



AGENDA ITEM # VI.D

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DATE: JULY 26, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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Attached are brief descriptions of some ongoing programs and activities of the Council.

Information only.

## JULY 2021

### **CORONAVIRUS PLANNING, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGION - [Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.](#)**

As COVID-19 spread around the world and in our region, the outbreak has had extensive effects on people and businesses. There is an urgent need to understand who has been affected, how they are affected, and how local and regional governmental entities can help coordinate resources to provide support.

Please join the SFRPC and the City of Cooper City Mayor Greg Ross for a conversation with Broward County Mayor Steve Geller and Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, and hear about the biggest issues facing each county and how the American Rescue Plan funds will be applied. Learn what the counties are proposing to implement as economic recovery and resilience plans for the region. **Please [click here](#) to register.**



*For additional information please contact: Eralda Agolli, CARES Act Economic Disaster Recovery Coordinator at [eagolli@sfrpc.com](mailto:eagolli@sfrpc.com).*

### **TURNING THE TIDE: NATIONAL SECURITY RISKS IN THE FACE OF SEA LEVEL RISE**



Sea level rise and more extreme weather events are causing risks to military installations, readiness, operations and strategy. The Department of Defense manages more than 1,700 military installations that may be affected by sea-level rise. How can we prepare the military bases in the risk of sea-level rise damage and what are the priority areas when it comes to these issues?

[Click here](#) to listen to the conversation, and hear how the American Security Project and Florida International University recommend solutions when it comes to sea level rise and the risks it poses to our national security. Guest speakers included Rick Miller from the South Florida Defense Alliance, David Haines, Senior Fellow for Climate Security at American Security Project and Dr. Jayantha Obeysekera, Director of Florida International University's Sea Level Solutions Center.

*For additional information please contact: Isabel Cosio Carballo, Executive Director at [isabelc@sfrpc.com](mailto:isabelc@sfrpc.com).*

### **THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLEAN CITIES COALITION WELCOMES BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER QUENTIN "BEAM" FURR**

For more than 25 years the [Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coronavirus Coalition](#) (Coalition) has worked with Coalition partners, Clean Cities Coordinators throughout the state and nation, and the U.S.

Department of Energy to further the nation’s energy independence and economic security. The Coalition leverages the expertise and investments of its members to build partnerships that advance affordable domestic transportation fuels, energy efficient mobility systems, and other fuel-saving technologies and practices.

Today, the Coalition welcomes Broward County Commissioner Quentin “Beam” Furr to the Board. Commissioner Furr currently serves as the SFRPC’s Treasurer, and represents District 6, which includes parts of Hollywood, Hallandale Beach, and Pembroke Pines. Commissioner Furr is dedicated to serving and finding innovative approaches and solutions to serve the region’s communities. Please [click here](#) to read more.

*For additional information please contact: Alisha Lopez, Clean Cities Coordinator at [alopez@sfrpc.com](mailto:alopez@sfrpc.com).*

### CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS & RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS – CAPITAL ASSISTANCE

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) is currently offering low-interest loans to those homeowner associations and rental property owners within the region, allowing for capital improvements and repairs on their buildings to ensure a vibrant facility for our South Florida residents.

Created more than 25 years ago, our Traditional Revolving Loan Fund program was designed to support those associations, organizations and businesses whose needs are not entirely served by conventional lenders. Please [click here](#) to read more.



*For additional information please contact: Jeff Tart, Senior Loan Officer at [jtart@sfrpc.com](mailto:jtart@sfrpc.com).*

### SFRPC’S HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PAGE FOR RESOURCES



When a storm is fast approaching, we want to make sure you are safe. Preparation is the best protection against the dangers of a storm. Hurricane season begins June 1<sup>st</sup> and ends November 30<sup>th</sup>. The time to prepare for hurricane season is now. The South Florida Regional Planning Council has provided a list of resources that provide valuable information that you can use before during and after a storm. Please [click here](#) to view more.

*For additional information please contact: Jason McMahan, LEPC Coordinator ([jmcmahan@sfrpc.com](mailto:jmcmahan@sfrpc.com)).*

### UBER/TAXI ANALYSIS PROJECT FOR SFRTA

Council staff is working with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to provide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map analysis of Tri-Rail riders before and after their transit ride.



