



**DRAFT AGENDA**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

**Council Meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m.**

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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You can also dial in using your phone.

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**Access Code: 998-509-493**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

**II. Approval Council Agenda**

**III. Guest Presentation (Time Certain: 11:30 a.m.)**

**“ Licensing Resiliency” - Julie Imanuel Brown, Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR)**

**IV. Action Items**

- A. Minutes of Previous Meeting
- B. Financial Report
- C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

**Proposed**

- City of Deerfield Beach 21-01ESR
- City of Hialeah 21-03ESR
- City of Homestead 21-02ESR
- Islamorada, Village of Islands 21-01ACSC
- Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea 21-01ESR

**Public Hearing**



Adopted

- Monroe County 21-04ACSC
- Village of El Portal 20-01ER
- City of Miramar 21-01ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 21-02ESR
- City of Sweetwater 21-01ESR

**Public Hearing**

- D. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review – None
- E. Legal Counsel Annual Review / Contract
- F. Executive Director Annual Review
- G. FY 2020-21 Revised Operating Budget
- H. FY 2021-22 Operating Budget
- I. Audit Contract - October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2026
- J. Military Installation Resilience Review Grant Update & Appointment of Selection Committee

**Public Comments**

**V. Discussion Items**

- A. Executive Director’s Report
- B. Legal Counsel Report
- C. Council Members Report
- D. Ex-Officio Report

**VI. Program Reports and Activities**

- A. SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- B. SFRPC CARES Act RLF Status Report
- C. Development of Regional Impact Status Report-None
- D. South Florida COVID Report with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)
- E. Audit Firm Selection Process Update
- F. Council Highlights
- G. Council Member Inquiries
- H. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

**VII. Announcements and Attachments**

- A. Attendance Form
- B. Correspondence and Articles
- C. Upcoming Meetings
  1. Friday, October 15, 2021, SFRPC / TCRPC Joint Meeting – Alan B. Levan | NSU Center of Innovation 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. followed by optional tour 2:00 p.m – 3:00 p.m.
  2. Monday, November 8, 2021, 10:30 a.m. (TBD Monroe County)
  3. December – No Meeting (Winter Recess)
  4. December 7<sup>th</sup> – 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. (Proposed Holiday Party)

## VIII. Adjournment

Pursuant to Chapter 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this hearing is asked to advise the Agency at least 5 days before the hearing by contacting the South Florida Regional Planning Council at one of the following: (1) One Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020; (2) Phone 954-924-3653; (3) Fax 954-924-3654; or (4) [sfadmin@sfrpc.com](mailto:sfadmin@sfrpc.com). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TTY/VCO), 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice), 1 (800) 955-8773 (Spanish).

Agenda packets for upcoming Council meetings will be available at the Council's website, <http://sfregionalcouncil.org/resources/agenda/> ten days prior to the meeting.

If you would like to be added to the e-mail list to receive the link to the agenda, please e-mail the Council at [sfadmin@sfrpc.com](mailto:sfadmin@sfrpc.com).



## ***Special Guest***

### **Julie Imanuel Brown Secretary, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation**

#### ***~ Licensing Resiliency ~***



Julie Imanuel Brown serves as the Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation where she leads the state's regulation of more than 1.4 million licenses across more than 30 fields of industry. Appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis on February 22, 2021, Secretary Brown joined the Department following three terms of service on the Florida Public Service Commission.

Secretary Brown was initially appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission in 2011 and subsequently reappointed in 2015 and 2019. She was elected as the Commission Chairman from 2016 to 2018 and led the Commission's recommendations for electric utility storm-hardening actions following a period when Florida experienced major hurricane impacts for the first time in more than a decade.

As Chairman, Secretary Brown established initiatives to build and strengthen links between the Commission and its stakeholders with improvements in technology, communication, and quality of service. Before serving on the Commission, Secretary Brown was Associate Legal Counsel of First American Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, where she handled a variety of regulatory compliance and legal issues in the Eastern, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic Regions. In her prior practice of law, she has also represented corporate clients with a specialized focus on matters involving mergers, acquisitions, and securities. Previously, she served as the Director of Franchise Sales and Development for Checkers Drive-In Restaurants, Inc., and as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Tampa.





# Licensing Resiliency

**PRESENTED BY:  
SECRETARY JULIE I. BROWN**

# Agency Structure

## DBPR regulates more than **1.4 million** businesses and professionals in Florida

### Businesses:

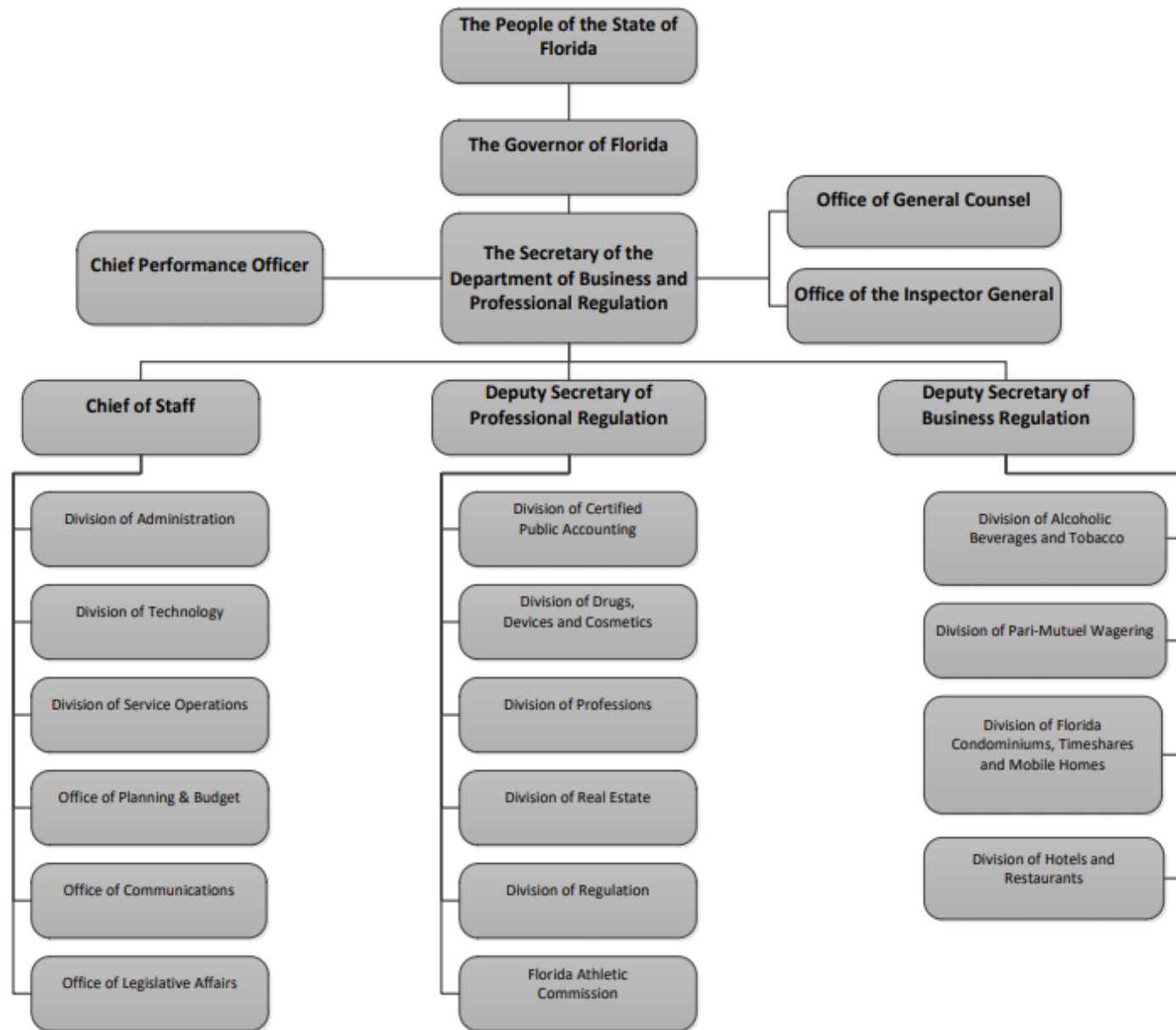
- Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco
- Condominiums, Timeshares & Mobile Homes
- Hotels & Restaurants
- Pari-Mutuel Wagering

### Professions:

- Architects & Interior Designers
- Asbestos Consultants
- Athlete Agents
- Auctioneers
- Barbers & Cosmetology
- Boxing, Kickboxing & Mixed Martial Arts
- Building Code Administrators & Inspectors
- Certified Public Accountants
- Community Association Managers
- Construction & Electrical Contractors
- Drugs, Devices, and Cosmetics
- Employee Leasing Companies
- Geologists
- Landscape Architects
- Mold Assessors & Remediators
- Pilot Commissioners
- Realtors , Brokers & Home Inspectors
- Veterinarians



# Agency Structure



**Mission:** License Efficiently. Regulate Fairly.

# Pandemic Resiliency

## Agency Priorities

### **Protecting public health and safety**

- Encouraging safe practices in high-transmission locations such as salons, restaurants, bars and entertainment venues.

### **Aiming to keep Florida open for business**

- Attaining growth in real estate and combat sports industries.
- Supporting the hotel and restaurant industry.

# Combat Sports Industry Growth

## The Florida Athletic Commission Regulates:

- Professional Boxing
- Kickboxing
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Muay Thai
- Bare Knuckle

Live events  
in Florida are  
skyrocketing!

**104%**

increase in FY 2020-21

↑ From 49 in FY 19-20  
to 100 events in FY 20-21





# Real Estate Resiliency

## Florida's market is booming

Real estate professionals are, and continue to be the largest licensee population regulated by Florida's Department of Business & Professional Regulation totaling **448,000** professionals.

### The numbers at-a-glance:

- There has been a **43.3%** increase in sales of single-family homes, townhomes and condos from FY 2020 to 2021.
- DBPR processed **58,000** real estate license applications by the end of FY 20-21.

### Vacation rentals:

- The fastest growing segment over the past year.
- Since July 2020, vacation rental licenses have increased by more than **4,000** licensees.
- In development: a new short-term rental database to be searchable and accessible to the public.



# Creating Accessibility for Applicants

## New Digital Testing Options

**FY 19-20 to 20-21**

**↑ 48%** in all exams

### New Online Testing for Professionals:

- Asbestos Contractors and Consultants
- Auctioneers
- Barbers
- Certified Drug Representatives
- Community Managers
- Landscape Architects
- Real Estate
- Veterinarians



# Hotel & Restaurant Resiliency

**2.6%** increase in food service licenses from FY 19-20 to 20-21

We saw the industry evolve during the pandemic with  
↑ Mobile Food Service applications and license growth

## NEW Law: “Cocktails-to-Go”

- SB 148, better known as “Alcohol-to-Go,” was signed into law in May after a positive response from consumers during the pandemic.
- This law allows certain establishments to sell or deliver alcoholic beverages prepared by the vendor off-premises in sealed containers, as long as the sale is accompanied by a food order.
- It is expected that this will positively impact customers, businesses and the industry as a whole.





# Department Changes: Gaming Commission

The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering will move, by way of Type II transfer, from the Department into its own entity.

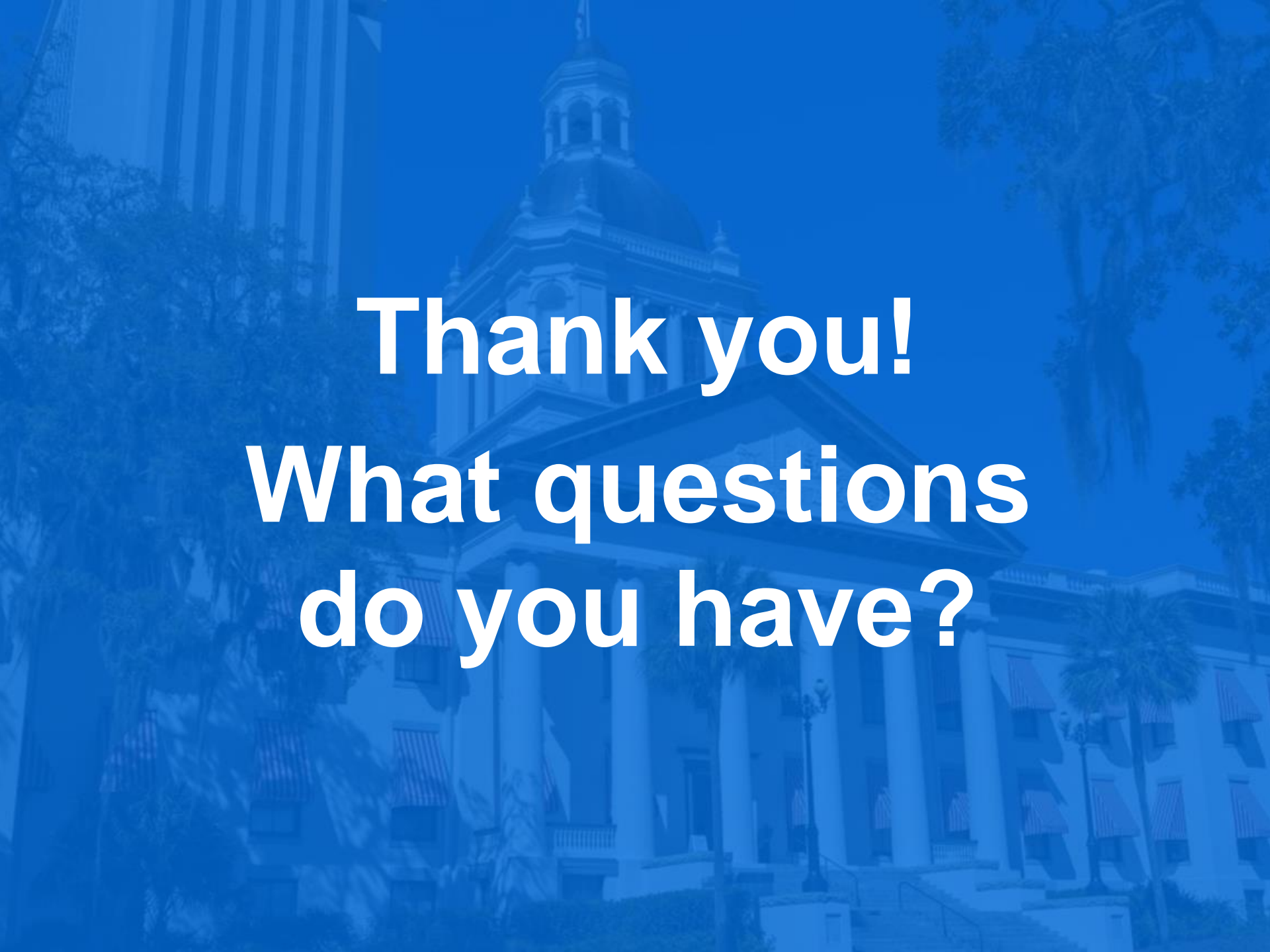
- This is a result of legislation passed during the 2020-2021 Legislative Session. It will become effective on July 1, 2022.
  - At that time, the Commission will retain all regulatory authority over gaming in Florida.
- The Department's role in the transition is to assist administratively in the transfer plan and to prepare the Legislative Budget Requests for the Commission's first year.



# Looking to the Future

**The Department will continue to help enhance Florida's pro-business climate.**

- Nearly **845** people move to Florida per day.
- DBPR will prioritize efficiency in helping people open businesses, maintain and grow their businesses, as well as start their careers.
- Improving customer experience through modernization.
- Seeking technological solutions to enhance operations.



**Thank you!**  
**What questions  
do you have?**



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SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

JULY 26, 2021

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually and in-person on this date at the Council Office at 1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, FL 33020. Chair Bailey called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m., reminded everyone of the meeting's procedures, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

\* Virtually Present

\*\* Absent

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

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

Dat Huynh, from the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI  
Lorraine Mayers, representing the South Florida Water Management District.

The following Ex-Officio Member was absent:

Jason Andreotta, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, stated that this meeting will be held as an extended Executive Committee.

Chair Bailey announced that the Council will now be holding in person meetings and would like for all available Councilmembers to make every effort to attend in person. The Council Meetings will also be held in all three counties. The June Council Meeting was held in Miami-Dade County and a meeting will be held in Monroe County in the near future. Chair Bailey welcomed newly appointed Ms. Lorraine Mayers, representing the SFWMD. Ms. Mayers stated that she is happy to serve on the Board along with all the distinguished members and offered her assistance.

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

*Councilmember Ross moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Geller seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.*



**Guest Presentation: Preparing for Emergencies: Logistical Response in Uncertain Times**

Special Guest: Jared Moskowitz, Chief Executive Officer, MOD LLC; Former Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management

Chairman’s Award: SFRPC Recognition of Jared Moskowitz  
Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management  
January 2019 - May 2021

Presented later in the Meeting.

**IV. Action Items**

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

*Councilmember Furr moved to approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.*

B. Financial Report

Finance Manager, Leo Braslavsky Soldi explained the Financial Report in detail.

*Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.B Financial Report. Councilmember Geller seconded the motion, roll was called in which the item was carried by a unanimous vote.*

**Public Comments**

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

Mr. Goren read the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed and Adopted.

C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

Proposed

- Broward County 21-04ESR
- City of Hialeah 21-02ESR
- City of Marathon 21-04ACSC
- Miami Shores Village 21-01ESR

**Public Comments**

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.C Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Proposed. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, roll was called in which the item was carried by a unanimous vote.*

Adopted

- Broward County 21-01ESR
- Monroe County 21-02ACSC

- City of Aventura 21-01ESR
- City of Doral 21-01ESR
- City of Doral 21-02ESR
- City of Homestead 21-01ESR
- City of Wilton Manors 21-01ESR

### **Public Comment**

There were no comments or questions from the public via email or virtually.

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.C Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Adopted. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, roll was called in which the item was carried by a unanimous vote.*

Chair Bailey announced that Councilmember Leonard will be leaving the Council soon which would leave a vacancy on the Executive Committee. At a previous Council Meeting, Councilmember Leonard volunteered to assist on the Executive Committee as Secretary and stated that he would relinquish his appointment to a Miami-Dade County Commissioner once they were appointed. Councilmember Geller nominated Councilmember García, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, and was seconded by Councilmember Leonard. Councilmember García accepted the nomination and stated that he would be honored to serve as Secretary.

*Councilmember Geller nominated Councilmember García to the Executive Committee as Secretary. Councilmember Leonard seconded the motion, roll was called in which the item was carried by a unanimous vote.*

Chair Bailey welcomed Councilmember García to the Executive Committee. Mr. Goren explained the details of the substitution of Councilmember Leonard with Councilmember García on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Chair Geller thanked Councilmember Leonard for stepping up and accepting the Secretary position earlier in the year knowing once a Miami-Dade Commissioner was appointed to the Board he would be replaced. Councilmember Leonard is running for a legislative seat which requires that he relinquish his position at the Council next year. Councilmember Leonard stated that it is all about the organization and it was his honor to volunteer to be Secretary for those months. He acknowledged that it was always the intent that he was leaving once someone would step up to replace him. He stated that Councilmember García will do a good job. Chair Bailey thanked Councilmember Leonard for filling in the gap.

D. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review – None

E. FY 2021 - 2022 Membership Fees

Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained the membership dues and population projections used to calculate the dues. The Agenda Item detailed the population estimates along with the per capita amounts for each county. Councilmember Geller agreed with this amount. He stated that for two years the Council has been discussing raising the dues once the Council becomes more involved in regional discussions. This way the SFRPC Councilmembers can talk to their County Commission and point out the important activities that will / or have happened under the Council's regional discussions. And then COVID came. He was very satisfied with the direction the Council was heading pre-COVID. He is hoping the Council will

become the regional convening authority with involvement with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), affordable housing, water issues, etc. Once this happens the Councilmembers can then go to their Counties showing all the important activities the Council is doing and ask for a membership fee increase. Mrs. Cosio Carballo reminded the Council that at the June Council meeting in Miami-Dade County, the discussion was on regional water issues. Chair Bailey thanked Councilmember Geller and likes the direction the Council is going.

