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THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL WELCOMES SENATOR RENÉ GARCÍA TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HOLLYWOOD, FL – On Monday, July 26, 2021 the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) unanimously elected <u>Senator René García</u>, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, District 13, to the Executive Committee where he will serve as Secretary. Senator García joins Chair Mario J. Bailey; Broward County Mayor Steve Geller; Key West Commissioner Samuel Kaufman; Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; and Cooper City Mayor Greg Ross. As the newest member of the Executive Committee, Senator García is in line to be Chair of the SFRPC in January 2025.

Senator García joined the SFRPC in February 2021 and brings with him more than 20 years of public service experience as a Councilman for the City of Hialeah, State Representative, and State Senator. Elected in 2020 as the Miami-Dade County Commissioner for District 13, he truly believes in the importance of balancing the economic progress and growth of a community with the social needs of its people.



Senator García replaces <u>Councilmember Jordan Leonard</u> who graciously volunteered to assist on the Executive Committee in an interim capacity until a Miami-Dade County Commission representative could be appointed. Councilmember Leonard is a third-generation resident of Bay Harbor Islands, and has served on the Town's Council since 2008. Councilmember Leonard has been a member of the SFRPC since January 2019, is a Policy Board Member of the Florida Regional Councils Association, and serves on Executive Board of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities as Immediate Past President.

"I am honored to have been elected to the Executive Committee and to serve on the SFRPC along with other leaders from around the region. I know from my years of public service that working collaboratively across jurisdictional and political boundaries to solve challenges and create opportunities is key to creating a vibrant, growing economy and better quality of life for South Florida residents."

Senator René García, SFRPC Secretary, Miami-Dade Commissioner, 13th District

"I would like to welcome Senator García to the Executive Committee and thank Councilmember Leonard for his great service. When Councilmember Leonard agreed to serve, we knew it would be temporary as he is going to resign his seat to run for the legislative seat currently held by my brother. When we needed someone from Miami-Dade County on the Executive Committee, Jordan stepped in and filled that position until Senator Garcia and others could get up to speed. Thank you Councilmember Leonard for doing that!"

Senator Steve Geller, SFRPC First Vice Chair, Broward County Mayor

Since 1974, the SFRPC has served as the regional planning agency for Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties. The Council's mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing Southeast Florida and assist the region's leaders, as well as public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders through regional, collaborative planning in developing and implementing creative strategies that result in more prosperous communities, ultimately shaping a better future for South Florida.

For more information about the SFRPC and the services offered, please visit our website at www.sfregionalcouncil.org.

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