearing was closed.

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.E Audit Presentation. Councilmember Udine seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

## **IV. Action Items**

### **Moment of Silence for Kristin Jacobs**

### **Moment of Silence for Leonard Ross**

The moment of silence was conducted at the beginning of the meeting.

### **A. Communications Media Technology Meeting Procedures**

Agenda Item IV.A Communications Media Technology Meeting Procedures was previously reviewed and adopted.

B. Minutes of Previous Meeting

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve the Minutes. Councilmember Udine seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

C. Financial Report

*Approval, via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous consent by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

Proposed

- Broward County 20-01ESR
- Broward County 20-02ESR
- Miami-Dade County 20-01ESR
- Miami-Dade County 20-02ER
- Monroe County 20-01ACSC
- City of Cooper City 20-01ESR
- Town of Davie 20-01ESR
- City of Deerfield Beach 20-01ESR
- City of Fort Lauderdale 20-01ESR
- City of Fort Lauderdale 20-02ESR
- City of Key West 20-01ACSC
- City of Key West 20-02ACSC
- City of Layton 20-01ACSC
- City of Lighthouse Point 20-01ESR
- Village of Palmetto Bay 20-01ESR
- City of Pompano Beach 20-01ESR
- City of South Miami 20-01ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 19-01ESR
- City of Sunrise 20-01ESR
- Village of Virginia Gardens 20-01ESR

Adopted

- Broward County 19-07ESR
- Broward County 19-08ESR
- Broward County 20-01ESR
- Broward County 20S01
- Monroe County 19-06ACSC
- Monroe County 19-07ACSC
- Monroe County 19-08ACSC
- Town of Cutler Bay 19-01CIE
- Town of Cutler Bay 19-01ESR
- City of Deerfield Beach 19-01ESR
- City of Key West 19-02ACSC
- City of Key West 19-03ACSC
- City of Key West 19-04ACSC

- City of Miramar 19-01ESR
- City of Plantation 19-01ESR
- City of Pompano Beach 19-02ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 19-01ESR

Councilmember Bailey recused himself from the vote due to a conflict of interest on the amendments for the Village of Palmetto Bay – Proposed, and the Town of Cutler Bay– Adopted. Councilmember Bailey will file the paperwork required.

*Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.D Consent Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Proposed, excluding the Village of Palmetto Bay 20-01ESR. Councilmember Udine seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.D Consent Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Adopted, excluding the Town of Cutler Bay Amendments 19-01CIE and 19-01ESR. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

*Agenda Item IV.D Consent Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, the Village of Palmetto Bay, 20-01ESR Proposed, and the Town of Cutler Bay 19-01CIE and 19-01ESR, Adopted, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

## **Public Hearing**

### **E. Audit Presentation**

Agenda Item IV.F Audit Presentation was previously reviewed and adopted.

### **F. 2020 Meeting Calendar – Updated**

Mrs. Cosio Carballo updated the Councilmembers on the updated Meeting Schedule. She noted there would not be a summer Joint Meeting with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC). This is the year that the two Councils wanted to meet twice in 2020, but that does not seem possible with today's social distancing. She is contact with Tom Lanahan, TCRPC Executive Director and will update the Councilmembers.

*Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.F 2020 Meeting Calendar-Update. Councilmember Geller seconded the motion, which via Roll Call, carried by a unanimous vote by the Councilmembers virtually present.*

### **G. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review-None**

## **V. Discussion Items**

### **A. Executive Director's Report**

Mrs. Cosio Carballo provided an overview of the office arrangements in place in response to the pandemic. She reported that Quorum legislation passed (CS/SB 1398) and she thanked Senator Flores and Representative Geller for their leadership and support. She also thanked Senator Rodriguez who co-sponsored this year and was prime sponsor the year before. Representative Geller, in particular, has championed this effort from the very beginning. This legislation will allow the Council to have a smaller presence for a physical quorum for Council Meetings. She updated the Councilmembers on the past