*Councilmember Geller moved to approve Agenda Item IV.E. FY 2021 - 2022 Membership Fees. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, roll was called in which the item was carried by a unanimous vote.*

## **V. Discussion Items**

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

Mrs. Cosio Carballo introduced Bridget Huston, the SFRPC new Resilience Planner and gave a brief educational and work background. She stated that the Council is becoming involved with the municipalities in updating/including the Peril of Flood, and other vulnerability assessments. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that a grant application was submitted to work with Miami-Dade County on Biscayne Bay, the proposal on Military Instillation Resilience working with the South Florida Defense Alliance was submitted to the Department of Defense (she thanked the Councilmembers for their support), and the Request for Proposal for a new Auditor was publicized today. The dates were announced for Audit Proposals (due by August 27<sup>th</sup>), and Audit Selection, (September 27<sup>th</sup>). Further details will be provided at a later date. Chair Bailey and Councilmember Leonard were thanked for representing the Council in Tampa at the Florida Regional Council Association Conference. Mrs. Cosio Carballo announced that there will be a Regional Discussion with the TCRPC and the SFRPC on August 16<sup>th</sup> to talk about regional priorities before the Joint Meeting October 15<sup>th</sup>. The October 15<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting will be a physical meeting hosted by the SFRPC. Council staff is also in conversations with the Department of Economic Opportunity on the new legislation requiring a new property rights element to be included in the Comprehensive Plans and other updated requirements for the municipalities.

Chair Bailey noted that the upcoming regional discussion on August 16<sup>th</sup> is open to all Councilmembers. He suggested that the Councilmembers reach out to Mrs. Cosio Carballo with the direction the Councilmembers would like the meeting to go. He stated that this meeting is a conversation and that no actions will be taken. Also, he would like the SFRPC to come together representing all three counties with a solution and equal participation in this conversation. He thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo for organizing this discussion.

Councilmember Kaufman requested an updated report from the South Florida Defense Alliance. He stated that the Department of the Army will be investing \$200-\$300 million dollars to create a new facility. He would like to know if the South Florida Defense Alliance has any information on this and how it is related to our Naval Air Station in Key West. Mrs. Cosio Carballo asked Councilmember Kaufman to send her the information so she can follow up.

Councilmember Geller stated that he had a meeting with Rear Admiral Keith Davids, Commander Special Operations Command South / U.S. Southern Command, and Brigadier General Brown discussing all the military items that have been recently discussed at the Council such as the South Florida Defense Alliance. Councilmember Geller offered the SFRPC's assistance, and they expressed interest in working with the



Council. Chair Bailey requested Councilmember Geller share the contact information with Mrs. Cosio Carballo. This could be the presentation for a future Council Meeting.

Councilmember Coldiron stated the Monroe County Commission had Rear Admiral Doug Fears give an in-depth presentation on their plans to rebuild the Joint Interagency Task Force South Facility (JITFSF). She stated that Rear Admiral Spears may also be able to join a future presentation. Monroe County is thrilled that they are still committed in being a partner and a neighbor in the Florida Keys.

#### B. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren clarified SB 1398, and that a physical presence is required at Council Meetings to meet quorum. He stated, for the record, that the HB 59, requires as of July 1, 2021, for all local governments to adopt a property rights element in their comprehensive land use plan. This was explained in detail. There was a discussion on the vagueness, the possibility of overriding city and county ordinances, the different issues in the counties that vary from city to city and county to county, etc. Mr. Goren explained HB 487 in depth, regarding small scale amendments. He thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo and Council staff on the RFP process. Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that the Audit Committee is comprised of Councilmembers Coldiron, Furr, García, Martinez, Udine, and Ziade.

#### C. Councilmembers Report

Councilmember Ziade applauded the SFRPC staff for their professionalism at the previous meeting in Miami-Dade County. She stated that the staff handled the meeting liked pros, considering the meeting was at a different facility, the weather, bringing all the documents, and technology. She thanked Mr. Goren (the safest driver) for the transportation service to the meeting. She thanked the staff for all their efforts and success at smooth Council Meeting. Chair Bailey suggested everyone stand and thank the staff. He stated that the final meeting may be held at that location. Chair Bailey announced the November Meeting will be in Monroe County. He would like for the Councilmembers to meet after the meeting for lunch.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo announced that there is a modified Council Meeting schedule. The dates that changed were a Joint Meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> and the November Meeting will be in Monroe County on November 8<sup>th</sup>. She clarified that there will not be a meeting on November 25<sup>th</sup> it will be on November 8<sup>th</sup>. There is also a plan to have a Holiday Party in December. Chair Bailey stated if anyone had any ideas on the Holiday Party to please contact Mrs. Cosio Carballo.

Councilmember Geller stated that people may need to start wearing masks again. He gave an update on the COVID 19 cases, reopening of tests sites in Broward County, mask mandates, etc. He announced that he is holding a Stand Up for Freedom Rally in Pembroke Pines on July 26<sup>th</sup> in support of Cuban and Venezuelan struggles.

Councilmember Coldiron updated the Council on the Monroe County COVID numbers, testing, and vaccination sites, no confirmed cases of the Delta variant, etc. The Monroe County Board of County Commissioners approved a resolution supporting peaceful protests for democracy and liberty in Cuba. Chair Bailey thanked her for her leadership.

Councilmember Leonard stated that in Miami-Dade County some of the municipalities had to close departments due to positive COVID cases. In Bay Harbor Islands, where he is a Councilmember, they had

to close two departments. He mentioned mask mandates, schools, economic impact, etc. He thanked everyone for their support regarding Surfside and to the Council for reaching out to the businesses in the area that may need financial support.

**Guest Presentation: Preparing for Emergencies: Logistical Response in Uncertain Times  
(Rescheduled from June 2021)**

Special Guest: Jared Moskowitz, Chief Executive Officer, MOD LLC; Former Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management

Chairman's Award: SFRPC Recognition of Jared Moskowitz  
Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management  
January 2019 - May 2021

Former FDEM Director Jared Moskowitz joined the Council Meeting by phone and was greeted by Chair Bailey. Mr. Moskowitz apologized for not being able to attend the June Council Meeting. He informed the Council that he originally planned to have a presentation only on hurricane season but decided to begin the presentation on the rising COVID-19 cases and his personal experience with the virus. He summarized the setbacks related to the COVID-19 recovery caused by the Delta Variant of the virus, the availability of the various vaccinations (Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson), testing and home testing, vaccinated and unvaccinated people, hospital admittances, various government requirements (local, state, and federal), etc. He explained that communication will play a key role in preparing communities and responding to another COVID-19 wave. Mr. Moskowitz explained that resources are still available at the state level, and demand for these resources has lowered exponentially. It will be up to individual cities, municipalities, and counties to request these resources. He offered his assistance and knowledge to the Councilmembers for those who had any questions related to COVID-19 response and recovery.

Mr. Moskowitz then spoke about hurricane season. He explained that the estimated hurricanes for the State of Florida have been increased by one major hurricane for this season. Furthermore, due to July being such a tame month regarding weather events, a heavy increase is expected around September and October of this year. He added that communities should stay aware of the levels of COVID-19 in their areas, be mindful of this when establishing shelters, and mitigation measures should be in place like last hurricane season. Mr. Moskowitz noted that materials are available from FDEM to help communities prepare shelters, including a playbook on how to manage shelters during hurricanes and COVID-19. He added that there will most likely be an increase of testing capabilities and speedy results to allow for testing before entering shelters. Mr. Moskowitz thanked the Council for maintaining their relationship and expressed his gratitude for the invitation. Chair Bailey thanked Mr. Moskowitz for presenting and opened the floor to any Councilmembers who had any questions or comments.

Councilmember Furr greeted Mr. Moskowitz and asked if he had any recommendations as to handling shelters during a hurricane this year, where vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals will be together. Mr. Moskowitz recommended that everyone be tested before entering shelters. It would be hard to separate vaccinated from the unvaccinated or ask for vaccination cards. He also added that PPE should be required in shelters and that the State has hurricane PPE kits available upon request. He recommended considering using smaller spaces with less people to reduce transmission but referred to the FDEM playbook on this topic. He added that BinaxNOW is now available in large quantities and the State has a stockpile available if requested through FDEM Director Kevin Guthrie.

Chair Bailey asked Mrs. Cosio Carballo to work with Mr. Moskowitz to attain the playbook for distribution. Mr. Moskowitz offered to put the Council in contact with Kevin Guthrie of FDEM. Mrs. Cosio Carballo asked if this document is available to the public in which Mr. Moskowitz replied yes and agreed that it could be posted on the SFRPC website.

Councilmember Furr asked Mr. Moskowitz how quick the BinaxNOW COVID-19 results would be available. Mr. Moskowitz stated that the test results are typically available in 15 minutes, but positive results take about five minutes to show. He added that it is the quickest test available, is around 98% accurate when an individual is symptomatic and is available in a home version test.

Discussion continued on the separation of vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in shelters, increase in shelters' staff and capacity, FEMA's approval of "non-congregate sheltering" (which allows hotels to be used as shelters), which is a request that can also be made through FDEM Director Kevin Guthrie, plus additional staff can be requested from FDEM. Chair Bailey reaffirmed Mr. Moskowitz's earlier suggestion to test individuals as they enter shelters, which would indeed allow shelters to know who is positive.

Mr. Moskowitz explained that last year, shelter separation was based mostly on symptoms, but this year, testing is available to make this process easier. Mr. Moskowitz added that local governments should not expect any changes from the State regarding the COVID-19 response. Due to the end of the State of Emergency, much of the funds that were available through FDEM are no longer available and the spending authority of other agencies has been greatly reduced. Mr. Moskowitz reiterated that local governments must focus on being prepared for further outbreaks and costs associated with them.

Chair Bailey expressed the Council's appreciation to Former Director Moskowitz by presenting him with the Chairman's Award for his public service, great sacrifices, and dedicated response to multiple catastrophes across the State of Florida. Mr. Moskowitz thanked the Council, reflected on his career, and expressed his honor to serve the people of Florida. He ended by thanking the local government representatives for their groundwork on the front lines throughout the pandemic. The Council posed for a photograph with the award.

C. Councilmembers Report (cont.)

Chair Bailey announced that if any of the Councilmembers are attending the League of Cities Conference to please notify Mrs. Cosio Carballo to hopefully gather as a Council outside of the conference. He thanked staff for an amazing job at the Miami-Dade County meeting, knowing it was tough and made it happen.

D. Ex-Officio Reports

Councilmember Furr requested information on the Brightline Stations. Mr. Huynh stated there are two areas regarding the stations, one is in Broward County and the other in Miami-Dade County, but he does not have the station locations in front of him. He stated that he will report back with that information. Councilmember Geller inquired about a bridge or tunnel in which Mr. Huynh stated that, at the Las Olas site, it would be a tunnel. Councilmember Geller had more questions on the tunnel and Mr. Huynh stated that the projects Councilmember Geller is referring to is located at FDOT, District 4's area. He stated that he would coordinate with District 4 (Broward and north) and get the information for him. The Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) and the county members were mentioned in having transportation as part of the Joint Meeting discussion. Mrs. Cosio Carballo noted that Council staff has been, and continues, to participate in SEFTC, Broward MPO, and Miami-Dade County TPO. She stated that Ms.

Christina Miskis could follow up with FDOT, District 4 and update the Council. Councilmember García thanked everyone for the Resolutions and support for Cuba and what is happening in this hemisphere. He commented that this issue is not a Republican or Democratic issue and profoundly affects all four counties. Issues such as the influx at the border, what is happening in South America (Nicaragua, Venezuela), and now Haiti have profound impacts on South Florida. His request is to open the internet and communication on the island (Cuba). He commented on the pandemic and how to target the minority communities to increase the vaccination numbers. He suggested using testimonials which may have a great impact in having more people vaccinated. He thanked everyone for their help.

## **VI. Program Reports and Activities**

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

Jeff Tart, Senior Loan Officer, gave a detailed report on what was lent and the performance of those loans. There was a settlement agreement with a long existing, non-performing loan. He stated the SFRPC has reached out to the Town of Surfside, condominium associations, and rental properties regarding financing for structural improvements. He then detailed the funding amount that is now available in the traditional RLF Program.

### **B. SFRPC CARES Act RLF Status Report**

Mr. Tart gave a brief history of the funding of the RLF CARES Act. Details were provided on the loans processed located in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, and the amount of funds left to lend. He stated that four new loans were approved at the last RLF Meeting. The Program has provided funding for an excess of \$4.35 million for 20 loans (81% funded) within all four counties. The CARES Act RLF funds are anticipated to be fully funded no later than July 2022, the Program's maturity.

Councilmember Furr inquired about funding for housing construction. Mr. Tart clarified that the SFRPC staffs a separate independent program, the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI). The SFCDFI has successfully helped create single family homes for first time minority home buyers. Broward County has given a line of credit to oversee the construction of affordable housing. One project, in the Lauderhill CRA, is overseeing 10 homes that are finishing the first phase of construction. Council staff has a relationship with the Minority Home Builders, as well as other relationships, and is in communication with Miami-Dade County regarding a new potential initiative. Mr. Tart stated that the SFCDFI Program can be expanded and manage an additional \$2-3 million to assist with small multi-family projects.

Councilmember Ross had questions on some RLF defaulting loans and initiating conversation with Legal Counsel. Mr. Tart stated that conversations with Legal Counsel have been continuous and there is no longer a prolonged waiting period for nonpaying loans. Discussion ensued regarding mediation with a client, who is a lawyer, the procedures taken, Legal Counsel involvement, etc. Councilmember Ross stated that for the record he strongly suggests a letter to the Florida Bar. The Florida Bar would be very interested in lawyers who borrow money and do not repay. Mr. Tart acknowledged Councilmember Ross' recommendation.

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

### **D. Council Highlights – Information only**

**Public Comments – None**

**VII. Announcements and Attachments**

- A. Attendance Form
- B. Correspondence and Articles
- C. Upcoming Meetings
  - 1) Monday, August No Meeting (Summer Recess)
  - 2) Monday, September 27, 2021, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC, Hollywood)
  - 3) Friday, October 15, 2021, (TBD, Joint Meeting with the TCRPC, South Florida Region)
  - 4) Monday, October 25, 2021 (TBD)
  - 5) Monday, November 22, 2021, 10:30 a.m. (TBD Monroe County)

Chair Bailey stated that he may not be attending the September Meeting in person but will call in. His birthday is the week before and he is planning to be away. He stated that he is excited to have the November Meeting in Monroe County.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 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 July 26, 2021, Meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

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René García, Secretary  
Miami-Dade County Commissioner, 13<sup>th</sup> District

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Date



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.B

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DATE:      SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO:         COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:      STAFF

SUBJECT:   FINANCIAL REPORT

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Attached is a Financial Report comparing the months of June 2021 through August 2021 for your review and approval.

Recommendation

Approve the Financial Report.



**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET**

**August 31, 2021**  
(unaudited)

	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Last month's Increase (Decrease)
<b><u>General Fund</u></b>				
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash	1,132,352	1,168,786	1,186,559	17,773
SBA- Investment Account	11,186	11,188	11,188	-
Accounts Receivable	5,209	4,795	3,967	(828)
Due from Fed, State & Local Projects	131,272	42,048	(16,320)	(58,368)
Prepaid Expenses/Deposits	15,477	15,477	15,477	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,295,496</b>	<b>1,242,294</b>	<b>1,200,871</b>	<b>(41,423)</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>				
Liabilities	60,466	51,419	62,958	11,538
Fund Balance	1,235,030	1,190,875	1,137,914	(52,961)
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>1,295,496</b>	<b>1,242,294</b>	<b>1,200,871</b>	<b>(41,423)</b>
<b><u>Federal, State, and Local Projects</u></b>				
<b>Assets:</b>				
Accounts Receivable	227	105,007	-	(105,007)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>105,007</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(105,007)</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>				
Liabilities	75	127	5,378	5,251
Due to General Fund	131,272	42,048	(16,320)	(58,368)
Fund Balance	(131,120)	62,833	10,942	(51,891)
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>105,007</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>(105,007)</b>
<b><u>Revolving Loan Funds</u></b>				
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash and Money Market	5,366,341	5,427,057	6,287,425	860,367
Receivables	5,623,436	5,638,917	5,631,021	(7,895)
Allowance for Loan Losses	(895,747)	(895,747)	(895,747)	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>10,094,029</b>	<b>10,170,227</b>	<b>11,022,699</b>	<b>852,472</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>				
Liabilities	25,143	70,480	55,946	(14,535)
Fund Balance	10,068,886	10,099,746	10,966,753	867,007
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>10,094,029</b>	<b>10,170,227</b>	<b>11,022,699</b>	<b>852,472</b>
<b><u>Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Institute</u></b>				
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash and Money Market	41,251	41,251	41,251	-
Receivables	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>				
Liabilities	37,079	37,079	37,079	-
Fund Balance	4,172	4,172	4,172	-
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>41,251</b>	<b>-</b>

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

**August 31, 2021**

**(unaudited)**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Jun-21</u>	<u>Jul-21</u>	<u>Aug-21</u>	<u>Fiscal Year to Date</u>	<u>% Realized</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>Remaining Budget</u>
<b><u>REVENUE REPORT</u></b>								
Membership Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 864,323	100%	\$ 864,323	33%	\$ -
Interest & Other Income	90	92	93	1,102	24%	4,500	0%	3,398
Local Funded Projects	3,134	31,950	2,259	162,091	73%	221,700	8%	59,609
Federal Funded Projects	32,997	162,090	30,851	677,008	75%	907,313	35%	230,305
State Funded Projects	10,300	79,416	-	170,527	205%	83,027	3%	(87,500)
Trust Funds	28,668	46,552	33,556	347,053	64%	545,700	21%	198,647
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<b>75,189</b>	<b>320,100</b>	<b>66,759</b>	<b>2,222,104</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>2,626,563</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>404,459</b>
<b><u>EXPENSE REPORT</u></b>								
<b><u>Operating Expenses</u></b>								
Staff Compensation	\$ 95,747	\$ 95,901	\$ 104,740	\$ 1,203,223	93%	\$ 1,292,861	49%	\$ 89,638
Occupancy Cost	16,464	7,853	7,853	87,142	96%	91,200	3%	4,058
Utilities Electric/Sanitation	412	438	289	3,573	71%	5,000	0%	1,427
Janitorial Services	1,260	630	630	7,128	86%	8,295	0%	1,168
Repairs & Maintenance	559	-	-	844	22%	3,897	0%	3,053
Storage	476	238	714	5,236	105%	5,000	0%	(236)
Office Automation	579	4,461	8,531	61,152	76%	80,000	3%	18,848
Advertising, Notices, Supplies, Postage	4,550	4,994	2,885	26,634	172%	15,500	1%	(11,134)
Travel	-	40	273	466	5%	10,000	0%	9,534
Professional Development	2,300	5,542	-	24,474	82%	30,000	1%	5,526
Insurance	7,258	-	-	24,659	86%	28,783	1%	4,124
Miscellaneous Expenses	413	41	-	1,733	35%	5,000	0%	3,267
Legal Services (1)	-	-	4,297	9,147	20%	45,000	2%	35,853
Financial Services	24,480	9,664	2,735	46,187	100%	46,300	2%	113
Professional Consultants	1,225	1,141	1,586	10,973	87%	12,572	0%	1,599
Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	-	0%	95,000	4%	95,000
Subtotal Operating Expenses	<b>155,723</b>	<b>130,943</b>	<b>134,532</b>	<b>1,512,571</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>1,774,408</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>261,837</b>
<b>Pass Through Expenses:</b>	<b>40,610</b>	<b>38,808</b>	<b>36,637</b>	<b>450,054</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>572,483</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>122,429</b>
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>196,334</b>	<b>169,751</b>	<b>171,169</b>	<b>1,962,625</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>2,346,891</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>384,267</b>
<b><u>OTHER REVENUES</u></b>								
Recovery of Bad Debt- Brownfields	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -		
<b>Excess (deficit) Revenues over Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ (121,145)</b>	<b>\$ 150,349</b>	<b>\$ (104,410)</b>	<b>\$ 259,479</b>		<b>\$ 279,672</b>	<b>11%</b>	
<b>RLF CARES Act Funding</b>	<b>\$ 335,124</b>	<b>\$ 30,459</b>	<b>\$ 863,436</b>	<b>\$ 4,606,824</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>5,318,000</b>	<b>Total RLF CARES Grant</b>	
<b>(1) Additional legal YTD expenses included in "pass-through Expenses"</b>				<b>\$79,860</b>				
<i>Note: Percentage of Fiscal Year lapsed</i>				<b>91.67%</b>				





# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.C

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROPOSED AND ADOPTED AMENDMENT  
CONSENT AGENDA

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Pursuant to the 1974 Interlocal Agreement creating the South Florida Regional Planning Council (Council), the Council is directed by its member counties to “assure the orderly, economic, and balanced growth and development of the Region, consistent with the protection of natural resources and environment of the Region and to protect the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents of the Region.”

In fulfillment of the Interlocal Agreement directive and its duties under State law, the Council reviews local government Comprehensive Plan amendments for consistency with the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*. Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes as presently in effect, Council review of comprehensive plan amendments is limited to 1) adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the SRPP and 2) extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any affected local government within the Region. The Council’s review of amendments is conducted in two stages: (1) proposed or transmittal and (2) adoption. Council staff reviews the contents of the amendment package once the Department of Economic Opportunity certifies its completeness.