On March 29, 2021, the SFRTA partnered with Uber and Taxi companies to provide first/last mile rides to and from selected Tri-Rail Stations mirroring the service areas formerly served by the SFRTA Commuter Connectors, which have been discontinued. The geographic distribution and frequency of these trips during the first months of the program will be mapped and shared with SFRTA management for future decision making.

*For additional information please contact: Christina Miskis, Senior Planner at [cmiskis@sfrpc.com](mailto:cmiskis@sfrpc.com).*

### **COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)**

As part of the Council's responsibility to maintain the region's CEDS document, Council staff is coordinating with Chair of the CEDS Committee to finalize the remaining CEDS Committee Members. The first CEDS Committee Meeting is expected to be held in Fall of 2021, and the 2022-2027 CEDS document is to be submitted to EDA by September 2022.

Additionally, staff received approval from EDA for the CEDS 2018-2020 Partnership Planning Grant Closeout Progress Report and well as the Semi-Annual Progress Report for the January – March 2021 period for the CEDS 2021-2023 Partnership Planning Grant.

Council staff also met with the region's Economic Development Representative and Economic Development professionals across the state multiple times to coordinate economic development and disaster recovery efforts, including funding opportunities through the CARES Act, and upcoming American Rescue Plan Act.

*For additional information please contact: Mark Cassidy, Economic Development & Research Manager at [mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com).*

### **TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (TBRPC) ECONOMIC ANALYST STATE RPC ASSISTANCE**

The TBRPC Statewide Economic Analyst worked with Council staff to prepare a brief economic impact technical analysis report on the economic impact of COVID-19 in the SFRPC region. Staff has also discussed with the Economic Analyst, plans for after the COVID-19 Economic Impact Analysis, including a Footprint Analysis. The project will conclude March 2022.

*For additional information please contact: Mark Cassidy, Economic Development & Research Manager at [mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com).*

### **FLORIDA STATEWIDE EVACUATION STUDY PROGRAM**

Council staff completed work with the Northeast Florida Regional Council and the other eight Florida RPCs to continue the efforts of the RPCs and the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) in the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program.

Recent accomplishments of the study include, updating the baseline operational emergency evacuation and running the FDEM's evacuation model, Transportation Interface for Modeling Evacuations (TIME). Council staff worked with the FDEM to quality control the outputs and analyze anomalies in order to perfect the model.

Council staff hosted regional County Emergency Managers to review the baseline and operational scenarios and results of the FDEM model, which includes evacuation clearance times. Council staff has submitted the final data and findings of the Evacuation Study to FDEM to post the Study information on an online dashboard.

*For additional information please contact: Mark Cassidy, Economic Development & Research Manager at [mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com).*

## **MIAMI-DADE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION'S COVID-19 TRAVEL BEHAVIOR TREND ANALYSIS**

Council staff submitted a draft report representing analysis of relevant literature, travel data, and phases for the analysis per County Executive Orders related to travel and business restrictions. The primary goal of this effort is to assist the TPO with understanding the impact that the pandemic has had on those that utilize the surface transportation networks in Miami-Dade, and project future travel behaviors and how these behavioral shifts may impact transportation demand. The project will conclude September 2021.

*For additional information please contact: Mark Cassidy, Economic Development & Research Manager at [mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com).*

### **WELCOME OUR NEW RESILIENCY PLANNER, MS. BRIDGET HUTSON**

Bridget Huston joined the SFRPC in July 2021 and serves as a Regional Planner, specializing in environmental planning and community resilience planning. Her primary responsibilities at the Council include GIS and data support, policy research and development, and project management. Prior to joining the SFRPC family, Bridget served as a Community Resilience Research Assistant at the FAU Center for Environmental Studies and as a Project Assistant for the City of Wilton Manors. Her previous roles have provided her with experience in research, project development and management, data analysis, community outreach, and in GIS vulnerability mapping and data analysis using ESRI software. Please [click here](#) to read more.