SFRPC/TCRPC Joint Resolutions and their funding: Sadowski Fund; National Flood Insurance Program; Water Infrastructure; Coral Reef and land-based nurseries; and other State budget changes that may occur due to the COVID-19 Virus. The Council, being part of the Economic Development District, has been working closely with the Economic Development Administration in COVID-19 economic development response. The Council will be receiving \$5.3 million to start a new Revolving Loan Fund Program to assist essential businesses effected by the COVID-19 Virus. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that the Council is working with the Beacon Council, the Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Christine Hurley in Monroe County, the Business Development Board of Palm Beach, Career Source Broward, and others to develop a regional economic development grant proposal for EDA CARES funding. She will be sending the Councilmembers a link to Lobby Tools to view every ordinance by the local governments in the State of Florida that has been passed.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo updated the Councilmembers on some transitions in the office. Mrs. Karen Chang, Director of Operations, retired in March after 30 years of service. Rene Gonzalez, Finance Director will be retiring. He has stayed on to train Leo Braslavsky Soldi, the new Finance Manager, in the Council's finance and accounting system. She also mentioned the passing of some of Council staff's family members over the past month. Chair Levine Cava thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo for recognizing staff and expressed her condolences and prayers for everyone's safety during these difficult times. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that she has been communicating with Broward and Miami-Dade counties' utility departments, and the Water Management District on water infrastructure and septic issues, to identify areas of work in which the Council's assistance would facilitate regional progress and support the entities in their work.

There was discussion on the funding not utilized from the Corona Virus Relief Fund. Resolutions have been initiated and passed, and discussions have taken place, with requests that these funds be expedited directly to the counties and municipalities to help those in need. There have been some creative solutions from landlords, mortgage lenders, etc. to help their customers. Transparency from all levels should be taken into account and we should all work together. Councilmember Leonard stated that some of the small municipalities don't have the disposable income or funding coming in from the federal / state government to help their residents and employees. This includes Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Smaller municipalities will have to rely on their county or organizations like the SFRPC for assistance. It should be noted that disbursement is not equal, and the residence are hurting for food, rent assistance, etc. Chair Levine Cava stated that this is a critical topic and best practices is a very important aspect. She asked Councilmembers that if they have any suggestions/models/solutions to send them to Mrs. Cosio Carballo to circulate. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that she will contact Paco Velez, CEO of Feeding South Florida, to speak at the next Council Meeting.

Chair Levine Cava had to leave the meeting and Vice-Chair Geller continued with the meeting.

**B. Legal Counsel Report**

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, provided the history, details, and read the language of Senate Bill 1398. There is no litigation to report. He thanked the Councilmembers for the friendship and support.

**C. Councilmembers Report**

Vice-Chair Geller spoke on regionalism and the Council's involvement. He has had conversations with Mrs. Cosio Carballo on his desire to see the Council spearhead larger, regional meetings. Regretfully, Council plans that were underway have been temporarily postponed due to the COVID-19. The topic of membership dues was raised. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that it was her intent to recommend that the dues for FY20/21 remain at the level of FY 19/20 to assist the counties. Mrs. Cosio Carballo mentioned that conversations were underway to explore the Council's assistance in reconvening a regional

conversation around the Tri-Rail Coastal Link with the development of the FDOT Study on the New River Bridge. Over the last few months Councilmember Geller and Mrs. Cosio Carballo have had conversations related to potential regional meetings on housing, water and sewer, transportation, and economic development. Their discussion included convening every two years, three regional conferences (every 8-10 months), pertaining to affordable housing, one segment of water (septic or sea level rise, etc.), perhaps including the TCRPC where the SFRPC is the convening authority. Mrs. Cosio Carballo noted that the Council, in its role of Economic Development District, regularly convenes the region's economic development, technology, and workforce partners.

Councilmember Bailey mentioned the B Map Program and the funding availability. The areas south of Palm Beach County are not part of the B Map / funding. He would like for the Council to work with the TCRPC and add the South Florida Region.