A written report of Council’s evaluation pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, is to be provided to the local government and the State Land Planning Agency within 30 calendar days of receipt of the amendment.

## Recommendation

Find the proposed and adopted plan amendments from the local governments listed in the tables below generally consistent with the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*.

Approve this report for transmittal to the local governments with a copy to the State Land Planning Agency.



**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

Local Government and Plan Amendment Number	Proposed	Adopted	Council Review Date	Local Government Transmittal or Adoption Public Hearing and Meeting
City of Deerfield Beach 21-01ESR (received 07-29-21)	✓	N/A	09-27-21	07-20-21
<p>1. The proposed amendment to the City of Deerfield Beach’s Comprehensive Plan revises the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) to amend the Future Land Use designation on three parcels totaling 16.5 gross acres from Commercial to Medium-High (25) Mixed Use-Residential (21.82 du/ac). The intent of the amendment is to accommodate the development of an industrial warehouse with ancillary office space.</p> <p>2. The amendment affects the City of Deerfield Beach.</p> <p>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities. Council staff notes that the City is required to adopt a property rights element for amendments considered at public hearing and/or fully submitted after July 1, 2021. A public hearing for this amendment was held on June 3, 2021. Council staff recommends that the City comply with the recommendations and comments of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) by revising its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan) as required.</p>				
City of Hialeah 21-03ESR (received 09-01-21)	✓	N/A	09-27-21	08-24-21
<p>1. The proposed amendment to the City of Hialeah’s Comprehensive Plan amends the Plan to include a Property Rights Element, which complies with House Bill 59 Section 163.3177(6)(i), Florida Statutes, effective July 1, 2021. The Bill requires that “Each local government must adopt a property rights element in its comprehensive plan by the earlier of the date of its adoption of its next proposed plan amendment that is initiated after July 1, 2021, or the date of the next scheduled evaluation and appraisal of its comprehensive plan pursuant to Section 163.3191, Florida Statutes.” The proposed amendment meets the requirements of the Bill, including language regarding the right of a property owner to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physically possess and control his or her interests in the property, including easements, leases, or mineral rights,</li> <li>• use, maintain, develop, and improve his or her property for personal use or for the use of any other person, subject to state law and local ordinances,</li> <li>• privacy and to exclude others from the property to protect the owner's possessions and property, and</li> <li>• dispose of his or her property through sale or gift.</li> </ul> <p>2. The amendment affects the City of Hialeah.</p> <p>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</p>				
City of Homestead 21-02ESR (received 08-23-21)	✓	N/A	09-27-21	08-18-21

Local Government and Plan Amendment Number	Proposed	Adopted	Council Review Date	Local Government Transmittal or Adoption Public Hearing and Meeting
<p>1. The proposed amendment to the City of Homestead’s Comprehensive Plan includes a Property Rights Element, which complies with House Bill 59 Section 163.3177(6)(i), Florida Statutes, effective July 1, 2021. The proposed amendment meets the requirements of the Bill, including language regarding the right of a property owner to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physically possess and control his or her interests in the property, including easements, leases, or mineral rights,</li> <li>• use, maintain, develop, and improve his or her property for personal use or for the use of any other person, subject to state law and local ordinances,</li> <li>• privacy and to exclude others from the property to protect the owner's possessions and property, and</li> <li>• dispose of his or her property through sale or gift.</li> </ul> <p>2. This amendment affects the City of Homestead.</p> <p>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</p>				
Islamorada, Village of Isles 21-01ACSC (received 08-09-21)	✓	N/A	09-27-21	07-22-21
<p>1. The proposed amendment revises Islamorada, Village of Isles’ Comprehensive Plan to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) amendment from Residential Medium (RM) to Mixed Use (MU) for a parcel consisting of approximately .27 acres. The intent of the amendment is to combine lots to be compliant under single property ownership.</p> <p>2. This amendment affects property located Southeast of 81197 Overseas Highway on Upper Matecumbe Key in Islamorada, Village of Isles.</p> <p>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities and Council staff notes that the subject property does not include habitat. Council staff notes that the City is required to adopt a property rights element for amendments considered after July 1, 2021, and this proposed amendment was heard at a June 14, 2021, public hearing.</p>				
Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea 21-01ESR (received 08-05-21)	✓	N/A	09-27-21	05-25-21
<p>1. The proposed amendments revise the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea’s Comprehensive Plan to comply with Peril of Flood amendment requirements and plan for the Town’s resilience to future potential flooding.</p> <p>2. The amendments affect the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.</p> <p>3. The amendments do not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities. The Council previously assisted the Town by creating flooding vulnerability assessments, reflecting the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) and 1- and 2-foot potential Sea Level Rise. Council staff provided these maps to the Town and recommends including the maps in a revised amendment package. Additionally, Council staff</p>				

Local Government and Plan Amendment Number	Proposed	Adopted	Council Review Date	Local Government Transmittal or Adoption Public Hearing and Meeting
<p>recommends addressing the comments of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) by revising its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan) as required. Council staff notes that the City is required to adopt a property rights element for amendments considered after July 1, 2021, and notes that these amendments were first considered at public hearings prior to that date.</p>				

**ADOPTED AMENDMENTS**

Local Government and Plan Amendment Number	Proposed	Adopted	Council Review Date	Local Government Transmittal or Adoption Public Hearing and Meeting
Monroe County 21-04ACSC (received 08-27-21)	N/A	✓	09-27-21	08-27-21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The adopted amendment revises Monroe County’s Comprehensive Plan to reflect the U.S. 1 Level of Service (LOS) Task Force recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on the LOS methodology.</li> <li>2. This amendment affects Monroe County.</li> <li>3. Council notes that the LOS on U.S. 1 in Monroe County shall be maintained within five percent (5%) of LOS C and encourages the County to continue supporting pedestrian and bicycle mobility, safety, and access to transit. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</li> <li>4. The Council reviewed this amendment when proposed.</li> </ol>				
Village of El Portal 21-01ER (received 08-04-21)	N/A	✓	09-27-21	07-27-21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The adopted amendment revises all elements of the Village of El Portal’s Comprehensive Plan to update the plan to address current local priorities.</li> <li>2. This amendment affects the incorporated area of the Village of El Portal.</li> <li>3. This amendment will need to satisfy the Objections, Recommendations and Comments (ORC) Report issued by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) at the proposed stage, including the Peril of Flood requirements, and the Capital Improvements Plan update. Council staff recommends addressing the comments of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) by revising its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan) as required.</li> <li>4. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</li> <li>5. Council reviewed the amendment when proposed.</li> </ol>				
City of Miramar 21-01ESR (received 07-22-21)	N/A	✓	09-27-21	07-07-21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The adopted amendment to the City of Miramar’s Comprehensive Plan is a text amendment and an amendment to the Future Land Use Map (FLUM). The intent of the amendment is to actualize the City’s revitalization vision of a central area to the City by creating the Miramar Innovation and Technology Activity Center (MITAC), and a pool of permitted uses as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential Land Uses: 942 dwelling units</li> <li>• Commercial Land Uses: 400,000 square feet</li> <li>• Office Land Uses: 200,000 square feet</li> <li>• Municipal Facility Land Uses: 160,000 square feet</li> </ul> </li> </ol>				

Local Government and Plan Amendment Number	Proposed	Adopted	Council Review Date	Local Government Transmittal or Adoption Public Hearing and Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks and Open Space: 10.23 acres</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. This amendment area comprises approximately 83 acres in the historic center of Miramar, on both sides of Miramar Parkway between the Florida Turnpike and SW 67 Avenue.</li> <li>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</li> <li>4. The Council reviewed this amendment when proposed.</li> </ol>				
Town of Southwest Ranches 21-02ESR (received 07-19-21)	N/A	✓	09-27-21	07-08-21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The adopted amendment revises the text of the Town of Southwest Ranches' Comprehensive Plan to address a land use compatibility issue. The amendment would preclude any change to the Future Land Use Map that would result in a Rural Estates or Estate land use designation, which allows one (1) du/acre, abutting a Rural Ranches or Agricultural Land Use designation, which allows two (2) du per net acre.</li> <li>2. This amendment affects the Town of Southwest Ranches.</li> <li>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities.</li> <li>4. The Council reviewed this amendment when proposed.</li> </ol>				
City of Sweetwater 21-01ESR (received 08-04-21)	N/A	✓	09-27-21	07-12-21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The adopted amendment to the City of Sweetwater's Comprehensive Plan will allow multi-family residential uses in the Commercial land use category. The intent of the amendment is to address the housing needs of the City's workforce and elderly populations.</li> <li>2. This amendment affects the City of Sweetwater.</li> <li>3. This amendment does not create any adverse impact to state or regional resources/facilities. Council staff recommends that pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the surrounding area, including crosswalks and sidewalks, be evaluated for safety, and improved, as necessary. Council staff recommends a particular focus on the needs of the elderly with the intent of promoting a walkable and connected community for all. Council staff recommends addressing the comments of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) by revising its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan) as required.</li> <li>4. The Council reviewed this amendment when proposed.</li> </ol>				



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.E

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: LEGAL COUNSEL ANNUAL REVIEW / CONTRACT

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Legal Counsel is customarily reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to the September Council Meeting where his contract renewal is considered. This year the Annual Review will be held at an Executive Committee meeting at 9:30 a.m. held immediately prior to the regular Council meeting. The review form is provided herewith for your information. All Councilmembers are welcome to attend.

Attached for your information is the Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract between Legal Counsel and the South Florida Regional Planning Council. Paragraph 2.0 on page 1 stipulates that this contract shall commence on October 1, 2021 and terminate on September 30, 2022.

As full payment and compensation for Attorneys and for legal services, the Council shall pay the following rates: Partners - \$250.00 per hour; Associates - \$225.00 per hour; and Paralegals - \$ 140.00 per hour. This is the same rate as last year.

## Recommendations

- Receive the report from the Executive Committee
- Renew Legal Counsel's contract for 2021-2022.



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood Florida 33020  
954-924-3653 Phone, 954-924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL ("Council")  
GENERAL COUNSEL PERFORMANCE REVIEW  
RATING SHEET**

Rate each item from 1 (low) to 5 (high) based on your opinion of the Council's General Counsel's performance. Mark N/A if you do not have enough information to rate.

**I. LEGAL CONSULTATION**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Has legal advice provided by the General Counsel proven to be accurate and technically correct?
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Does the General Counsel provide his best and honest recommendations given all existing legal issues and ramifications?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Does the General Counsel possess and provide an efficient and effective knowledge of the state law, the rules, policies and procedures of the Council?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Does the General Counsel possess and provide an efficient and effective knowledge of other government regulations and case law regarding the Council and issues facing the Council?
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Does advice provided by the General Counsel regularly take into account and balance the overall goals and objectives of the Council?
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Does the General Counsel regularly provide the scope of legal expertise necessary to meet the Council's needs on issues that arise, either from himself, within his firm or other available resources?
- \_\_\_\_\_ G. Does the General Counsel proactively identify potential issues when he is aware of them to avoid problems from occurring?
- \_\_\_\_\_ H. Are alternatives and innovative solutions provided rather than just raising problems?
- \_\_\_\_\_ I. Is the General Counsel able to maintain the Council and staffs confidence while informing them of the different legal risks that proposed actions might generate?

**II. LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Does the General Counsel aggressively represent the interests of the Council as directed by the Council Members?



- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Is the General Counsel's approach effective in achieving the best possible legal outcomes for the Council's interests given the issues that arise?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Does the General Counsel represent the Council in a professional and ethical manner?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Is the General Counsel impartial and objective in his duties and responsibilities?
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Are the General Counsel's estimates of legal impacts reasonably accurate on a regular basis?

III. STAFF WORK

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Does the General Counsel prepare contracts and other legal work accurately and consistent with the direction and objectives communicated by the Council Members, Executive Director and/or staff?
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Does the General Counsel maintain good working relationships and serve as an effective member of the management team?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Does the General Counsel accurately identify and address all legal issues within documents and items that he reviews?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Are staff and the Council Members advised of key changes in governmental and administrative law as it pertains to the Council's activities?
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Does the General Counsel display a positive attitude in carrying out his responsibilities and responding to requests?
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Has the General Counsel been successful in accomplishing objectives previously established?

IV. COST/FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND CONTROL

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Are regular legal activities achieved within budgetary goals and limits?
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Has the General Counsel been effective in minimizing legal costs by limiting tasks to those regarding legal issues and utilizing Council's in-house staff when possible to perform administrative and other functions?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Are standard forms developed and used where possible to minimize preparation of legal documentation?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Are legal tasks performed with appropriate authorization according to established procedures and contract requirements?

- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Do invoices accurately identify tasks and expenses in sufficient detail to provide accountability and cost control?
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Does the General Counsel display the ability and knowledge to research issues in a minimum amount of time?
- \_\_\_\_\_ G. Have legal costs been effectively managed and controlled given the issues, assignments and requests made to the General Counsel?

V. RESPONSIVENESS/TIMELINESS OF ACTIONS

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Are requested legal work and assignments completed in a timely manner within established time frames?
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Is the General Counsel accessible when needed to respond to requests for legal information and assistance?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Are legal review and requests for information completed in time to avoid delays to Council projects, programs and other tasks?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Does the General Counsel follow-up effectively to requests that are made?
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Does the General Counsel accurately interpret and clarify Council Members and Executive Director direction?

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Does the General Counsel communicate effectively with the Council Members, staff and the community?
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Are answers provided in a timely and in an understandable manner?
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Are timelines for follow-up to requests clearly communicated?
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Does the General Counsel maintain confidentiality with regard to all matters discussed with the Council Members and/or Executive Director and staff?
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Does the General Counsel effectively report to the Council Members and/or Executive Director communications by project attorneys of a substantive nature regarding significant or sensitive matters?



**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Isabel Cosio Carballo, Executive Director

CC: Kathe Ann Lerch, Office Administrator

FROM: Samuel S. Goren, General Counsel *SSG*

DATE: August 4, 2021

RE: South Florida Regional Planning Council (“Council”) / Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract FY 2021/22

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Attached for placement on the September agenda, please find the proposed 2021-2022 Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract as General Counsel for FY 2021/22.

Please note there is no hourly rate increase for billed legal work which is subject to the Board’s approval at the September Board Meeting.

Please contact our office if there is any additional information that we can provide.

SSG:kml  
Enclosure

**INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

THIS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT is made and entered into in duplicate in Broward County, Florida, this \_\_\_ day of September, 2021 by and between the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, a body corporate and politic and an agency of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as "SFRPC", being party of the first part, and SAMUEL S. GOREN, as a member of the law firm of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A., hereinafter referred to as "ATTORNEY", party of the second part.

IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual covenants and promises herein contained and the mutual exchange of other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, it is mutually agreed, promises and covenanted as follows:

1.0 SFRPC does hereby agree to employ and accordingly does employ ATTORNEY, and ATTORNEY does hereby agree to accept and does accordingly accept employment by the SFRPC in the capacity of "General Counsel" of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, all in accordance with the terms and conditions and provisions of said employment as set forth hereinbelow.

2.0 The term of employment of ATTORNEY under this Contract, hence the term of this Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract, shall commence on October 1, 2021 and terminate on September 30, 2022 the term of employment of ATTORNEY hereunder shall be for a period of twelve (12) months, unless the term of employment of ATTORNEY is earlier reduced or terminated pursuant to the early termination provision as set forth herein in numbered Paragraph 3 hereof.

3.0 This Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract is terminable by either SFRPC or ATTORNEY at any time on thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. However, at ATTORNEY'S option, and if so requested by SFRPC, ATTORNEY may continue to provide the professional services contemplated herein pending the appointment/employment of his successor if such appointment/employment requires more than thirty (30) days, and provided that SFRPC exerts reasonable efforts during said thirty (30) days to seek and select his said successor.

In addition, the parties may terminate this Employment Contract at any time and on any agreed basis by mutual consent of all parties, the same reduced to writing and properly executed by all parties hereto. Likewise, the term of this Agreement may be extended at any time by mutual consent of all parties hereto, the terms of such extension being reduced to writing and executed by all parties hereto.

4.0 ATTORNEY, or a member of the law firm, agrees to personally attend all regular and special meetings of the SFRPC Council and to attend any meeting of any official SFRPC board,

committee or commission when specifically requested to attend and to perform any and all legal services, of whatever kind or nature, including office practice and litigation, required, in the opinion of the Attorney or requested of ATTORNEY by SFRPC for the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL and the agents, servants and/or employees thereof (when same are acting in their official capacity(s) on behalf of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL) during the term of this Employment Contract, subject only to the following. All legal services to be performed by ATTORNEY hereunder shall be rendered at the request or direction of the majority of the SFRPC (meaning majority of Council sitting at the time that any vote is taken on a direction to request service from ATTORNEY) and/or the Executive Director; otherwise, ATTORNEY shall not be required to perform legal services for SFRPC except on his own initiative and at his own expense. Other legal fees and expenses that may be incurred are as follows:

4.1 Any litigation in which the SFRPC is a party plaintiff or a party defendant in either the Broward County Court, the Broward Circuit Court, or the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida or any other administrative matter, or trial or appellate Court into which the SFRPC is summoned or petitions;

4.2 Any administrative hearings before any governmental/administrative bodies;

4.3 Co-Counsel activities with insurance counsel assigned by the SFRPC's insurance carrier when necessary and appropriate.

4.4 Real estate and related loan transactions.

For purposes of clarification and emphasis: This Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract is, and is intended to be, a party specific agreement and shall be construed accordingly. The individual attorney with whom SFRPC contracts hereby shall be the sole and exclusive party to render services for, to and on behalf of the SFRPC pursuant to the terms hereof. Except with the specific concurrence and approval of the SFRPC Council, no substitution of counsel for ATTORNEY shall be permitted, except as expressly provided for herein.

The parties specifically recognize and understand that the ATTORNEY is a member of the law firm of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A., Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida (the "Firm") and that several members of the Firm possess the requisite skill, competence and exposure in administrative/governmental practice. Specifically, therefore, and notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the rendition of services hereunder by an attorney from the Firm other than the specific attorney contracted with hereunder shall not be prohibited and shall be deemed to be in accordance with the provisions of Section 112.313, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time, including, litigation and support services otherwise described and permitted by the aforesaid Statute.

5.0 As full payment and compensation for ATTORNEYS and for all legal services hereunder, SFRPC shall pay to ATTORNEY and ATTORNEY agrees to accept from SFRPC rates as follows:

Partners	\$250.00/hour
Associates	\$225.00/hour
Paralegals	\$140.00/hour

In the event of early termination pursuant to the terms hereof, ATTORNEY shall be entitled to accrued and unbilled/billed and unpaid compensation as shall have accrued to the date of said early termination.

6.0 In addition to the compensation for professional services as last set forth, ATTORNEY shall be permitted to submit to the SFRPC on a monthly basis for payment by SFRPC to ATTORNEY an invoice for all reasonable and necessary legal expenses incurred on behalf of the SFRPC, such as court costs and filing fees, in addition to long distance toll charges, messenger service, computerized legal research, photo-copying and facsimile costs not performed by the SFRPC. The foregoing constitutes reimbursement of legal expenses to ATTORNEY and not legal fees for services as contemplated hereunder. ATTORNEY may also request these costs be paid directly by SFRPC to the billing party, agency or vendor upon their original invoice or billing statement rather than on a reimbursement basis including reimbursement for library books and supplements owned by the SFRPC and in possession of the Attorney, if any.

7.0 This Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract sets forth the entire agreement between the parties hereto. Any prior conversations or writing are merged herein and extinguished. No subsequent amendment to this Contract shall be binding upon any of the parties hereto unless reduced to writing and properly signed and executed.

[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract to be executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

WITNESSES AS TO ALL PARTIES:

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING  
COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
MARIO J. BAILEY, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
RENÉ GARCÍA, SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ATTORNEY

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SAMUEL S. GOREN, as a  
Member of the law firm of  
Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.

