

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MAY 7, 2021

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually and in-person on this date. Chair Bailey called the workshop meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., reminded everyone of the meeting's procedures, and Councilmember Geller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chair Mario J. Bailey (virtually present)
Councilmember Michelle Coldiron (absent)
Councilmember Joseph Corradino (absent)
Councilmember Beam Furr (virtually present)
Councilmember René Garcia (virtually present)
Councilmember Steve Geller (virtually present)
Councilmember Oliver Gilbert, III (Designee)
Councilmember Cary Goldberg (absent)
Councilmember Samuel Kaufman (virtually present)
Councilmember Jordan Leonard (virtually present)
Councilmember Eddie Martínez (absent)
Councilmember Jean Monestime (absent)
Councilmember Greg Ross (virtually present)
Councilmember Michael Udine (virtually present)
Councilmember Ana M. Ziade (present)

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

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

Jon Moore representing Jason Andreotta, from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Shereen Yee Fong representing Dat Huynh, from the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

Chair Bailey announced that this workshop is being held in preparation for a future Joint Meeting of the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils (TCRPC) to discuss whether there are potential joint funded projects that the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council local government members may want to support using American Rescue Plan funding. In preparation for this workshop Mrs. Cosio Carballo reached out to Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties to request their input on two funding priorities of regional impact related to infrastructure and resiliency. Today's format will have Miami-Dade and Broward counties present their regional priorities. Monroe County will present their regional priorities at a later date. Once presented, a final vote will be processed at the end of the presentations.

Councilmember Geller asked Legal Counsel if the public meeting notice placed by the Council for this workshop also extends to him and other members of the Broward County Commission. Stated another way, there is no need to have a separate public meeting notice placed by Broward County. Legal Counsel affirmed that the public meeting notice placed by the Council is sufficient.

II. Approval Council Agenda

Motion was carried by unanimous consent.

III. The American Rescue Plan and Priority Regional Needs in Southeast Florida

Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that she sent an attachment to the Councilmembers called the American Rescue Act / Priority Regional Needs in Southeast Florida in advance of the workshop based on input received from Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Miami-Dade County's Chief Operating Officer Jimmy Morales presented two proposals meeting the criteria of regional impact / benefit and whose cost is so large that it is difficult to accomplish. One is an infrastructure project, the other is a resilience project. The resilience project is related to water quality and sea level rise. In South Florida, an issue is the septic to sewer conversions and the negative impact that failing septic systems, along with sea level rise, have on Biscayne Bay. The County estimates that it will cost \$700 million to address the 13,500 septic systems that need to be replaced by 2040. The County cannot use utility funds for this type of infrastructure. The other projects are related to regional transportation. Both, the North-East and North Corridors are priorities and part of the SMART Plan. The North-East Corridor (Tri-Rail Coastal Link) would run up the old FEC rail line into Broward County. The North Corridor rail line, a more western line, would run up NW 27th Avenue connecting to Broward County. Chair Bailey thanked Mr. Morales for his presentation. Discussion ensued on ocean outfalls, advanced water treatment (AWT), and deep well injection in Miami-Dade County. Mr. Morales stated the county has a very aggressive outfall capital program that is looking at treatment and deep well injection. Miami-Dade County Resilience Manager, Debbie Griner explained the details of the injection wells, waste-water treatment wells that are under construction, industrial injection wells, and the requirements that need to be met. The water quality issues: the ocean, the bays, the canal systems, are a regional issue. We all contribute to it with the nutrients and other substances into the water.

Councilmember García agreed with Mr. Morales on the subject of septic to sewer. He stated that although it is a Miami-Dade County land specific issue, but when those nutrients go into the Bay, they enter water currents and effect Palm Beach to Monroe counties. This is top priority to him and the well-being of South Florida. He stated that this should be a consolidated effort to make all our communities have clean water. If the reefs are damaged and the water is polluted, South Florida loses the tourism.

Councilmember Kaufman, Key West Commissioner, supports septic to sewer. He requested a workshop on advanced water treatment and the prospects for the future, and suggested Councilmember Furr chair the workshop. Chair Bailey thanked Councilmember Kaufman and stated this is an important conversation and looks forward to having this type of workshop.

Councilmember Geller agreed with Councilmember García.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

Councilmember Furr brought up the issue of biosolids that are being transported to Palm Beach, Martin, and other northern counties. Where we put our biosolids and the class of biosolids is an issue. If Miami-Dade County has the same issue this could be addressed regionally. This is the end result of septic to sewer. Chair Bailey requested Councilmember Furr create a list of specific questions for a workshop. Ms.

Griner stated that Miami-Dade County has similar issues. Miami-Dade County would welcome a workshop discussion on biosolids.

Mr. Morales and Mrs. Cosio Carballo agreed that there is a very large list of regional issues to consider.

Councilmember Furr stated that Broward County's priorities are the C&SF Project Resilience Study and the Coastal Link, although there are other issues that are also very important. Councilmember Geller stated the importance of the Restudy. It is not just the Study figuring out a solution, but the planning and the construction.

Chair Bailey thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo for putting this all together on such short notice and it is appreciated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

Chair Bailey stated that he would like to have a motion to select the two projects from Miami-Dade and Broward Counties and include Monroe County's submissions, once presented, as one.

Mr. Goren stated that this meeting is being conducted as an Executive Committee and will need the recommendation of the full Board or as a workshop basis adopting a consensus decision. Mr. Goren stated the intention of the Executive Committee is to, by consensus, adopt the proposals that are offered by the participants this morning as a recommendation from the Executive Committee to the full Board. The full Board can embrace the decision at the next meeting, so that it will be part of the record today.

Councilmember Geller stated that he is not comfortable voting on Monroe County's submission without knowing their proposal.

Chair Bailey stated there is a consensus to adopt Broward and Miami-Dade Counties' priorities, and have Monroe County present their priorities at the May 24th Meeting.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated this is the first conversation of many. The conversation will continue at the May 24th Council Meeting. She announced that Tom Lanahan (TCRPC), Carolina Maran (SFWMD), and Whitney Grey (DEP) are among the guests joining us today.

Chair Bailey welcomed Mr. Lanahan. Mr. Lanahan is thrilled with this regional conversation. There are certainly infrastructure projects that seem local but are regional. The issues related to the reef, the Restudy, and the Coastal Link are important.

Councilmember Geller motioned to accept Broward and Miami-Dade counties' priorities. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Announcements and Attachments

A. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) Monday, May 24, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)
- 2) Monday, June 28, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)
- 3) Monday, July 26, 2021, 10:30 a.m. TBD - (SFRPC, Hollywood)

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.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 7, 2021 Meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 24th day of May 2021.

Jordan Leonard, Secretary

Date