#### D. Ex-Officio Reports

Jason Andreotta, FDEP Ex-Officio Representative, explained what he knew about the B Map, Basin Management Acton Plan but did not know how the B Map was designated. He stated that he will look into how the SE Florida waters could be included. He updated the Council on the environmental legislation (SB 712 / Mayfield) the Clean Waterways Act. The Clean Waterways Act was developed in response to blue green algae. He also mentioned the wastewater treatment plants and sewage spills in which legislation would require contingency plans for power outages of wastewater plants that don't have adequate backup power. Another provision of the legislation is that the wastewater treatment plants provide their financial records to ensure that funds are being properly allocated. This will give DEP the authority to require financial records to make sure that wastewater treatment plants are properly spending their money on upkeep and maintenance of the facility. He mentioned the septic program. The Department of Health has regulated septic tanks for years and are viewed as a significant nutrient contributor. The septic tank program will transfer from the Department of Health to the Department of Environmental Protection. This transfer will take about a year or two. Mr. Andreotta stated that while this Bill did have unanimous passage in the House and Senate, it has not been signed by the Governor. If, and when, it is signed by the Governor, it will be effective July 1. This will determine when the study will start, and the septic program will move to DEP. He stated that other activities that are contributors of nutrients are surface water, agricultural activities, and basic stormwater runoff. This legislation focuses in on all of this and tightens regulations, which will require a lot of rule making. He explained how the Mayfield Bill was rolled into the Clean Waterways Act. All wastewater violations have been doubled or more. There is a blue-green algae dashboard on the DEP website, accessible to everyone. Vice-Chair Geller stated that if Mrs. Cosio Carballo would like more information on water to contact Jennifer Jurado.

#### E. Florida Regional Councils Association

Mrs. Cosio Carballo provided an update on the work of the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA), specifically the January 2020 meeting. The Policy Board Meeting had an environmental theme due to the direction of President Walters. Each of the ten regional planning councils has three members. Ideally, the Council representatives reflect the makeup of the Council with one county representative, one municipal representative, and one gubernatorial appointee. Current Council representatives are Council Member Walters who is the current FRCA President and Council Member Bailey. Councilmembers Bates and Ross kindly serve as alternates and assist following the resignation of former Councilmember Caplan. The upcoming July Policy Board meeting will be a virtual meeting.

## **V. Program Reports and Activities**

### **A. SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report**

Jeff Tart, Senior Loan Officer, provided an overview of the RLF Program which is reflected in the Agenda Item. Our business portfolio is doing well as a result of our thorough underwriting and due diligence in communicating with our borrowers. The Council is helping the few RLF clients to get the business resources needed for those impacted by COVID-19. The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has invited the SFRPC to apply for an additional \$5.3 million CARES Act Award. The Council is in process of completing that application. The Council was asked, because of our past effectiveness and operational efficiency, to disburse the monies to small, minority focused businesses. This is a separate program and the loans will be focused on small, minority focused businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19 and are deemed essential businesses. He explained what is considered an essential business defined by the Governor. He stated that the Council will be working with a coalition that will include the TCRPC, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Beacon Council, Plam Beach Business Development Board, etc. Mr. Tart explained in detail the requirements, and the loan process for the CARES Act Award, as dictated by the EDA. He answered questions on the loan process and lending information on the SFRPC RLF Loan Program.

### **B. Development of Regional Impact Status Report – None**

### **C. Economic Development District**

Discussion on the Economic Development District had taken place earlier in the meeting and in a briefing in the RLF Program. Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained that each Economic Development District is eligible for up to \$200,000 for two years or \$400,000 total. This funding is on a noncompetitive basis to help economic development areas in various ways depicted by EDA. Vice-Chair Geller commended Mrs. Cosio Carballo on making great strides in this area. Mrs. Cosio Carballo thanked Vice-Chair Geller and the lending program team.

### **D. Council Highlights**

Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained this item had been part of the Council Meetings in the past and decided to reintroduce this as a way to summarize different projects Council staff has been working on. She then went into detail with the activities of Council staff's projects. Vice-Chair Geller started the discussion on Brightline's additional stops in Miami-Dade County and the effect it will have on travel, TriRail, and CSX. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that Council staff will prepare an update for the Councilmembers.

## **VII. Announcements and Attachments**

### **A. Attendance Form**

Councilmember Bailey noted a discrepancy in his attendance. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated this would be researched. There was discussion on other agencies' meeting policies.

### **B. Correspondence and Articles**

### **C. Upcoming Meetings**

- 1) TBD – SFRPC / TCRPC Meeting
- 2) June 22, 2020, 10:30 a.m., TBD - (Murray E. Nelson Government Center)
- 3) July 27, 2020, 10:30 a.m., TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)
- 4) August - No Meeting (Summer Recess)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 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 May 29, 2020 Meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2020.



---

Beam Furr, Secretary

11/23/20

---