\_\_\_\_\_



ATTACHMENT "A"  
FOR PRIVATE ATTORNEY SERVICES

A. SCOPE OF SERVICE:

*The ATTORNEY, or a member of his law firm, shall attend all regular and special meetings of the SFRPC Council and to attend any meeting of any official SFRPC board, committee or commission when specifically requested to attend and to **perform any and all legal services, of whatever kind or nature, including office practice and litigation**, required or requested of ATTORNEY by SFRPC for the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL and the agents, servants and/or employees thereof (when same are acting in their official capacity(s) on behalf of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL) during the term of this Employment Contract, subject only to the following. All legal services to be performed by ATTORNEY hereunder shall be rendered at the request or direction of the majority of the SFRPC (meaning majority of Council sitting at the time that any vote is taken on a direction to request service from ATTORNEY) and/or the Executive Director; otherwise, ATTORNEY shall not be required to perform legal services for SFRPC except on his own initiative and at his own expense.*

*For purposes of clarification and emphasis: This Independent Contractor Professional Services Employment Contract is, and is intended to be, a party specific agreement and shall be construed accordingly. The individual attorney with whom SFRPC contracts hereby shall be the sole and exclusive party to render services for, to and on behalf of the SFRPC pursuant to the terms hereof. Except with the specific concurrence and approval of the SFRPC Council, no substitution of counsel for ATTORNEY shall be permitted, except as expressly provided for herein.*

*The parties specifically recognize and understand that the ATTORNEY is a member of the law firm of, Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A., Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida (the "Firm") and that several members of the Firm possess the requisite skill, competence and exposure in administrative/governmental practice. Specifically, therefore, and notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the rendition of services hereunder by an attorney from the Firm other than the specific attorney contracted with hereunder shall not be prohibited and shall be deemed to be in accordance with the provisions of Section 112.313, Florida Statutes, as amended including, litigation and support services otherwise described and permitted by the aforesaid Statute.*

2. *ATTORNEY shall review and analyze SFRPC files, data, documents and other materials and advise on a recommended legal course. Further, ATTORNEY shall attend and participate in meetings, conference calls, inspections or the like and report on the status of the legal matters.*

3. *ATTORNEY shall prepare and file pleadings, motions, or briefs, initiate and conduct discovery, as required and represent SFRPC in any related litigation and otherwise represent SFRPC at trial or on appeal.*

*B. COMPENSATION/FEES:*

- 1. SFRPC shall be billed in accordance with Exhibit "1".*
- 2. Billable hours for hourly billed activities shall be measured in six (6) minute increments. Compensation of attorney hours will be for actual time spent providing attorney services to the SFRPC.*
- 3. Premium rates will not be paid for overtime work.*
- 4. Attorney time while traveling is neither billed nor compensable.*

*C. COMPENSATION/COSTS:*

- 1. Reimbursement of costs for third-party vendor bills, including but not limited to, exhibits, transcripts, and witness fees, filing fees and court costs require prior written authorization by SFRPC and shall be reimbursed based upon presentation by ATTORNEY of an appropriate Statement for Costs. The SFRPC shall not pay for firm surcharges added to Third Party Vendor bills.*
- 2. Routine expenses such as long distance toll charges, messenger service, photocopying, postage, printed library materials and facsimile costs are compensable by the SFRPC upon presentation by ATTORNEY on its monthly Statements.*
- 3. Non-routine office overhead expenses such as long distance phone calls, long distance facsimile transmissions, long distance courier services, bulk mailings, bulk third party copying, blueprints, x-rays, photographs and computer-assisted legal research services must be justified to the AGENCY and shall be reimbursed based on documented third party vendor charges. If these charges exceed subject to annual budget, as amended from time to time, prior written approval from the AGENCY must be obtained. In-house bulk mailings and bulk copying expenses must be supported by usage logs or similar documentation. Firm surcharges are not reimbursable.*
- 4. ATTORNEY shall, if applicable, only bill SFRPC for its proportionate share of the cost of legal research, attending hearings or engaging in client representation of any type, which is applicable to other clients.*
- 5. Incurred reimbursable costs described herein shall not exceed ONE THOUSAND AND NO/100 (\$1,000.00) DOLLARS per fiscal year. ATTORNEY shall notify SFRPC in writing when costs reach \$1,000.00. Said notification shall be made as soon as it is practicable and prior to the next monthly invoice.*

D. FORMATION FOR INVOICES:

1. Within thirty (30) days of service provision, each statement for fees and costs shall be submitted in original (white) and one (gold) copy, in a format that includes the following information:

- A. Case name and number, if applicable, or other legal matter reference;
- B. Invoice Number for the particular bill;
- C. **DELETED**
- D. ATTORNEY and SFRPC contract administrators' names;
- E. Inclusive dates of the month covered by the Invoice;
- F. **DELETED**
- G. **DELETED;**
- H. **DELETED;**
- I. **DELETED ;**
- J. Any other information as may be requested by SFRPC'S contract administrator.

E. ADMINISTRATION OF AGREEMENT:

- 1. The SFRPC contract administrator is ISABEL COSIO CARBALLO.
- 2. The ATTORNEY contract administrator is SAMUEL S. GOREN.
- 3. All written approvals must be obtained from the parties' contract administrators or their designees. All notices must be given to the parties' contract administrators.
- 4. This contract shall be governed by and construed under the laws of Florida.

F. OTHER AVAILABLE SERVICES:

Upon receipting approval from SFRPC, the ATTORNEY shall use existing SFRPC agreements, when available and cost effective, to acquire services (e.g, computer-assisted legal research) and the assistance of professionals (e.g., court reporters, expert witnesses) at reduced rates.

G. PUBLIC RECORDS:

All documents prepared pursuant to the Agreement are subject to Florida's Public Records Law, unless specifically so stated. Refusal of the ATTORNEY to allow public access to such records, as required by such law, shall constitute grounds for unilateral cancellation of this AGREEMENT.

H. PUBLIC CONDITIONS:

1. The ATTORNEY will make affirmative efforts to achieve cost effectiveness by consolidating court hearings, limiting travel, streamlining case processing, using printed forms, using the appropriate level of attorney or staff experience required by task, and taking other actions to improve efficiency.

2. *Multiple staffing at meetings, hearings, depositions, trials, etc., by the ATTORNEY will not be compensated without prior written approval from SFRPC.*

3. *ATTORNEY agrees that all documents shall be promptly returned at the termination of the ATTORNEY'S involvement in the case or matter at hand.*

4. *SFRPC in-house staff shall be used in the legal matter to the maximum extent possible.*

5. *The ATTORNEY will provide immediate notice by facsimile transmission or telephone regarding significant case developments, which will likely result in media inquiries.*

6. *The ATTORNEY shall provide SFRPC immediate notice of any representation undertaken by ATTORNEY in matters where the client is suing or being sued by the State or State entities in any civil or adversarial administrative action.*

7. *A contingency fee contract must be commercially reasonable. "Commercially reasonable" means the fees shall be no more than the amount permissible pursuant to Rule 4-1.5 of the rules regulating The Florida Bar and case law interpreting that rule. If the amount of the fee is in dispute, the counsel retained by the state shall participate in mandatory binding arbitration. Payment of all attorney's fees is subject to appropriation. Attorney's fees shall be forfeited if, during the pendency of the case, the counsel retained by the state takes a public position that is adverse to the state's litigation or settlement posture.*

8. *Each private attorney who is under contract to provide attorney services for the state or a state agency shall, from the inception of the contractual relationship until at least 4 years after the contract expires or terminates, maintain detailed current records, including documentation of all expenses, disbursements, charges, credits, underlying receipts and invoices, and other financial transactions that concern the provision of such attorney services. The private attorney shall make all such records available for inspection and copying upon request in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.*

9. *The AGENCY's general counsel must approve and sign the contract as to form and legality. The Contract must be signed by the AGENCY head, who shall also maintain custody of the contract.*

*EXHIBIT 1 – FEE SCHEDULE*

*1. HOURLY BILLING SCHEDULE:*

*ATTORNEYS and its paralegal staff to be used under this contract include the following individuals at the hourly rates indicated:*

<i>SAMUEL S. GOREN</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>JAMES A. CHEROF</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>DONALD J. DOODY</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>KERRY L. EZROL</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>MICHAEL D. CIRULLO</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>JULIE F. KLAHR</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>JACOB G. HOROWITZ</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>SHANA H. BRIDGEMAN</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>BRIAN J. SHERMAN</i>	<i>\$250.00/HOUR</i>
<i>SEAN M. SWARTZ</i>	<i>\$225.00/HOUR</i>
<i>QUENTIN E. MORGAN</i>	<i>\$225.00/HOUR</i>
<i>HEATHER NEEDELMAN</i>	<i>\$225.00/HOUR</i>
<i>DANIELLE SCHWABE</i>	<i>\$225.00/HOUR</i>
<i>CERTIFIED PARALEGALS</i>	<i>\$140.00/HOUR</i>

*The above rates may be adjusted if both parties agree, and shall be documented in writing by amendment to this Agreement.*



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.F

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL REVIEW

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Section 1.9.3 of the agreement between the Council and the Executive Director states that the Governing Body of the Council, or an Executive Committee with the delegated function, shall perform an annual evaluation and review of the Executive Director.

The Executive Director is customarily reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to the September Council Meeting. This year this Annual Review will be held at an Executive Committee meeting at 9:30 a.m. held immediately prior to the regular Council meeting. The review form is provided herewith for your information. All Councilmembers are welcome to attend.

The three-year contract with the Executive Director terminates on November 24, 2021.

## Recommendation

Assess the Executive Director's performance.



**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
AND  
ISABEL COSIO CARBALLO  
PROVIDING FOR EMPLOYMENT  
AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Contract period: November 24, 2018 – November 24, 2021**

**Excerpt discussing the Annual Review (1.9.3)**

1.9 To provide increases in compensation to the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR on the following basis:

1.9.1 Merit Increases: At the option of the Executive Committee of the SFRPC, to provide a merit increase to the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR on an annual basis coinciding with the annual adoption of the budget from the date of employment hereof, subject to a vote of the Governing Body of the SFRPC of not less than a majority of the members present at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

1.9.2 Cost of Living Increases: At the option of the Executive Committee of the SFRPC of the SFRPC to annually adjust the existing salary based upon cost of living increases if otherwise provided to State of Florida employees, subject to a vote of the Governing Body of the SFRPC of not less than a majority of the members present at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

1.9.3 To annually review and evaluate the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR based upon performance standards, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein, and as may be amended from time to time by the Governing Body of the SFRPC or the Executive Committee of the SFRPC with the delegated function of performing such evaluation and review, subject to a vote of the Governing Body of the SFRPC of not less than a majority of the members present at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

EXHIBIT "A"

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

General Responsibilities: Direct the activities of the South Florida Regional Planning Council staff. Establish the Council work program and complete the work program in a timely manner. Manage the operation of the agency.

Objectives of the position:

1. Anticipate emerging issues within the region and articulate an agency mission statement which reflects these emerging issues.
2. Set long and short-term agency objectives that are responsive to the agency mission.
3. Assure that the organization is staffed and structured for effective mission accomplishment.
4. Maintain effective communication with all Council Members and member unit local governments.
5. Implement an objective performance agreement system by which Regional Planning Council staff will be assessed.
6. Ensure the statutory responsibilities of the agency are carried out in a timely and complete manner.
7. Develop and maintain good organizational relationships with other relevant organizations.
8. Assist all Council officers in performing their duties.
9. Prepare an adequate annual budget and operate the agency within that budget.

An agency work program will be prepared. At the end of the appraisal period, the record of progress will provide a measure of whether the Director met, failed to meet or exceeded expectations.



# South Florida Regional Planning Council

## Assessment of the Executive Director

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### How to Complete the Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to help you, your board colleagues, and the Executive Committee assess the Executive Director’s performance. It should take you 30 to 60 minutes to complete. To encourage candor, the questionnaire does not ask for your name. Your confidential responses, along with the responses of your colleagues, will be summarized and shared with the Executive Director at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

Each section begins with a brief description of an important area of responsibility. Please read it and then answer the questions that follow. The questions measure your level of satisfaction with how the Executive Director is carrying out various aspects of each responsibility. Check off the number representing the degree to which you are satisfied or not satisfied with the Executive Director’s performance in each responsibility mentioned. The answer you mark can range on a scale of 1 to 4, with 1 representing “Unsatisfactory”, 2 representing “Needs Improvement”, 3 representing “Good”, and 4 representing “Excellent.”

It is understood that some members may not be able to answer all questions due to lack of interaction with the Executive Director in all areas. For those instances, you may use:

Not Personally Observed

Comment lines, as below, have been provided and may be used at your discretion.

Comment:

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**1. Vision, Mission, and Strategies\***

The Executive Director’s role has both strategic and operational components. Working with the board, the Executive Director must develop a shared vision for the future of the organization, build understanding around the current mission, and develop appropriate goals and strategies to advance that mission.

1-1 The Executive Director has worked with the board to develop a clear vision for the organization and understands his or her own leadership role?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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1-2 The Executive Director has a sense of what must change and what must remain the same in order to accomplish the organization’s mission and realize its vision?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 2. Accomplishment of Management Objectives

Working with the board, the Executive Director establishes operational objectives that support the strategic plan. The Executive Director is responsible for leading the staff in the implementation of this Plan.

2-1 The Executive Director selects and cultivates qualified senior staff, models effective behaviors and skills, and builds morale among staff and volunteers?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 3. Program Management

The South Florida Regional Planning Council carries out its mission by offering specific programs and services. The Executive Director leads the staff in managing and administering these programs and services. This requires a thorough knowledge of the organization's mission areas as well as an understanding of technical, operational, and ethical issues.

3-1 The Executive Director demonstrates substantive knowledge regarding the organization's programs and services?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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3-2 The Executive Director, through effective oversight and staffing, sets high standards of high quality for the organization's programs?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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#### **4. Effectiveness in Fund Raising and Resource Development**

The Executive Director, in partnership with the board and appropriate staff, is responsible for developing and implementing appropriate financial development strategies. The Executive Director and board use their combined strengths, knowledge, and relationships to help the organization achieve in objectives.

4-1 The Executive Director has a clear understanding of the current and future financial resources needed to realize the organization's mission?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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4-2 The Executive Director is effective and works well with staff, board members, and legislature to secure adequate funding commitments for the organization?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 5. Fiscal Management

Ensuring that resources are managed wisely is especially important for a nonprofit organization operating in the public trust. It is the role of the Executive Director to see that solid planning and budgeting systems are in place and that the organization's goals and strategic plan serve as the basis for sound financial planning. In addition, it is the Executive Director's responsibility to ensure that qualified staff are hired to accurately monitor, assess, and manage the financial health of the nonprofit.

5-1 The Executive Director is knowledgeable regarding planning and budget management of the organization?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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5-2 The Executive Director presents financial reports to the board on a regular basis and submits an annual budget for board review, revision, and approval?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 6. Operations Management

The Executive Director is responsible for day-to-day management. The Executive Director works with staff to develop, maintain, and use the systems and resources that facilitate the effective operation of the organization.

6-1 The Executive Director is knowledgeable regarding the operation of an effective office environment?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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6-2 The Executive Director ensures compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 7. The Board/Staff Relationship

Because many organizational issues require a partnership of board and staff to be addressed effectively, the Executive Director should work to create opportunities for senior staff to interact with board members and to ensure that board and staff have a good working relationship.

7-1 The Executive Director and staff have built effective working relationships with the board and committee chairs who are responsible for specific aspects of organizational governance?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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7-2 The Executive Director raises issues, asks questions, and provides adequate information to inform board discussions?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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## 8. External Liaisons and Public Image

The Executive Director and board members are key players in establishing and maintaining positive relationships with the many groups that support the work of the Council.

8-1 The Executive Director maintains a positive professional reputation in the local community and is a good ambassador?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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8-2 The Executive Director is an articulate and knowledgeable spokesperson?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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8-3 The Executive Director is well regarded by his or her professional peers in the organization's area of focus?

- 1. Unsatisfactory
- 2. Needs Improvement
- 3. Good
- 4. Excellent
- 5. Not personally observed

Comment:

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**Open Ended Questions -- (OPTIONAL)**

1. What are the three major strengths of the Executive Director?

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2. Are there any limitations in the Executive Director's performance?

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3. What have been the most significant achievements of the Executive Director over the last year?

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4. What are areas in which the board could provide better support to the Executive Director?

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5. Additional comments:

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# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.G

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: FY 2020-21 REVISED OPERATING BUDGET

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Please find herewith the revised Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 for your review and approval. The Council's revenue budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 amounts to \$2,618,345, down from \$2,626,563 in the current year. The decrease of \$8,218 is due to the successful project development.

The Council's expense budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 amounts to \$2,498,499, as compared to the approved budget of \$2,526,891 for the current year. The decrease of \$28,392 is primarily associated with expenses directly related to the decrease in expenditures due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

### Recommendation

Approve the Fiscal Year 20-21 Revised Operating Budget.





**South Florida Regional Planning Council  
Budget for 2020-21**

		<b>2021</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		<b>FY 2020-21 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2020-21 Amendment Proposal</b>	<b>FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
<b>Membership Fees</b>		\$ 864,323	\$ 864,323	\$ 876,644
<b>Interest &amp; Other Income</b>		4,500	1,200	1,500
<b>Local Funded Projects</b>				
	Miami Dade TPO UPWP 20-21	25,000	34,900	50,000
	SFRTA - Land Use Transportation	100,000	100,000	100,000
	FDOT District 6 Prof Services	70,000	19,628	50,000
	Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc.	25,000	18,000	25,000
	Economic Forecasting Partnership		9,500	-
	Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Institute	1,700	-	1,700
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>1,090,523</b>	<b>1,047,551</b>	<b>1,104,844</b>
<b>SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
<b>Federal Funded Projects</b>		<b>907,313</b>	<b>751,782</b>	<b>2,004,185</b>
	EDA/EDD- Econ Dev South Dade District	25,000	20,930	-
	EDA/EDD CEDS	34,000	26,250	105,000
	EDA/EDD CARES Act	200,000	175,000	155,000
	DHS/SHSGP Metadata	70,000	-	70,000
	DHS/SHSGP Analysts	110,000	112,256	110,000
	DHS/UASI Analysts	252,799	214,683	282,500
	DHS/UASI Metadata	33,389	68,967	43,000
	FDEM/HMEP - Planning, Oct-Sept	20,000	14,528	20,000
	FDEM/HMEP - Training, Oct-Sept	70,000	22,168	118,685
	FDEM/NEFRC/SRESP Behavior	57,500	87,500	-
	DOD/Resiliency Planning	-	-	1,100,000
	DOE- Clean Cities	33,125	9,500	-
	EPA Coalition Assesment Grant	1,500	-	-
	<b>State Funded Projects</b>	<b>83,027</b>	<b>83,027</b>	<b>71,120</b>
	FDEM/LEPC Staff	80,000	80,000	70,000
	FDEM-Hazards Analysis Monroe	3,027	3,027	1,120
<b>Trust Funds</b>		<b>545,700</b>	<b>735,985</b>	<b>660,005</b>
	EDA-Consolidated RLF	246,000	372,666	370,000
	EDA-RLF CARES Act	269,000	322,195	259,305
	BROWNFIELDS RLF	30,700	41,124	30,700
	<b>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>1,536,040</b>	<b>1,570,794</b>	<b>2,735,310</b>
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>		<b>\$ 2,626,563</b>	<b>\$ 2,618,345</b>	<b>\$ 3,840,154</b>

		2021	2021	2022
		FY 2020-21 Approved Budget	FY 2020-21 Amendment Proposal	FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Capital Expenditures:</b>				
	Equipment	\$ 27,500	\$ -	\$ 25,000
	Leasehold Improvement- Soft costs	42,500	-	10,000
	Leasehold Improvement- Hard costs (net of landlord credit)	25,000	-	-
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>95,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>Core Operating Expenses (Allocated):</b>				
	Salary	746,986	847,233	1,113,776
	Leave	210,688	158,433	208,276
	Fringe Benefits	335,186	288,906	369,774
	Janitorial Services	8,295	7,776	8,500
	Legal Services	45,000	9,978	45,000
	Financial Services	46,300	47,000	50,000
	Professional Consultants	12,572	11,971	792,500
	Travel	10,000	508	10,000
	Miscellaneous Expenses	5,000	1,891	5,000
	Printing, Advertising, Notices	1,500	2,812	3,000
	Supplies	5,000	9,373	10,000
	Professional Development	30,000	25,574	30,000
	Occupancy	91,200	95,064	95,000
	Utilities- electric/ Sanitation	5,000	3,897	5,000
	Repairs & Maintenance	3,897	921	5,000
	Council Reserve Fund	180,000	380,000	205,000
	Storage	5,000	5,712	6,000
	Office Automation	80,000	66,711	82,500
	Communication, Postage	9,000	16,871	17,000
	Insurance	28,783	26,901	29,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,859,408</b>	<b>2,007,531</b>	<b>3,090,326</b>
<b>Pass-through Expenses</b>				
	Legal Services	22,000	87,121	30,000
	Financial Services	500	439	500
	Professional Consultants	59,973	31,702	60,000
	PBSO Analyst Salary & Fringe	423,807	313,168	454,950
	Travel	26,381	579	21,000
	Miscellaneous Expenses	872	19,091	1,000
	Printing, Advertising, Notices	1,300	655	1,300
	Supplies	20,000	17,402	25,000
	Professional Development	700	650	1,500
	Office Automation	15,000	18,907	19,000
	Communication, Postage	750	-	750
	Insurance	1,200	1,255	1,300
	Reimbursement from Borrower	-	-	-
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>572,483</b>	<b>490,968</b>	<b>616,300</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,526,891</b>	<b>2,498,499</b>	<b>3,741,626</b>
	<b>Increase in Fund Balance Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 99,672</b>	<b>\$ 119,846</b>	<b>\$ 98,527</b>



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.H

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: FY 2021-22 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

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Please find herewith the proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 for your review and approval. The Council's revenue budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 amounts to \$3,840,154, up from \$2,618,345 in the current year. The increase of \$1,221,809 is due to the acquisition of new regional programs.

The Council's expense budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 amounts to \$3,741,626, as compared to \$2,498,499 in the current year. The increase of \$1,243,147 is primarily associated with expenses directly related to the new projects and the hiring of new program staff.

## Recommendation

Approve the Fiscal Year 21-22 Operating Budget.





**South Florida Regional Planning Council  
Budget for 2020-21**

		<b>2021</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		<b>FY 2020-21 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2020-21 Amendment Proposal</b>	<b>FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
<b>Membership Fees</b>		\$ 864,323	\$ 864,323	\$ 876,644
<b>Interest &amp; Other Income</b>		4,500	1,200	1,500
<b>Local Funded Projects</b>				
	Miami Dade TPO UPWP 20-21	25,000	34,900	50,000
	SFRTA - Land Use Transportation	100,000	100,000	100,000
	FDOT District 6 Prof Services	70,000	19,628	50,000
	Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc.	25,000	18,000	25,000
	Economic Forecasting Partnership		9,500	-
	Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Institute	1,700	-	1,700
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>1,090,523</b>	<b>1,047,551</b>	<b>1,104,844</b>
<b>SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
<b>Federal Funded Projects</b>		<b>907,313</b>	<b>751,782</b>	<b>2,004,185</b>
	EDA/EDD- Econ Dev South Dade District	25,000	20,930	-
	EDA/EDD CEDS	34,000	26,250	105,000
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	DHS/UASI Analysts	252,799	214,683	282,500
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	FDEM/HMEP - Training, Oct-Sept	70,000	22,168	118,685
	FDEM/NEFRC/SRESP Behavior	57,500	87,500	-
	DOD/Resiliency Planning	-	-	1,100,000
	DOE- Clean Cities	33,125	9,500	-
	EPA Coalition Assesment Grant	1,500	-	-
	<b>State Funded Projects</b>	<b>83,027</b>	<b>83,027</b>	<b>71,120</b>
	FDEM/LEPC Staff	80,000	80,000	70,000
	FDEM-Hazards Analysis Monroe	3,027	3,027	1,120
<b>Trust Funds</b>		<b>545,700</b>	<b>735,985</b>	<b>660,005</b>
	EDA-Consolidated RLF	246,000	372,666	370,000
	EDA-RLF CARES Act	269,000	322,195	259,305
	BROWNFIELDS RLF	30,700	41,124	30,700
	<b>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>1,536,040</b>	<b>1,570,794</b>	<b>2,735,310</b>
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>		<b>\$ 2,626,563</b>	<b>\$ 2,618,345</b>	<b>\$ 3,840,154</b>



**South Florida Regional Planning Council  
Budget for 2020-21**

		2021	2021	2022
		FY 2020-21 Approved Budget	FY 2020-21 Amendment Proposal	FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Capital Expenditures:</b>				
	Equipment	\$ 27,500	\$ -	\$ 25,000
	Leasehold Improvement- Soft costs	42,500	-	10,000
	Leasehold Improvement- Hard costs (net of landlord credit)	25,000	-	-
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>95,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>Core Operating Expenses (Allocated):</b>				
	Salary	746,986	847,233	1,113,776
	Leave	210,688	158,433	208,276
	Fringe Benefits	335,186	288,906	369,774
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	Professional Consultants	12,572	11,971	792,500
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	Occupancy	91,200	95,064	95,000
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	Council Reserve Fund	180,000	380,000	205,000
	Storage	5,000	5,712	6,000
	Office Automation	80,000	66,711	82,500
	Communication, Postage	9,000	16,871	17,000
	Insurance	28,783	26,901	29,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,859,408</b>	<b>2,007,531</b>	<b>3,090,326</b>
<b>Pass-through Expenses</b>				
	Legal Services	22,000	87,121	30,000
	Financial Services	500	439	500
	Professional Consultants	59,973	31,702	60,000
	PBSO Analyst Salary & Fringe	423,807	313,168	454,950
	Travel	26,381	579	21,000
	Miscellaneous Expenses	872	19,091	1,000
	Printing, Advertising, Notices	1,300	655	1,300
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	Office Automation	15,000	18,907	19,000
	Communication, Postage	750	-	750
	Insurance	1,200	1,255	1,300
	Reimbursement from Borrower	-	-	-
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>572,483</b>	<b>490,968</b>	<b>616,300</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,526,891</b>	<b>2,498,499</b>	<b>3,741,626</b>
	<b>Increase in Fund Balance Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 99,672</b>	<b>\$ 119,846</b>	<b>\$ 98,527</b>





# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.I

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DATE:            SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO:              COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:           STAFF

SUBJECT:        AUDIT CONTRACT - OCTOBER 1, 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

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Council staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Audit Services on July 23, 2021. The RFP was noticed on the Council website, FAR, and Miami Herald. The RFP response period closed on August 27, 2021, at 5 PM.

There were three respondents to the RFP:

1. Anthony Brunson P.A.
2. HCT Certified Public Accountants & Consultants, LLC
3. S. Davis & Associates

The Audit Committee met on September 8, 2021, at 2 pm. In attendance was Chair Bailey, Councilmember Coldiron, Councilmember Furr, Councilmember Udine, and Councilmember Ziade, Legal Counsel, and Council staff. The meeting was attended by the principals of the firms. After reviewing, evaluating, and questioning/interviewing the three firms, the Audit Committee completed the Evaluation Sheets and ranked the three firms as follows below.

1. S. Davis & Associates
2. Anthony Brunson P.A.
3. HCT Certified Public Accountants & Consultants, LLC

As per the direction of the Audit Committee, Council staff met with the S. Davis & Associates and successfully negotiated a contract amount of \$38,500 per year for a five-year period. This represents a minor increase over the previous contract rate of \$37,500 per year.

## Recommendation

Approve the Contract.



## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

### AUDIT CONTRACT SERVICES

This agreement is entered into as of the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, between S. Davis & Associates, P.A., Certified Public Accountants & Consultants (herein referred to as the "Contractor") and the South Florida Regional Planning Council (herein referred to as the "Council").

Whereas the Council desires to engage the Contractor to render certain technical or professional services hereafter described.

The parties, therefore, mutually agree as follows:

1. Scope of Services - The Contractor's partners and employees shall do, perform, and carry out personally in a satisfactory and proper manner, as determined by the Council, the services listed below. The persons, if other than the Contractor, who will perform any service must be identified.
  - (a) Perform an examination of the Council's financial statements and report annually thereon in accordance with audit standards as defined below for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026 as follows:

#### Audit Standards

Unless higher standards are set forth elsewhere in this Agreement, each audit shall be done in conformity with audit standards, excluding the review of economy and efficiency of operations and program results, set forth in the following publications: Governmental Auditing Standards 1994, and subsequent amendments and rules issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), Industry Audit Guide, Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, Florida Single Audit Act, Rules of the Auditor General Audits for State and Local Governmental Units, AICPA standards and procedures.

- (b) Financial Audit

The examination of documents, records, reports, systems of internal control, accounting and financial procedures, and other evidence to ascertain whether financial transactions have been properly recorded and whether the statements prepared from the accounts present fairly the financial positions and the results of financial operations of the various funds and account groups and the changes in financial position of the proprietary fund types of the governmental unit in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governmental units and on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year and as required for reporting in Section 11.45, Florida Statutes, wherein financial audit is defined as "an examination of financial statements in order to express an opinion on the fairness with which they present financial position, results of operations, and changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted government

accounting principles and an examination to determine whether operations are properly conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements."

(c) Auditor's Report on Examination of Financial Statements

The report prepared as described in the Rules of the Auditor General, Chapter 10.554(3), by the auditor covering the audit or investigation made.

(d) Financial Statements

A statement of net position, statement of activities, balance sheet, statement of revenues and expenditures, compared with budget authorization, statements analyzing changes in fund balances or retained earnings, or other statements of presentation of financial data, including accompanying notes, derived from the accounting records.

(e) Prepare supplementary audit reports as may be required by grantor agencies, from the period specified in 1(a) unless such reports are extraordinary in nature.

(f) Any additional services that the Council may request from time to time, that are not included herein, subject to the execution of a mutually acceptable written amendment to this Agreement, and subject to a negotiated rate for such services.

The Council shall ensure that all books and records of the South Florida Regional Planning Council will be in auditable condition, and the Council or its agents will provide such assistance as the Contractor may require in the preparation of trial balances, account analyses, audit schedules and location of supporting documentation. The Council will provide such clerical and typing assistance as is required and needed by Contractor to complete this contract.

2. Personnel

(a) The Contractor represents that he has, or will secure at his own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Contract. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the Council.

(b) All of the services required hereunder will be performed by the Contractor or under his supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized under State and local law to perform such services.

(c) None of the work or services covered by this Contract shall be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the Council.

3. Time of Performance - The audit(s) required herein shall be completed and the report submitted within 160 days of the last day of the fiscal year. Should circumstances develop beyond the control of the Contractor, these matters will be brought to the immediate attention of the Council.

4. Compensation - The Council shall pay the Contractor as compensation for the services required pursuant to Paragraph 1 of this agreement, except paragraph 1(e), which will be negotiated at the time such services are required by the Council, a fee not to exceed Thirty

Eight Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$38,500.00). Additional services may be requested up to the following discounted rates:

Partner	\$ 210.00 per hour
Senior Manager	\$ 185.00 per hour
Manager	\$ 158.00 per hour
Seniors	\$ 122.00 per hour
Staff Accountants	\$ 73.00 per hour
Administrative Support	\$ 40.00 per hour

5. Method of Payment - Such compensation due in accordance with Paragraph 4 shall be paid upon submission by the Contractor of detailed billings. Payment will be as follows:
  - Payment Number 1 shall be paid ten (10) days from contract execution for the first year. For subsequent years, Payment Number 1 shall be paid upon the earlier of (10) days of the completion of the planning phase, or November 15<sup>th</sup> of each subsequent year. - 30% of the total fee.
  - Payment 2 is due by December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year - 30% of the total fee.
  - Payment 3 is due by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year - 30% of the total fee.
  - Final payment, constituting the remaining 10% of the total fee, will be made within 10 days of the Council adoption of the final report.
  
6. Renewal Option - This Agreement may be renewed in one year increments ending with the October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2026 contract period. By May 1<sup>st</sup> of each fiscal year, the Contractor shall submit to the Council recommended changes in hourly rates in accordance with the hourly rates provided for in the Contractor's Agreement with the Council, the scope of services, terms or conditions for the renewal period as proposed in Section 5 (Audit Cost) of the contractor's Request for Proposal. The amount of the increase of the Contractor's fees may not exceed the prior year's fees by more than 5%, starting with the base fee of \$38,500.00. Any increase in fees is subject to the written approval of the Council, or its authorized representative. The Council may, at its sole discretion, modify the renewal periods authorized pursuant to this Agreement. Renewals shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance by the Contractor and shall be mutually agreed to by the Council and the Contractor in writing.
  
7. Termination of Contract for Cause - If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner his obligations under the Contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the Council shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the Council for damages sustained by the Council by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Contractor, and the Council may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of setoff until such time as the exact amount of damages due to the Council from the Contractor is determined.

8. Changes - The Council may, from time to time, require changes in this Contract. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Contractor's compensation, which are mutually agreed upon by and between the Council and the Contractor, shall be incorporated in written amendments to this Contract of equal dignity herewith, and signed by both parties.
9. Equal Employment Opportunity
  - (a) The Contractor shall be an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
  - (b) The Contractor shall keep such records and submit such reports concerning the racial and ethnic origin of applicants for employment and employees as the Council may require.
  - (c) The Contractor agrees to comply with such rules, regulations or guidelines as the Council may issue to implement these requirements.
10. Interest of Members of Council and Others - No officer, member, or employee of the Council and no members of its governing body, and no other public official of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the project is situated or being carried out who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or approval of the undertaking or carrying out of this project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Contract which affects his personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he is, directly or indirectly interested or have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Contract or the proceeds thereof.
11. Assignability - The Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Contract, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or notation) without the prior written consent of the Council thereto: provided, however, that claims for money due or to become due to the Contractor from the Council under this Contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company or other financial institution without such approval. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the Council.
12. Interest of Contractor - The Contractor covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Contract. The Contractor further covenants, in the performance of this Contract, shall employ any person with such interest.
13. Findings Confidential - Any reports, information, data, etc., given to or prepared or assembled by the Contractor under this Contract shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the Council.
14. Officials Not to Benefit - No Members of or Delegate to the Congress of the United States of America, no Resident Commissioner, and/or elected representative or staff of the State of Florida, shall be admitted to share of part hereof or to any benefit to arise herefrom.
15. Office Space - The Council hereby agrees to provide office space without charge to the Contractor for the performance of the services agreed to under this Contract, and the Contractor agrees not to include any charge for additional office space in this fee.

16. Publication, Reproduction and Use of Material - No material produced in whole or in part under this Contract shall be subject to copyright in the United States or in any other country. The Council and its agents shall have authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, any reports prepared under this Contract.
17. Audits and Inspections - For a period of five (5) years after the completion of any work provided herein, the Contractor shall make its work papers, records, and other evidence and documents relating to such work available to its successor, the Council, grantor agencies, or other designees of the Council. The Council and its representatives shall be entitled at any time during the five (5) year period, to inspect such documents, and to reproduce same at its expense, for which provisions will be made at the time the need for reproduction arises. The Contractor shall be entitled to reasonable fees for time and expenses incurred in connection with these services.
18. Scrutinized Companies  
Contractor, its principals or owners, certify that they are not listed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or are engaged in business operations with Syria. In accordance with Section 287.135, Florida Statutes, as amended, a company is ineligible to, and may not, bid on, submit a proposal for, or enter into or renew a contract with any agency or local governmental entity for goods or services of:
- 18.1 Any amount if, at the time bidding on, submitting a proposal for, or entering into or renewing such contract, the company is on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to Section 215.4725, Florida Statutes, or is engaged in a boycott of Israel; or
19. Public Records
- 19.1 The Council is a public agency subject to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Contractor shall comply with Florida's Public Records Law. Specifically, Contractor shall:
- 19.1.1 Keep and maintain public records required by the Council to perform the service;
- 19.1.2 Upon request from the Council's custodian of public records, provide the Council with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law;
- 19.1.3 Ensure that public records that are exempt or that are confidential and exempt from public record disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the Agreement term and, following completion of the Agreement, Contractor shall destroy all copies of such confidential and exempt records remaining in its possession after Contractor transfers the records in its possession to the Council, unless otherwise required by law; and
- 19.1.4 Upon completion of the Agreement, Contractor shall transfer to the Council, at no cost to the Council, all public records in Contractor's possession. All records stored electronically by Contractor must be provided to the Council, upon request from the Council's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the Council.

19.2 The failure of Contractor to comply with the provisions set forth in this Article shall constitute a default and breach of this Agreement, for which, the Council may terminate the Agreement by providing Contractor with at least thirty (30) days prior, provided, however, that Contractor will be given the opportunity to cure the breach within said period of time.

**IF CONTRACTOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO CONTRACTOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS FOR THE COUNCIL.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Council and the Contractor have executed this agreement consisting off six (6) pages as of the date first above written.

**Council:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Isabel Cosio Carballo, Executive Director Date

**Contractor:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tanya I. Davis, C.P.A. Date

Approved as to form and legality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel S. Goren, Esquire Date  
General Counsel for the SFPRC



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.J

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE REVIEW GRANT UPDATE & APPOINTMENT OF SELECTION COMMITTEE

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Council staff, in partnership with the South Florida Defense Alliance and Florida International University Sea Level Solutions Center, has secured a \$990,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. These funds, along with state matching funds of \$110,000, will be used to undertake a regional Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) of Naval Air Station Key West, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB), U.S. Army Garrison Miami (SOUTHCOM), and the Naval Surface Warfare Center South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility in Broward County.

This 18-month regional effort will leverage the work of robust resilience, university, and economic development organizations, the State of Florida, and cutting edge local and national expertise. Through this planning effort, and in partnership with local governments, the project team will identify and incorporate the resiliency needs of military installations and commands into local and regional resilience planning efforts. The regional effort will support the development of a statewide resilience plan and investment strategy and further the Department of Defense interests in ensuring that regional bases maintain mission assurance.

Military installation resilience is defined as the capability of a military installation to avoid, prepare for, minimize the effect of, adapt to, and recover from extreme weather events, or from anticipated or unanticipated changes in environmental conditions, that do, or have the potential to, adversely affect the military installation or essential transportation, logistical, or other necessary resources outside of the military installation that are necessary in order to maintain, improve, or rapidly reestablish installation mission assurance and mission-essential functions. This program is designed to help communities make informed decisions by enabling states and communities to partner with local commands to respond to, address, and mitigate activities that are either impairing or likely to impair the use of the installation. When done successfully, it increases military value of the installation by preserving the military mission.





The Council will issue RFP(s) for the development of the South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review. Council staff requests that four members be appointed to serve on a RFP Review and Selection Committee.

Recommendation

Appoint a four-member Review and Selection Committee to select a consultant(s) as needed.



## MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.A

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: SFRPC REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS STATUS REPORT

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The South Florida Regional Planning Council Revolving Loan Program has historically served the needs of businesses that are not entirely served by conventional lenders, with an emphasis on applicants who have been denied credit by a conventional lender. As such, the Council's RLF loans are considered riskier than conventional loans. The Loan Administration Board may charge a higher interest rate to a particular borrower depending on the risk factors of that loan. In addition, most loan payments are due on the first day of each month until maturity.

Attached for your review is the Revolving Loan Fund Status Report. In reviewing the attached status report, please note that the borrowers' loan agreements provide a fifteen (15) day grace period in which they can make their payments without a five percent late charge penalty. This status report is generated fifteen (15) days prior to the end of the month. Council staff routinely makes phone calls and sends past due notices to past due accounts after ten (10) and fifteen (15) days.

The Council policy on loan amounts and the structure of the loans for each loan program is:

*"Loan amounts may range from \$25,000 to \$500,000. Borrowers seeking more than one loan may not exceed \$500,000 in aggregate. Loans may be used for funding up to 100 percent of a project, provided that bank or conventional financing is unavailable, and that equity is nonexistent or is otherwise needed for cash flow. In cases where limited financing from a private/traditional source is available, loans can be used as supplemental or "second mortgage" funds. Second positions on collateral may be acceptable so long as the prior lien holder is a lending institution."*

Please find attached Legal Counsel's South Florida Regional Planning Council ("SFRPC") / Revolving Loan Fund report on legal action that has been taken to collect on delinquent accounts.



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020  
954.924.3653 Phone, 954.924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)

**Payment Status Report**

**Traditional RLF Payment Status Report**

Loan	Company /Borrower	Amount	Disbursed	Pmts	Rate	Last Activity	Last Balance	Paid Thru	Days Late	Last Activity	Next Pay Due	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Board Action
1008		110,000.00	110,000.00	120	6.0	1,823.36	44,125.96	08/01/21	0	08/02/21	09/01/21	03/22/02	11/09/25	performing
1022		300,000.00	300,000.00	240	7.0	2,709.36	312,747.62	08/01/21	0	08/19/21	09/01/21	01/08/04	09/01/39	performing
1023		301,586.50	301,586.50	120	5.0	350.00	161,715.88	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	07/19/06	03/01/29	performing
1034		300,000.00	300,000.00	120	5.0	1,500.00	260,365.24	08/01/21	0	08/17/21	09/01/21	12/21/06	11/15/28	performing
1036		330,529.43	330,529.43	120	5.0	1,000.00	203,382.11	08/01/21	0	08/30/21	09/01/21	02/26/08	08/01/30	performing
1039		125,000.00	125,000.00	84	5.0	500.00	120,170.87	08/01/21	0	08/06/21	09/01/21	11/24/08	12/31/15	performing
1040		200,000.00	200,000.00	84	5.0	1,472.32	93,209.76	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	02/02/09	08/01/28	performing
2005		100,000.00	100,000.00	36	5.0	1,640.00	7,301.01	07/01/21	31	07/16/21	08/01/21	09/27/01	12/01/21	performing
3024		189,043.88	189,043.88	144	0.0	500.00	110,945.87	08/01/21	0	08/06/21	09/01/21	07/26/99	12/01/16	Awaiting Settlement Payoff - 09/22/21
4008		300,000.00	300,000.00	84	5.0	2,250.00	178,478.45	08/01/21	0	08/16/21	09/01/21	07/31/09	03/31/39	performing
4018		150,000.00	150,000.00	84	6.0	(465.00)	144,598.41	12/01/15	2070	10/22/20	01/01/16	07/12/13	08/01/20	In Litigation - Mediation
4022		43,000.00	43,000.00	84	0.0	0.02	42,687.48	07/01/16	1857	12/10/18	08/01/16	03/04/14	04/01/21	Default final judgment/bankruptcy
4024		235,000.00	235,000.00	240	5.0	1,600.00	179,872.95	08/01/21	0	08/17/21	09/01/21	04/16/14	05/01/26	performing
4027		149,500.00	149,500.00	120	5.0	1,590.98	83,782.95	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	12/15/15	12/15//25	performing
4028		75,000.00	75,000.00	1	0.0	765.03	74,994.72	04/01/19	854	04/12/19	05/01/19	11/17/16	09/30/19	Default - collateral workout
4029		75,000.00	75,000.00	1	0.0	803.02	75,000.00	04/01/19	854	04/12/19	05/01/19	12/14/16	09/30/19	Default - collateral workout
4031		332,972.82	332,972.82	111	6.5	2,000.00	321,849.33	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	09/28/17	08/01/28	performing
4032		300,000.55	300,000.55	120	7.0	3,577.27	253,816.79	08/01/21	0	08/31/21	09/01/21	10/24/18	11/01/28	performing
4033		254,999.57	254,999.57	84	7.0	1,548.47	195,406.33	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	10/25/18	10/25/25	performing

Loan	Company /Borrower	Amount	Disbursed	Pmts	Rate	Last Activity	Last Balance	Paid Thru	Days Late	Last Activity	Next Pay Due	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Board Action	
4034		84,506.66	84,506.66	84	7.0	150.00	71,412.80	03/01/21	153	09/01/21	04/01/21	01/03/19	01/03/26	Non-performing - Payment Modification	
4035		248,684.03	248,684.03	84	7.0	3,773.17	192,183.46	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	03/05/19	04/01/26	performing	
4036		149,223.30	149,223.30	84	7.0	2,399.01	120,703.05	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	03/05/19	04/01/26	performing	
4037		173,904.64	173,904.64	84	5.0	1,750.00	156,614.97	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	03/28/19	03/28/26	performing	
4038		99,885.78	99,885.78	60	7.0	1,500.00	80,730.10	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	03/28/19	04/01/24	performing	
4039		200,000.00	200,000.00	84	7.0	150.00	196,815.27	03/01/21	153	09/01/21	04/01/21	03/12/20	04/01/27	Non-performing - Payment Modification	
4040		400,000.00	400,000.00	84	7.0	3,167.33	398,643.06	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	09/23/19	09/23/26	performing	
4043		200,000.00	200,000.00	120	4.5	2,322.17	194,003.43	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	04/22/21	04/01/31	performing	
4044		130,000.00	130,000.00	120	4.5	1,347.30	124,575.90	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	03/22/21	03/01/31	performing	
4045		212,074.18	135,701.83	60	7.0	1,039.52	192,111.58	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	07/18/19	07/18/24	performing	
<b>Totals</b>			<b>5,769,911.34</b>	<b>5,693,538.99</b>			<b>42,763.33</b>	<b>4,592,245.35</b>							

**LIST OF COMMITTED EDA FUNDS**  
**August 31, 2021**

Loan #	Company Name	Committed	Commitment Date	Disbursed	Remaining Commitment	1st Disbursement		2nd Disbursement		3rd Disbursement		4th Disbursement		5th Disbursement		6th Disbursement		7th Disbursement	
4045		212,074	7/15/2019	\$ 183,038.00	\$ 29,036.18	7/18/2019	\$ 62,558.60	12/3/2019	\$ 21,499.65	6/2/2020	\$ 21,820.50	9/30/2020	\$ 20,749.50	6/15/2021	\$ 20,254.50	7/16/2021	\$ 20,562.75	8/23/2021	\$ 15,592.50
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$212,074</b>		<b>\$ 183,038.00</b>	<b>\$ 29,035.18</b>														

<b>Cash Available to Lend</b>		
Bank Balance as of	8/31/2021	\$ 822,158.64
Committed Funds		
Unfunded Loan Commitments	\$ 29,035	
Administrative Fees	12,714.46	
Total Committed Funds		\$ 41,749.64
<b>Total Uncommitted Funds</b>		<b>\$ 780,409.00</b>

Kerry L. Ezrol  
kezrol@GorenCherof.com



**GOREN CHEROF**  
**DOODY & EZROL P.A.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

September 3, 2021

**VIA E-MAIL (isabelc@sfrpc.com)**

Isabel Cosio Carballo, MPA, Executive Director  
South Florida Regional Planning Council  
Oakwood business Center  
One Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250  
Hollywood, FL 33320

Re: South Florida Regional Planning Council (“SFRPC”) / Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Dear Ms. Carballo:

Below please find the status of the Revolving Loan Fund cases which have been brought on behalf of the SFRPC. This shall confirm that once a judgment is obtained and recorded, our office has been instructed to take no further action, other than to re-record specified judgments, as requested, in a timely fashion. We have therefore removed all of the “Closed Cases” from this list. In the future, once a judgment is obtained and recorded relative to cases appearing on this list, they will be removed from this list.

**1. SFRPC (SFRPC Account #4018) v. Angela Dawson, P.A. (Our File No. 9940547)**

Complaint filed with the Court on May 7, 2018. Dawson filed a motion to recuse (remove) the judge, so litigation was delayed. Dawson filed an Answer and Counterclaim, which SFRPC moved to strike. Order entered approving our Motion to Strike Dawson’s Affirmative Defenses and our Motion to Dismiss Dawson’s Counterclaim. Dawson’s Amended Counterclaim and Amended Answers and Affirmative Defenses were due on April 26, 2019. Dawson failed to file the pleadings by the deadline, and SFRPC filed a Motion for Summary Judgment. The hearing on the Motion for Summary Judgment was scheduled, and then reset at Dawson’s request for October 23, 2019. A Motion for Judicial Default against Dawson was filed on October 25, 2019.

SFRPC requested an Amended Complaint for foreclosure. A Motion to Amend Complaint was filed and there have been two (2) hearings on the motion. Both times, the court has delayed a ruling on the motions, pending mediation.

A Motion to Strike Defendants First Amended Affirmative Defenses was filed on November 13, 2019. A Motion to Dismiss Dawson’s Counterclaim was filed on December 19, 2019. On June 15, 2020 a hearing was set for the court to hear SFRPC’s Motion for Judicial Default, Motion for Leave to File Amended Complaint, Motion to Strike Defendants’ First Amended Affirmative Defenses and Motion to Dismiss Counterclaim. Dawson filed a new Counterclaim and new Answer and Affirmative Defenses just prior to the hearing, which the court accepted in place of the defective pleadings. SFRPC’s motions were denied due to the court accepting the replacement pleadings. Dawson filed various additional pleadings, including an Affidavit of Excusable Neglect and an Affidavit from Ed McGann. Dawson filed a Request for Production on June 8, 2020, requesting a significant volume of documents which are unrelated to the pending litigation. Objection to the discovery request filed on July 8, 2020.

Isabel Cosio Carballo, Executive Director

Page 2 of 2

September 3, 2021

Litigation of this matter has been extended and complicated by the volume of pleadings filed by Ms. Dawson; each pleading requires a response from SFRPC. Mediation occurred on October 29, 2020 before Judge Lynch. The parties were not able to reach a settlement at mediation. As a follow-up to mediation, on November 3, 2020 and January 27, 2021, SFRPC sent a written settlement offer to Dawson and her attorney; we are awaiting a response. SFRPC followed up again with written settlement offer to Dawson and her attorney on March 8, 2021. Counteroffer received from Dawson and transmitted to SFRPC on March 12, 2021. Per RLF Committee, proceed. Hearing on SFRPC's Motion to Amend the Complaint is set for June 24, 2021. Hearing on SFRPC's Motion to Amend the Complaint was held on September 2, 2021. SFRPC's Motion to Amend Complaint was granted and the Defendants have 20 days to file a response to the Amended Complaint. The proposed order granting the Motion to Amend Complaint has been sent to the Judge for entry.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

*/s/ Kerry L. Ezrol*

Kerry L. Ezrol

KLE:sa

cc: Samuel S. Goren, General Counsel (via e-mail & hard copy)  
Alisha Lopez (via e-mail)  
Steve Foreman (via e-mail)  
Manny Cela (via e-mail)  
Jeffrey Tart (via e-mail)  
Kathe Lerch (via e-mail)



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM # VI.B

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: SFRPC CARES ACT RLF STATUS REPORT

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The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration is partnering with the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) to oversee and administer a new \$5.90 million CARES ACT Business Revolving Loan Fund program that will alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the coronavirus in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties. Designated a U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development District in 1994, the SFRPC welcomes this new program into its lending portfolio as it continues to expand its economic development activities.

The initiative/focus is to initially conduct financial assessments of vital and essential South Florida small businesses to evaluate financial and resiliency capacity with the focus on maintaining ongoing operations. Once assessed, the SFRPC along with its coalition partners will determine an applicable loan program to meet the financial needs of the small business in order to maintain its vital operations. This supplemental financial assistance award will help support critical small business operations for the long-term within industries that are essential in South Florida.

Since the program was launched on August 5, 2020, the SFRPC has received approximately 200 prospects inquiring into the loan program from Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Initial loan program funding is available for up to 2 years or until all loan funds are disbursed. As the program is revolving in nature, after all initial funds are deployed, new businesses will have an opportunity to seek financial support as loan proceeds are repaid from former borrowers.

To date, loan administration has approved twenty (20) new CARES ACT RLF loans totaling \$4,352,000.



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020  
954.924.3653 Phone, 954.924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)



# CARES ACT RLF FUNDING UPDATE

AS OF: 09/01/2021

APPLIED GRANT AWARD: 08/05/2020:	\$5,380,000.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDED:</b>	<b>\$4,352,000.00</b>
<b>AVAILABLE TO LEND:</b>	<b>\$1,028,000.00</b>

Loan #	LOAN AMOUNT	COUNTY	CITY
1	\$25,000.00	Monroe	Key Largo
2	\$30,000.00	Monroe	Islamorada
3	\$500,000.00	Broward	Pompano Beach
4	\$85,000.00	Palm Beach	Palm Springs
5	\$300,000.00	Miami- Dade	Miami
6	\$35,000.00	Broward	Hollywood
7	\$210,000.00	Broward	Miramar
8	\$150,000.00	Monroe	Key West
9	\$500,000.00	Monroe	Key West
10	\$500,000.00	Miami- Dade	Miami Beach
11	\$50,000.00	Broward	Hollywood
12	\$150,000.00	Broward	Davie
13	\$50,000.00	Broward	Lauderhill
14	\$243,000.00	Broward	Sunrise
15	\$394,000.00	Palm Beach	Boca Raton
16	\$300,000.00	Broward	Plantation
17	\$75,000.00	Broward	Fort Lauderdale
18	\$80,000.00	Miami- Dade	Miami
19	\$175,000.00	Palm Beach	West Palm Beach
20	\$500,000.00	Miami- Dade	Miami

**TOTAL FUNDED:** **\$4,352,000.00**

**CARES ACT REVOLVING LOAN FUND  
PAYMENT STATUS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021**

Loan	Company /Borrower	Amount	Disbursed	Pmts	Rate	Pay/Yr	Normal Pay	Last Activity	Last Balance	Paid Thru	Days Late	Last Activity	Next Pay Due	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Board Action
5100		25,000.00	25,000.00	60	3.5000	12	454.79	454.79	20,701.62	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	10/20/20	11/01/25	performing
5101		30,000.00	30,000.00	60	3.5000	12	545.75	545.75	24,841.90	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	10/20/20	11/01/25	performing
5102		500,000.00	500,000.00	60	3.5000	12	1,458.33	1,458.33	500,000.00	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	11/11/20	01/01/31	performing
5104		85,000.00	85,000.00	84	3.5000	12	1,142.39	1,142.39	75,782.13	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	11/24/20	01/01/31	performing
5107		300,000.00	300,000.00	120	3.5000	12	2,966.58	2,966.58	278,382.86	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	11/20/20	11/01/30	performing
5108		35,000.00	35,000.00	60	3.5000	12	636.71	636.71	30,740.71	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	12/22/20	01/01/31	performing
5109		500,000.00	500,000.00	120	3.5000	12	4,944.29	4,944.29	469,493.04	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	01/14/21	01/01/31	performing
5110		150,000.00	150,000.00	120	3.5000	12	1,483.29	1,483.29	141,441.52	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	01/13/21	01/01/31	performing
5111		210,000.00	210,000.00	120	3.5000	12	2,076.60	2,076.60	198,268.27	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	12/31/20	01/01/31	performing
5112		500,000.00	500,000.00	120	3.5000	12	4,944.29	4,944.29	472,166.49	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	12/28/20	01/01/31	performing
5113		50,000.00	50,000.00	60	3.5000	12	909.59	909.59	46,157.63	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	02/25/21	03/01/26	performing
5114		150,000.00	150,000.00	120	3.5000	12	1,483.29	1,483.29	143,826.16	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	02/24/21	02/01/31	performing
5115		50,000.00	50,000.00	60	3.5000	12	909.59	909.59	44,630.37	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	02/02/21	02/01/26	performing
5116		243,000.00	243,000.00	120	3.5000	12	1,737.16	1,737.16	238,700.79	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	05/14/21	04/01/31	performing
5117		394,000.00	394,000.00	240	3.5000	12	2,285.04	2,285.04	389,087.84	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	05/13/21	05/01/31	performing
5118		300,000.00	300,000.00	180	3.5000	12	2,144.65	2,144.65	297,339.99	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	06/15/21	07/01/36	performing
5119		75,000.00	75,000.00	120	3.5000	12	741.64	741.64	74,404.19	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	08/12/21	08/01/31	performing
5120		80,000.00	80,000.00	120	3.5000	12	791.09	791.09	79,387.80	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	08/09/21	08/01/31	performing
5121		175,000.00	175,000.00	120	3.5000	12	1,730.50	1,730.50	173,405.61	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	08/24/21	08/01/31	performing
5122		500,000.00	500,000.00	120	3.5000	12	2,899.80	2,899.80	497,440.48	09/01/21	0	09/01/21	10/01/21	08/25/21	08/01/31	performing
<b>Totals</b>		<b>4,352,000.00</b>	<b>4,352,000.00</b>				<b>36,285.37</b>	<b>36,285.37</b>	<b>4,196,199.40</b>							

**RLF CARES ACT APPLICATION TRACKING REPORT  
PROSPECTS**

NAME OF APPLICANT/BUSINESS	INITIAL DATE	REQUESTED AMOUNT	BUSINESS TYPE	REFERRED BY	COUNTY
	06/01/21	\$150,000	child care	n/a	Miami-Dade
	06/03/21	n/a	hospitality	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/03/21	\$100,000	recycling	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/08/21	\$125,000	mobile home	n/a	Broward
	06/15/21	\$200,000	non profit	n/a	Miami-Dade
	06/17/21	\$250,000	real estate	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/23/21	\$100,000	glass	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/24/21	\$75,000	E-commerce	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/28/21	\$50,000	bakery	survey	Miami-Dade
	06/30/21	\$100,000	propane	n/a	Palm Beach
	06/30/21	\$150,000	printing	n/a	Miami-Dade
	07/23/21	\$75,000	environmental	Stephanie Heidt (TCRPC)	Palm Beach
	07/22/21	\$100,000	environmental	Martin Ayala (AKP)	Miami-Dade
	07/27/21	n/a	engineering	Marie Gill (MDBA)	Broward
	08/10/21	\$300,000	computer	survey	Miami-Dade
	08/13/21	\$150,000	medical	n/a	Broward
	08/13/21	n/a	media	survey	Broward
	08/13/21	n/a	counseling	n/a	Broward
	08/16/21	\$100,000	conventions	survey	Palm Beach
	08/17/21	n/a	furniture	survey	Miami-Dade
	08/20/21	\$250,000	computer	survey	Broward
	08/24/21	n/a	clothing	survey	Miami-Dade

**RLF CARES ACT APPLICATION TRACKING REPORT  
APPLICATIONS**

NAME OF APPLICANT/BUSINESS	INITIAL DATE	REQUESTED AMOUNT	BUSINESS TYPE	REFERRED BY	COUNTY
	06/04/21	\$200,000	medical	n/a	Miami-Dade
	08/13/21	\$150,000	medical	Cindy Fox	Broward
	08/17/21	\$250,000	supermarket	Miami-Dade website	Miami-Dade



Isabel Cosio Carballo, MPA  
Executive Director

South Florida Regional Planning Council  
*Proudly serving South Florida since 1974*  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250 | Hollywood, FL 33020

Mario Bailey, Chair  
SFRPC

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 1, 2021

Contact: Jennie Sullivan  
954.924.3653 | [jsullivan@sfrpc.com](mailto:jsullivan@sfrpc.com)

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS ANNOUNCES  
THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AS 2021 IMPACT AWARDS RECIPIENT**

**HOLLYWOOD, FL** – The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) recently announced [the winners of the 2021 Aliceann Wohlbruck NADO Impact Awards](#). The 2021 class of awardees consists of 102 projects from 70 organizations spanning 24 states. **“Congratulations goes to the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) in recognition of its high-performing CARES ACT Revolving Loan Fund program.”**

The Impact Awards program honors NADO members for their creative approaches to advancing regional economic development and improved quality of life. These projects have made significant impacts on their regions and demonstrate the diversity of services and program delivery provided by regional development organizations across the country.

In July 2020, the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration partnered with the SFRPC to oversee and administer a new \$5.9 million [CARES ACT Business Revolving Loan Fund program](#) that would alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the coronavirus in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. Designated a U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development District in 1994, the SFRPC welcomed this new program into its lending portfolio, and continues to expand its economic development activities.

To date, the SFRPC has lent more than \$4 million to COVID impacted businesses in South Florida.

*“COVID 19 has challenged and impacted small businesses in South Florida through no fault of their own. But through the steadfast dedication of the South Florida Regional Planning Council’s CARES ACT Revolving Loan Fund Loan Administration Team including Loan Officer Jeff Tart and RLF Fund Administrator Steve Foreman, financial and application assistance provided by the program is restoring the long-term sustainability of local businesses throughout Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties. I would like to thank Executive Director Isabel Cosio Carballo and the CARES RLF Board for their leadership and assistance. Thank you NADO for acknowledging our high performing CARES ACT RLF program.”*

*~ Mario J. Bailey, Chair, SFRPC*

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.sfrpc.org](http://www.sfrpc.org). Stay informed and subscribe to our highlights!**

###

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# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.D

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: SOUTH FLORIDA COVID REPORT WITH TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (TBRPC)

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Through its membership in the South Florida Economic Forecasting Partnership, the SFRPC supports local authorities in making economic development investment decisions by providing consistent assessments of the magnitude and characteristics of the economic benefits related to those decisions. Through a work program in partnership with the TBRPC and its Regional Economic Analysis Program, the SFRPC produced a COVID-19 economic impact assessment in Florida and the South Florida Area in May 2021.

## Key findings:

- Since March 2020, economic shutdowns from Covid-19 caused the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) to contract by 9.5% (a -33% annualized rate of change)
- Jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties decreased by more than 394,000 (-16%) during the peak of the Covid-19 crisis from Q3 – Q4 2020.
- Many of the individuals unemployed during the Covid-19 shutdown are returning to work. Over 147,000 jobs (7%) returned from Q1 2020 – Q3 2021.
- In April 2020, average workplace trips decreased by 46%. In April 2021, average workplace trips decreased by 24%. Trips to workplaces and recreation and retail places remained less than the average but are becoming more modest.
- The South Florida region experienced a \$10 billion (-36%) decrease in sales in Q4 2020. After the initial sales decrease in Q4 2020, all counties' retail sales increased by \$5.2 billion (30%) from Q4 to Q2 2020 when businesses opened after prolonged shutdowns.
  - Consumer spending most impacted in Miami-Dade County
- A decrease in taxable sales of 13% in 2020, although it has increased each quarter since shutdowns first occurred
- Total personal income increased despite widespread job loss
- Economic Advisory Boards predict a general economic recovery by the end of 2021



A table with summary economic indicators for the South Florida region and Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties can be found below.

Year	Category	Total Employment	Labor Force	Gross Domestic Product	Personal Income
2020 (Actual)	Broward	-8%	-1%	-5%	3%
	Miami-Dade	-8%	-1%	-5%	3%
	Monroe	-15%	-4%	-12%	-4%
	Region	-80%	-1%	-5%	3%
2021 (Forecasted)	Broward	-6%	-1%	-3%	2%
	Miami-Dade	-1%	-1%	-2%	3%
	Monroe	-13%	-6%	-12%	-6%
	Region	-6%	-1%	-3%	2%

Recommendation

For information only.

## *The COVID-19 Pandemic in Florida and the South Florida Area Economic Impact Assessment, May 2021*

### **About South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC)**

SFRPC, formed in 1974, created a consistent geographic framework for Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties within which planning and technical assistance activities could be developed and implemented. The South Florida Economic Forecasting Partnership (The Partnership) offers technical assistance to communities and organizations to predict how policy decisions or economic events can impact the economy at the county, region, and state level.

Economic impact analysis supports local authorities in making economic development investment decisions by providing consistent assessments of the magnitude and characteristics of the economic benefits related to those decisions. The Partnership was formed in 2003 and continues today with the participation of the South Florida Regional Planning Council.

### **About Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)**

TBRPC supports local government initiatives and projects with planning services and economic analysis throughout Florida.

TBRPC provides economic analysis services through Tampa Bay Economic Development District and the Regional Economic Analysis Program. TBRPC uses state-of-the-art computable general equilibrium and input-output models to assist its partner agencies in assessing the impacts of potential job-creating projects and investments, as well as the economic analysis of environmental and public policy issues.

### **Executive Summary**

Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) is a novel infectious respiratory disease that spreads quickly from person to person and has infected more than 2.2 million people and caused more than 35,000 deaths in Florida as of April 29, 2021. Because of the number of Covid-19 cases and deaths in the state, Florida has vaccinated over 8.7 million people as of April 25, 2021. The United States and Florida have enforced social distancing and economic shutdowns to stop the spread of the disease. Since March 2020, economic shutdowns from Covid-19 caused the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) to contract by 9.5% (a -33% annualized rate of change).

Shutdowns from Covid-19 have had a severe impact on employment in Florida. Jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties decreased by more than 394,000 (-16%) during the peak of the Covid-19 crisis from Q3 – Q4 2020. However, many of the individuals unemployed during the Covid-19 shutdown are returning to work. Over 147,000 jobs (7%) have returned from Q1 2020 – Q3 2021.

Social distancing and employment changes also have a major impact on mobility. In April 2020, average workplace trips decreased by 46%. In April 2021, average workplace trips decreased by 24%. Trips to workplaces and recreation and retail places were still less than the average but becoming more modest.

The job loss during Covid-19 caused decreases in consumer spending throughout Florida, especially Miami-Dade County, where there was a \$6 billion (-39%) decrease in sales in Q4 2020. After the initial sales decrease in Q4 2020, all counties' retail sales increased by \$5.2 billion (30%) from Q4 to Q2 2020 when businesses opened after prolonged shutdowns. South Florida businesses generated over \$88 billion in total taxable sales at the end of 2020. Comparing the total taxable sales in 2020 to the corresponding total taxable sales in 2019 shows a decrease

of \$13 billion (-13%) in 2020. Accordingly, even though the increase in sales from Q4-Q2 was not enough to offset the stall in sales in Q4, a general trend of increased spending is beneficial for the region.

Recovery forecasts have become more optimistic in recent months. The Conference Board's Upside Forecast projects that U.S. unemployment and gross domestic product (GDP) will recover by the end of 2021 because of vaccinations, re-openings, and the CARES Act III aid. The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco expects gross domestic product (GDP) to increase by 6.6% in 2021.<sup>1</sup>

TBRPC analyzed the direct and indirect impacts caused by jobs lost from Covid-19 and projects the future recovery of those jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. TBRPC used the REMI (Regional Economic Models, Inc) PI+ model to project South Florida counties' future economic recovery based on jobs lost and gained in 2020 and 2021 compared to a pre-covid-19 forecast control. This scenario indicates that Covid-19 reduced total employment by 200,000 (-7%) jobs in 2020, which decreased gross domestic product (GDP) by about \$4 billion (-2%). Since vaccinations and reopening will continue to happen throughout 2021, South Florida counties will recover about 112,000 jobs (4%) in 2021, which are estimated to increase the region's gross domestic product (GDP) by \$19 billion (7%) in 2021. Although the South Florida economy is recovering, Covid-19 slowed the growth of the region. When comparing the March RSQE forecast to the Pre-Covid-19 forecast, South Florida job levels in 2020 are about 300,000 jobs (-8%) less than what is estimated if Covid-19 never happened, which results in the GDP being \$15 billion (-5%) less in 2020 than was expected before the pandemic. The compounded impacts seen in 2020 will continue into 2021.

### About Covid-19

Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) is a novel, highly contagious respiratory disease. Covid-19 symptoms include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and loss of taste or smell, and symptoms can range from being very mild to potentially deadly. Older adults and people with severe underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for developing more serious complications from Covid-19.

Covid-19 has infected more than 32 million people and killed more than 571,000 people in the U.S.<sup>2</sup> According to the Florida Department of Health, more than 2.2 million people have been diagnosed with Covid-19 in Florida. The disease has caused over 35,000 deaths as of April 29, 2021<sup>3</sup>. Vaccinations are a critical resource for preventing the further spread of Covid-19 and allowing Floridians to return to their regular pace of life. According to the Florida Department of Health, 8.7 million people have received vaccinations in Florida as of April 25, 2021.<sup>4</sup>

U.S. health officials encouraged social distancing beginning in early March 2020 to stem the spread of the virus, and large segments of the economy shut down or shifted to remote operation.<sup>5</sup> Social distancing will drive impacts to consumer spending and business productivity as well as supply chain disruptions. Shutdowns caused sharp declines in travel, retail sales, medical appointments, and many other activities and increases in layoffs. This halt in travel and consumption and the increase in unemployment have generated indirect impacts on the service economy and severe fiscal impacts on state and local governments.

Pandemic-related Impacts on the U.S. economy broke historical records earlier last year. In Q4 of 2020, the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) contracted by 9.5% (a -33% annualized rate of change), and the unemployment

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/fedviews/2021/april/april-8-2021/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>

<sup>3</sup> <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/#latest-stats>

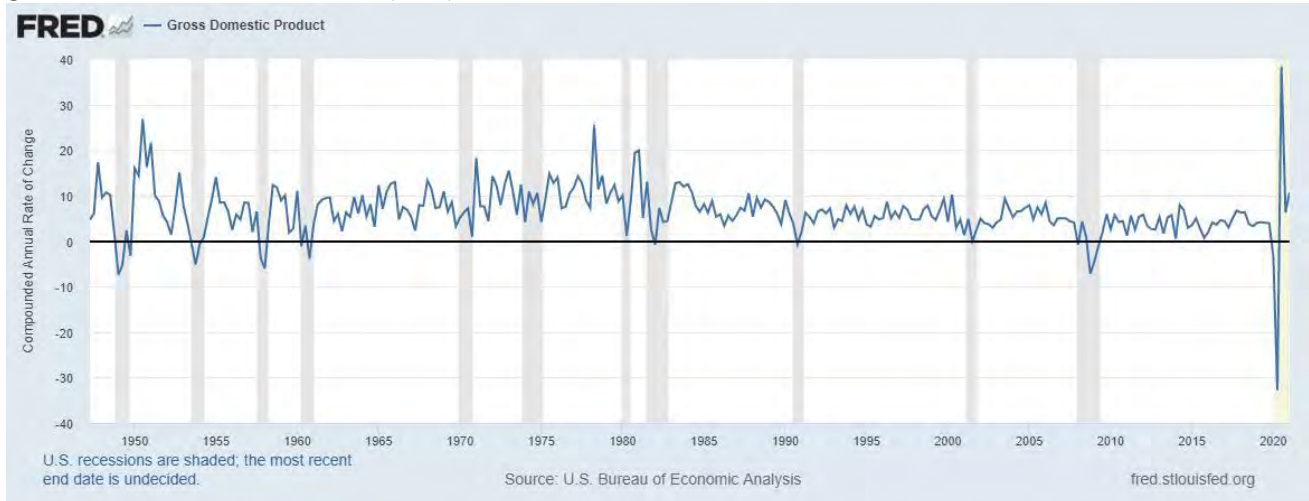
<sup>4</sup> <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/vaccines/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.healthaffairs.org/>



rate increased to 14.8% (a 10.4% increase). Since the initial peak of the Covid-19 crisis, the gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 8.5% (a 38% annualized rate of change) in Q1 2020. The unemployment rate decreased to 6% (a -0.2% decrease) in March 2021. Although the unemployment rate continues to trend down, it is still 2.5 percentage points higher than its pre-pandemic level in February 2020.<sup>6</sup>

**Figure 1: Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (FRED), 1947-2021. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/GDP>

The Conference Board released the U.S. Economic Outlook with three forecasts for the U.S. economy on March 10, 2021. In the Upside Forecast, the Conference Board projects that employment rebounds through consumption and U.S. monthly economic output returns to pre-pandemic levels in April 2021<sup>7</sup>. Similarly, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (FRBSF) expects a year-to-year gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 6.6% in 2021 and the U.S. to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2022 and 2023<sup>8</sup>. The Conference Board and FRBSF add that the increase in job growth further supports the economic recovery claims and will further compound the recovery in employment and gross domestic product (GDP).

South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) requested that Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) prepare an analysis of Covid-19's economic impacts and the future recovery for Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties with updates as the situation develops. This report discusses pandemic impacts on South Florida employment and consumer spending, a summary of the current situation, and a look at the near future.

### Job Changes Due to Covid-19

In Florida, Covid-19 had a severe impact on employment in Q3 and Q4 2020. Using Q3 2020 U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics data, jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties decreased by more than 394,000 (-16%) during the peak of the Covid-19 crisis from Q3 – Q4 2020. However, many of the individuals unemployed during the Covid-19 shutdown are returning to work. 147,000 jobs (7%) have returned from Q1 2020 – Q3 2021.<sup>9</sup> Table 1 summarizes the change in the number of jobs from January 2020 through March 2021 by quarter and county.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://conference-board.org/research/us-forecast>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/fedviews/2021/april/april-8-2021/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/lau/#tables>

**Table 1: Change in Jobs by Quarter and County**

County	Q3-20		Q4-20		Q1-20		Q2-20		Q3-21		Total Job Change	
Broward	-20,172	-2%	-115,339	-12%	56,681	7%	5,267	1%	28,388	3%	-43,176	-4%
Miami-Dade	-114,215	-8%	-139,690	-12%	92,784	8%	-22,416	-2%	-17,745	-1%	-201,282	-15%
Monroe	-16	-0.03%	-4,189	-9%	2,332	5%	2,685	6%	-2,737	-6%	-1,925	-4%
Total	-134,404	-6%	-259,218	-11%	153,797	8%	-14,462	-1%	7,906	0.4%	-246,383	-10%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020-2021. <https://www.bls.gov/lau/#tables>

As seen in Table 1, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties still have about 246,000 fewer jobs (10% less than before Covid-19) at the end of Q3 2021 than before the Covid-19 economic shutdown in Q3 2020. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data indicates that many people have returned to work and will continue to return to work through 2021. Changes in employment cause changes in mobility and consumption. For example, as businesses hire employees back, more people will travel to work and have disposable income to spend. When people start spending more money, businesses compound the recovery in employment by hiring more employees to account for increased demand for services and goods as consumption increases.

#### Mobility as an Indicator of the Economy After Covid-19

Social distancing, a mostly voluntary minimization of contact between members of the public to stem the infection rate of the disease, was encouraged across the country in March 2020. Social distancing caused an unprecedented shift in mobility, with significant reductions in the use of transit stations, trips to retail, recreation, workplaces, and to see family and friends. Using cell phone location history data collected by Google Maps and made publicly available by Google, Table 2 summarizes the percent change in trips to location types in April 2020 and 2021.<sup>10</sup>

**Table 2: Google Mobility Change by Percentage for April 2020 & 2021 in the U.S., Florida, & SFRPC Counties**

Category	Year	Nation	State	Counties		
		United States	Florida	Broward	Miami-Dade	Monroe
Retail & Recreation	2020	-41%	-45%	-48%	-51%	-69%
	2021	-8%	-10%	-17%	-16%	-13%
Grocery & Pharmacy	2020	-14%	-22%	-24%	-28%	-44%
	2021	-2%	-4%	-11%	-8%	-8%
Parks	2020	-13%	-50%	-58%	-71%	-73%
	2021	22%	-10%	-20%	-35%	-18%
Transit Stations	2020	-50%	-58%	-68%	-65%	-70%
	2021	-25%	-22%	-33%	-33%	-8%
Workplaces	2020	-47%	-46%	-49%	-49%	-49%
	2021	-26%	-24%	-28%	-26%	-17%
Residential	2020	18%	18%	8%	24%	18%
	2021	6%	5%	23%	7%	2%

Source: Google Mobility, 2020-2021. <https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>

In 2020, three of the most notable mobility changes were visits to workplaces, retail and recreation, and residential locations in Florida. In April 2020, the average workplace mobility decreased 46%, and the average retail and recreation mobility decreased 45%. The average mobility to residential locations increased 18% in 2020. In April 2021, Florida has seen increased employment and loosening social distancing restrictions, but there are still notable mobility changes. Average workplace mobility decreased 24%, and average retail and recreation mobility decreased 10%. Average mobility in residential locations increased 5%. Although there are still decreases in mobility across many categories of places in Florida, decreases in mobility are becoming more and more modest.

### Changes to Taxable Sales Due to Covid-19

The jobs lost from Covid-19 and the decreases in mobility to retail and recreation, among other places, caused a shift in sales patterns in South Florida. From Q3 – Q4 2020, there was a sharp decline in consumption across all categories aside from home utilities, such as plumbing, electrical, and air-conditioning services. However, since Q1 2020, spending has increased across all counties. Decreasing unemployment throughout the counties is causing this increase in consumption because as more people return to work, more people have disposable income to spend.

Table 3 indicates the Florida Department of Revenue 2019 and 2020 taxable sales numbers for Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties by quarter. Table 4 shows the change in taxable sales numbers by quarter in each county over 2020.

**Table 3: 2020/2019 South Florida Taxable Sales in Millions of Dollars**

County	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Total in 2020	Total in 2019	Difference in Sales from 2019 to 2020	
Broward	\$10,775	\$7,405	\$8,729	\$9,345	\$36,259	\$40,093	-\$3,834	-10%
Miami-Dade	\$15,348	\$9,329	\$11,079	\$12,317	\$48,074	\$56,331	-\$8,257	-15%
Monroe	\$1,104	\$526	\$852	\$770	\$3,251	\$3,831	-\$580	-15%
Total	\$27,228	\$17,260	\$20,659	\$22,432	\$87,580	\$100,255	-\$12,676	-13%

Source: Florida Department of Revenue, 2020. [https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales\\_tax.aspx](https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales_tax.aspx).

\*Currency figures in current \$

**Table 4: South Florida Changes in Taxable Sales by quarter in 2020 in Millions of Dollars**

County	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Total Change in Sales in 2020					
Broward	\$1,153	11%	-\$3,370	-31%	\$1,323	18%	\$616	7%	-\$278	-3%
Miami-Dade	\$1,789	12%	-\$6,019	-39%	\$1,750	19%	\$1,238	11%	-\$3,031	-20%
Monroe	\$348	32%	-\$578	-52%	\$326	62%	-\$82	-10%	-\$335	-30%
Total	\$3,290	14%	-\$9,968	-36%	\$3,399	16%	\$1,772	9%	-\$4,796	-18%

Source: Florida Department of Revenue, 2020. [https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales\\_tax.aspx](https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales_tax.aspx).

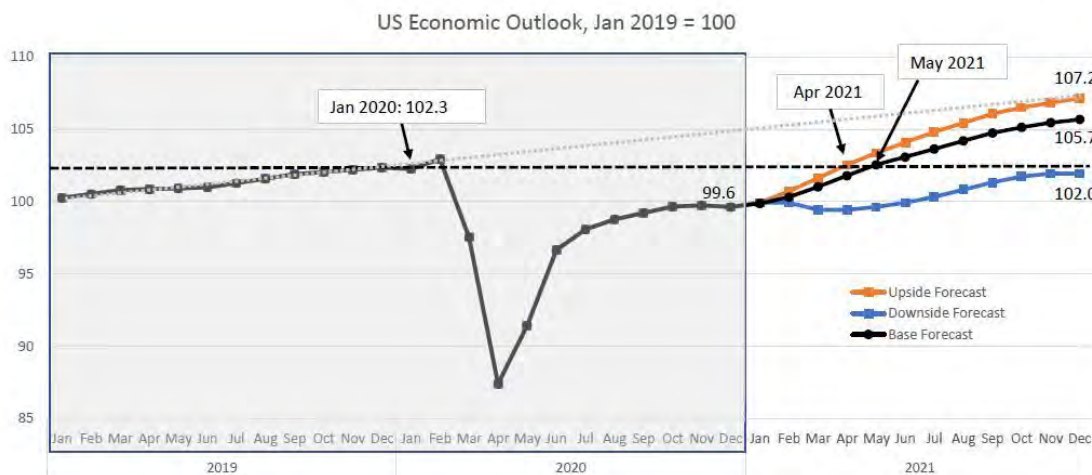
\*Currency figures in current \$

The data shows that taxable sales numbers decreased from Q3 to Q4 2020 in all counties, especially Miami-Dade County, where there was over a \$6 billion (-39%) decrease in sales in Q4 2020.<sup>11</sup> After the initial sales decrease in Q4 2020, all counties' retail sales increased by \$5.2 billion (30%) from Q4 to Q2 2021. The total taxable sales for South Florida were over \$88 billion at the end of 2020. Comparing the total taxable sales in 2020 to the corresponding total taxable sales in 2019 shows a decrease of \$13 Billion (-13%) in 2020. Accordingly, even though the increase in sales from Q4-Q2 was not enough to offset the stall in sales in Q4, a general trend of increased spending is beneficial for the region. As people are spending, they are generating activity that is likely to encourage job growth, which will ease the unemployment gap created by Covid-19 and further compound the consumption benefits as those that gained jobs now consume more. Therefore, TBRPC anticipates that the increase in employment and spending, seen at the end of 2020, will continue through 2021.

### Timing of a Recovery in the U.S.

The Conference Board released a U.S. Economic Outlook with three forecasts for the U.S. economy on March 10, 2021. In the Upside Forecast, the Conference Board projects that employment will rebound through consumption, and the U.S. monthly economic output will return to pre-pandemic levels in April 2021.<sup>12</sup> This forecast assumes that Covid-19 cases will decrease and that social distancing restrictions will be eliminated in the first quarter of 2021. The Conference Board forecast also assumes that vaccinations will be widely available by early 2021 and universally available by early 2022. Figure 2 shows the U.S. Economic Outlook with the three forecast scenarios. The upside scenario described above is the orange, extended line. TBRPC will analyze the direct and indirect job loss using an employment change scenario like the upside scenario.

**Figure 2: The Conference Board U.S. Economic Outlook**



Source: *The Conference Board Base Case Economic Outlook, 2019-2020-2021*. <https://conference-board.org/research/us-forecast>

### REMI Analysis of Employment Change

TBRPC analyzed the direct and indirect job loss impacts from Covid-19 and projected the future recovery of jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties using the REMI Model. TBRPC used a Pre-Covid-19 baseline forecast as a control. The Pre-Covid-19 Baseline is not an official REMI forecast but could be used as a reasonable

<sup>11</sup>[https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales\\_tax.aspx](https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales_tax.aspx)

<sup>12</sup><https://conference-board.org/research/us-forecast>

baseline, assuming COVID-19 never happened. To account for Covid-19, TBRPC used the March RSQE updated national forecast. The March RSQE Forecast is based on the 2019-2020 historical data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis released on January 28, 2021, The U.S. Economic Outlook for 2020-2022 from the University of Michigan's Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics (RSQE) released on February 19, 2021, and The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2021 to 2031 from CBO released in January and February 2021.

The March RSQE Update represents the economic impacts across the nation caused by Covid-19 and the forecasted recovery. This scenario indicates that Covid-19 reduced 208,875 jobs (-7%) in South Florida in 2020, which decreased gross domestic product (GDP) by about \$4 billion (-2%). Since vaccinations and reopening continue to happen throughout 2021, South Florida counties will recover 112,395 jobs (4%) in 2021, which are estimated to increase the region's gross domestic product (GDP) by \$19 billion (7%) in 2021. Although the South Florida economy is recovering, Covid-19 stunted the growth of the region.

Tables 5 and 6 present the differences between the March RSQE forecasted results and the Pre-Covid-19 forecasted results. In other words, the differences show how much Covid-19 slowed economic growth. Covid-19 reduced total employment by 262,581 (-8%) less in 2020 than was expected before Covid-19, which resulted in the gross domestic product (GDP) being \$15 billion (-5%) below the forecasted gross domestic product (GDP) before Covid-19.

Job loss has a compounded impact on the economy because as individuals lose jobs, individuals lose income and cannot consume and contribute to gross domestic product (GDP). When individuals no longer have the income to spend, demand for goods decreases, and more jobs are lost. Although South Florida's counties will recover 112,395 jobs (4%) in 2021, the REMI Model estimated that total employment is still 194,579 jobs (-6%) below what employment levels were supposed to reach before the pandemic. The compounded impacts seen in 2020 will cause South Florida gross domestic product (GDP) to be 9 billion (-3%) less in 2021 than was expected before Covid-19.

**Table 5: Summary of Employment Loss in 2020 (REMI)**

Category	Units	Counties							
		Broward		Miami-Dade		Monroe		Total	
Total Employment*	Individual (Jobs)	-102,928	-8%	-150,530	-8%	-9,123	-15%	-262,581	-8%
Labor Force*	Individual (Jobs)	-8,310	-1%	-13,413	-1%	-1,726	-4%	-23,449	-1%
Gross Domestic Product	Millions of Current Dollars	-\$5,666	-5%	-\$8,574	-5%	-\$702	-12%	-\$14,922	-5%
Personal Income	Millions of Current Dollars	\$2,892	3%	\$4,990	3%	-\$310	-4%	\$7,573	3%

Source: TBRPC REMI PI+ (2021) \*Currency Figures in current \$

**Table 6: Summary of Employment Recovery in 2021 (REMI)**

Category	Units	Counties							
		Broward		Miami-Dade		Monroe		Total	
Total Employment	Individual (Jobs)	-79,330	-6%	-106,825	-0.1%	-8,424	-13%	-194,579	-6%
Labor Force*	Individual (Jobs)	-10,978	-1%	-16,780	-1%	-2,492	-6%	-30249	-1%
Gross Domestic Product	Millions of Current Dollars	-\$3,584	-3%	-\$4,629	-2%	-\$703	-12%	-\$8904	-3%
Personal Income	Millions of Current Dollars	\$1,789	2%	\$4,749	3%	-\$419	-6%	\$6,118	2%

Source: TBRPC REMI PI+ (2020) \*Currency Figures in current \$

\*The number of people in the labor force, i.e., employed or seeking work; calculated with participation rates by age cohort. Other Definitions found in Appendix.

### Summary and Conclusions

As residents receive Covid-19 vaccinations across Florida and pandemic restrictions are loosened, a recovery in both jobs and sales in the South Florida counties is apparent. With increased employment, persons will now have a disposable income, and consumption will increase throughout the region. The compounded economic impacts from increased employment and consumption will further help Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties recover through 2021. TBRPC staff will be awaiting future data to watch for trends as they develop.

### Appendix: About REMI PI+

REMI PI+ is an economic modeling tool that supports economic and demographic analysis of many different policy issues. In this case, TBRPC used REMI PI+ to analyze how COVID-19 impacts the Tampa Bay Area and Florida economies. The REMI model builds upon decades of research and various data sources, econometric models, and an input-output model that tracks the flow of spending through the economy from consumer or producer spending to all other sectors of the economy.

### REMI PI+ Model Structure

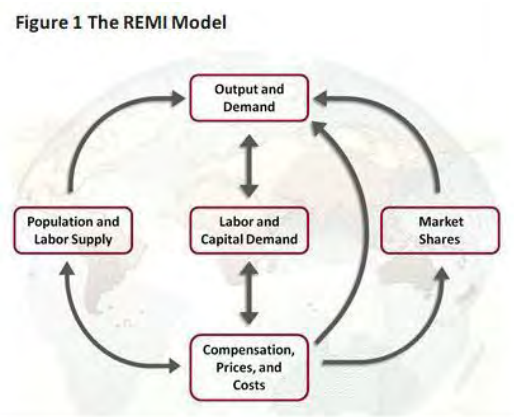


Figure 1 depicts the interactions within the REMI model among five economic “blocks.” Imagine a factory (the Output block) that sells to all the sectors of final demand as well as to other industries. The Labor and Capital Demand block shows how labor and capital requirements depend both on output and their relative costs. Population and Labor Supply are shown as contributing to demand and to wage determination in the product and labor market. The feedback from this market shows that economic migrants respond to labor market conditions.



Demand and supply interact in the Wage, Price and Profit block. Once prices and profits are established, they determine market shares, which along with components of demand, determine output.

The REMI model brings together all the above elements to determine the value of each of the variables in the model for each year in the baseline forecasts. The model includes all the inter-industry relationships that are in an input-output model in the Output block but goes well beyond the input-output model by including the relationships in all the other blocks shown in figure 5.4.

In order to broaden the model beyond the standard Input-Output methodology, it was necessary to estimate key relationships. This was accomplished by using extensive data sets covering all areas in the country. These large data sets and decades of research effort have enabled REMI to simultaneously maintain a theoretically sound model structure and build a model based on all the relevant data available.

The model has strong dynamic properties, which means that it forecasts not only what will happen but when it will happen. This results in long-term predictions that have general equilibrium properties, which means that the long-term properties of general equilibrium models are preserved without sacrificing the accuracy of event timing predictions and without simply taking elasticity estimates from secondary sources.

### **Glossary**

Employment - estimates of the number of jobs, full-time plus part-time, by place of work for all industries. Full-time and part-time jobs are counted at equal weight. Employees, sole proprietors, and active partners are included, but unpaid family workers and volunteers are not included.

Total Labor force- The number of people in the labor force, i.e., employed or seeking work; calculated with participation rates by age cohort.

Personal Income - Income received by persons from all sources. It includes income received from participation in production as well as from government and business transfer payments

Gross Domestic Product - The market value of goods and services produced by labor and property in the United States, regardless of nationality.

Taxable sales number - Total revenue divided by one plus your local sales tax amount.

Prepared by Jamie Neville, Florida Statewide Economic Analyst, on 5/24/21 using REMI PI+, V2.3 Press Contact:  
Wren Krahl, wren@tbrpc.org, 727-570-5151 x 22



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.E

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: AUDIT FIRM SELECTION PROCESS UPDATE

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Council staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Audit Services on July 23, 2021. The RFP was noticed on the Council website, FAR, and Miami Herald. The RFP response period closed on August 27, 2021, at 5 PM.

There were three respondents to the RFP:

1. Anthony Brunson P.A.
2. HCT Certified Public Accountants & Consultants, LLC
3. S. Davis & Associates

The Audit Committee met on September 8, 2021, at 2 pm. In attendance was Chair Bailey, Councilmember Coldiron, Councilmember Furr, Councilmember Udine, and Councilmember Ziade, Legal Counsel, and Council staff. The meeting was attended by the principals of the firms. After reviewing, evaluating, and questioning/interviewing the three firms, the Audit Committee completed the Evaluation Sheets and ranked the three firms as follows below.

1. S. Davis & Associates
2. Anthony Brunson P.A.
3. HCT Certified Public Accountants & Consultants, LLC

The Audit Committee directed Council Staff to meet with the highest ranked firm to negotiate a contract, if possible, for the Council's consideration at its September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Recommendation

Information Only



South Florida Regional Council  
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021  
954.985.4416 Phone, 954.985-4417 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)





# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM # VI.F

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 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.

## SEPTEMBER 2021

### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND ALLOCATION, COVID PLANNING, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FOR SOUTH FLORIDA

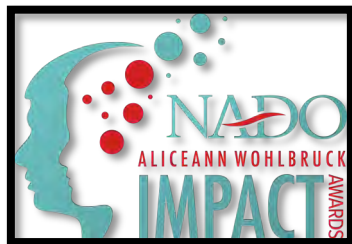
As COVID-19 spread around the world and in our region, the outbreak has had extensive effects on people and businesses. There has been an urgent need to understand who has been affected, how they have been affected, and how local and regional governmental entities can help coordinate resources to provide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

The Council had a successful event where the Mayors shared their American Rescue Plan funding allocations, problems, and issues encountered due to COVID. [[PowerPoint Presentation](#) or [Recorded Webinar](#)]



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

### SFRPC RECEIVES THE 2021 NADO IMPACT AWARDS



The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) recently announced [the winners of the 2021 Aliceann Wohlbruck NADO Impact Awards](#). The 2021 class of awardees consists of 102 projects from 70 organizations spanning 24 states.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) is proud to be a recipient of this award and thanks NADO for their recognition of the Council's CARES ACT Revolving Loan Fund Program.

The Impact Awards program honors NADO members for their creative approaches to advancing regional economic development and improved quality of life. These projects have made significant impacts on their regions and demonstrate the diversity of services and program delivery provided by regional development organizations across the country. [[READ MORE](#)]

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

## SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

On Thursday, May 27, 2021, the South Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) collaborated with regional emergency response agencies to develop the Committee's annual response exercise. The functional exercise, centered around a radiological event, included participants from the Hazardous Materials/Special Operations units of multiple fire departments in Broward and Miami-Dade counties.



The scenario of the exercise consisted of a multi-agency response to suspicious packages at six locations across two counties. The LEPC is very appreciative of the Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Radiation Control for providing "hot" radioactive samples at each of the exercise locations. This amplified the realistic theme of the exercise. Participants were excited to pivot back into special operations training after a long and continuing response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It's important to remember that emergencies relating to hazardous materials can happen at any time and are even more likely to occur during another disaster, such as a pandemic. Exercises are a great way to keep South Florida's responders' skills sharp for a real-world emergency.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council is proud to manage this program that is so crucial to South Florida's hazardous materials emergency response community.

*For additional information, please contact: Jason McMahon, South Florida LEPC Coordinator at [jcmahon@sfrpc.com](mailto:jcmahon@sfrpc.com).*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

### American Rescue Plan Act (APRA)

SFRPC staff met with the TCRPC, Economic Development Organizations, business incubators, and local government economic developers to discuss ARPA economic development funding opportunities to align regional priorities and achieve maximum return on investment for ARPA grants applications.

An ongoing process of aligning regional project ideas is intended to culminate into a proposal for a large regional application (\$20-\$75 million) under the *Build Back Better* ARPA program for innovative and high wage job creation in line with South Florida's competitive advantages, unique challenges, institutional systems, and EDA's investment priorities. The application process for the program includes an October 19, 2021 deadline for a Phase I proposal for research and planning, and a March, 2022 deadline for Phase II (implementation). The Phase II funds must be expended by September 2027.

### Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

As part of the Council's responsibility to maintain the region's CEDS document, Council staff coordinated with Senator & Broward County Mayor Geller, Chair of the CEDS Committee, to invite key leaders from around the region to participate as [members of the CEDS Strategy Committee](#). The first CEDS Committee Meeting was held on September 13, 2021 and fully attended. [Meeting Materials](#) are available on the Council's website. The 2022-2027 CEDS document is to be submitted to EDA by September 2022. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



Additionally, staff prepared the second quarterly progress report for CEDS 2021-2023 Partnership Planning Grant; and met with Economic Development Representatives 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.

### **South Florida Region COVID-19 Economic Impact Analysis Report**

Through its membership in the South Florida Economic Forecasting Partnership, the SFRPC supports local authorities in making economic development investment decisions by providing consistent assessments of the magnitude and characteristics of the economic benefits related to those decisions. Through a work program in partnership with the TBRPC and its Regional Economic Analysis Program, the SFRPC produced a COVID-19 economic impact assessment in Florida and the South Florida Area in May 2021. The project will conclude March 2022. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

Key findings:

- Since March 2020, economic shutdowns from Covid-19 caused the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) to contract by 9.5% (a -33% annualized rate of change)
- Jobs in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties decreased by more than 394,000 (-16%) during the peak of the Covid-19 crisis from Q3 – Q4 2020.
- Many of the individuals unemployed during the Covid-19 shutdown are returning to work. Over 147,000 jobs (7%) returned from Q1 2020 – Q3 2021.
- In April 2020, average workplace trips decreased by 46%. In April 2021, average workplace trips decreased by 24%. Trips to workplaces and recreation and retail places remained less than the average but are becoming more modest.
- The South Florida region experienced a \$10 billion (-36%) decrease in sales in Q4 2020. After the initial sales decrease in Q4 2020, all counties' retail sales increased by \$5.2 billion (30%) from Q4 to Q2 2020 when businesses opened after prolonged shutdowns.
  - Consumer spending most impacted in Miami-Dade County
- A decrease in taxable sales of 13% in 2020, although it has increased each quarter since shutdowns first occurred
- Total personal income increased despite widespread job loss
- Economic Advisory Boards predict a general economic recovery by the end of 2021

### **Florida Statewide Evacuation Study Program**

The project was completed in June 2021, and Council staff continues to provide basic on-call coordination between the Florida Department of Emergency Management and Local Emergency Managers to distribute the report and evacuation clearance time findings, and answer questions as necessary to ensure timely and proper application of the new data.

### **Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization's COVID-19 Travel Behavior Trend Analysis**

Council staff submitted an updated draft report representing the final analysis of relevant literature, travel data, phases for the analysis (per County Executive Orders related to travel and business restrictions with new additions consisting of findings), final conclusions, and recommendations. 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).*

## GIS SUPPORT FOR SFRTA'S TRI-RAIL UBER/TAXI PILOT PROGRAM

During July and August of 2021, the SFRPC provided GIS analysis assistance to the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA). The SFRTA had recently 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. Thus, the scope of the work involved generating a series of maps in ArcGIS to evaluate the distribution, frequency, and accumulation of the number of rides taken in the designated Tri-Rail service areas where the Uber/Taxi service is available. The results will be used for future planning of this type of service.

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

## STORMWATER & WASTEWATER – 20 YEAR NEEDS ANALYSES

Section 403.9301 and 403.9302, Florida Statutes, (see Chapter 2021-194, Laws of Florida), direct municipalities, counties, and independent special districts that provide a stormwater management system or programs, or waste water management services, to develop a 20-year needs analysis every five years. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



*For additional information, please contact: Bridget Huston, Environmental & Community Resilience Regional Planner at [bhuston@sfrpc.com](mailto:bhuston@sfrpc.com).*

## SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLEAN CITIES COALITION

**EV CAR SHOW**  
DANIA POINTE | SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 2, 2021 | 10AM - 1PM

**Free Admission!**  
Meet local EV owners  
and dealers to see  
what driving green  
is all about!

For more information,  
please email  
[alopez@sfrpc.com](mailto:alopez@sfrpc.com)

139 S. Compass Way  
Dania Beach, FL 33004

On Saturday, October 2, 2021, the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition (SEFLCCC) will be hosting an Electric Vehicle (EV) Car Show at Dania Pointe. Come meet local EV owners to see what driving green in all about.

Additionally, our SEFLCCC Coordinator, Alisha Lopez will be joining the Energy Panel and speaking at the [Florida Resiliency Conference](#) on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

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



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.G

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: STAFF  
SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEMBER INQUIRIES

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## TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN THE REGION

At the July 26<sup>th</sup> South Florida Regional Planning Council meeting, Councilmembers Furr and Geller inquired as to the status of specific transportation planning projects in the region. Councilmember Furr inquired as to the status of train stations along the FEC tracks and Councilmember Geller inquired as to the status of the tunnel project at Las Olas. The most recent information on these projects is as follows.

### **Train Stations – Florida East Coast (FEC) Corridor**

The most recent developments regarding new potential stations along the FEC tracks was presented at a public hearing of the Broward Commuter Rail study being conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation, District Four. The potential train stations being considered in Broward County for a commuter rail are:

- Deerfield Beach Station
- Pompano Beach Station
- Oakland Park / Wilton Manors Station
- Downtown Fort Lauderdale Station
- Fort Lauderdale Airport Station
- Hollywood / Hallandale Beach Station

For the New River crossing, four alternatives are being considered for the feasibility study (anticipated costs provided):

- Low Level Bascule Bridge: \$250 —\$375 Million
- Mid-Level Bascule Bridge: \$460 —\$690 Million
- High Level Fixed Bridge: \$470 —\$700 Million
- Tunnel: \$2.5 —\$3.8 Billion



**Attachment A: Presentation from Broward Commuter Rail Public Workshop, August 30- 31, 2021 and September 1, 2021**

**Tunnels – City of Fort Lauderdale**

**Henry E. Kinney Tunnel**

The rehabilitation of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel under Las Olas and the construction of a new pedestrian plaza above the tunnel is underway. The construction began in the Summer of 2021 and is expected to be completed by the Winter of 2023. The goals of the project include:

- Rehabilitate the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel to meet the latest federal, state, and local standards and guidelines for architecture, structural, mechanical, electrical, and life safety
- Improve safety and mobility on US-1
- Enhance East Las Olas Boulevard at SE 6th Avenue for a livable community

**Attachment B: Presentation from FDOT, District 4 Virtual Public Information Workshop, September 24, 2020**

**Fort Lauderdale Downtown to Beach Tunnel**

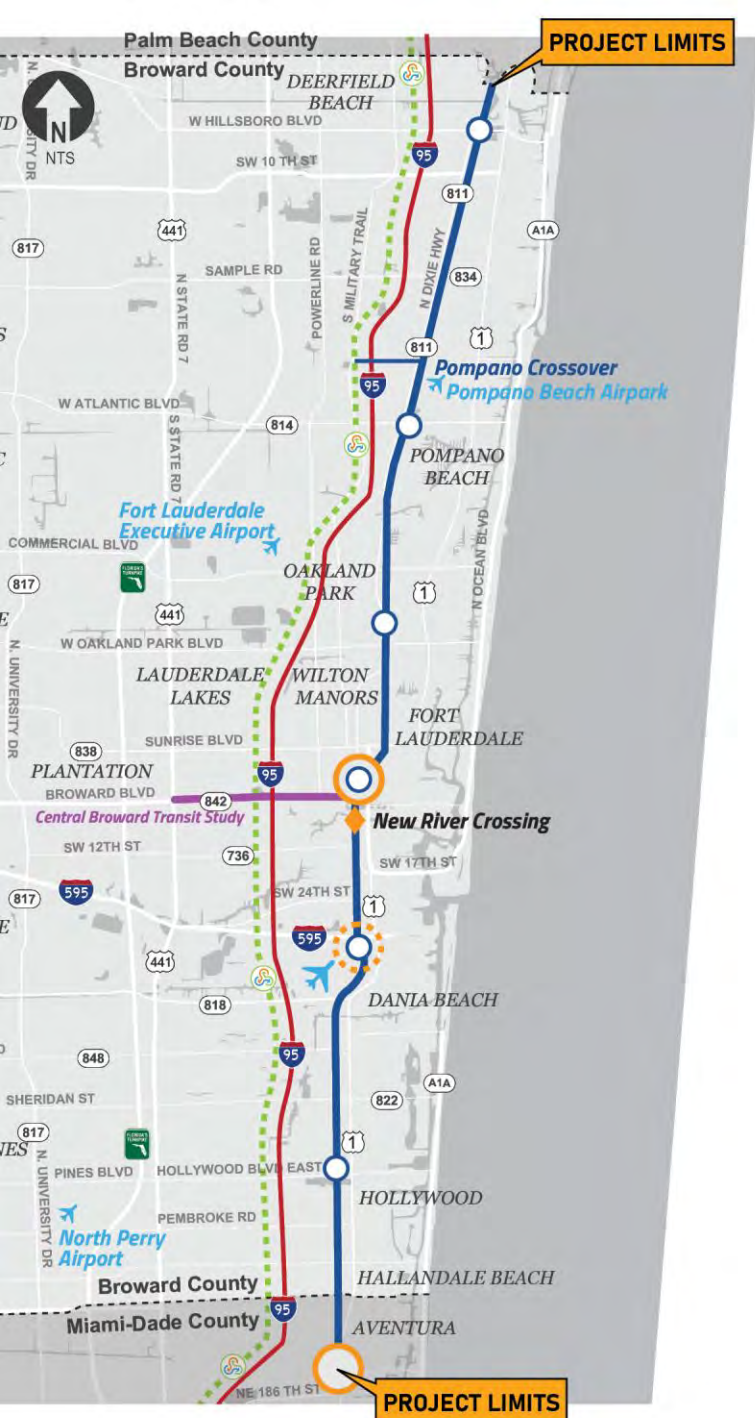
In July of this year, the Fort Lauderdale City Commission accepted a proposal from The Boring Company, headed by Elon Musk, to build an underground tunnel from downtown Fort Lauderdale to SR A1A to be called “The Las Olas Loop”. Other firms were given 45 days to submit competing proposals. The potential tunnel could:

- Connect downtown and the beach
- Offer rides in Teslas to hundreds of people a day for \$5-8 per person
- Ultimately be expanded to create a larger loop that connects the seaport and the airport

**Attachment C: Interview with Fort Lauderdale Mayor Trantalis by WLRN**

**For Information Only.**

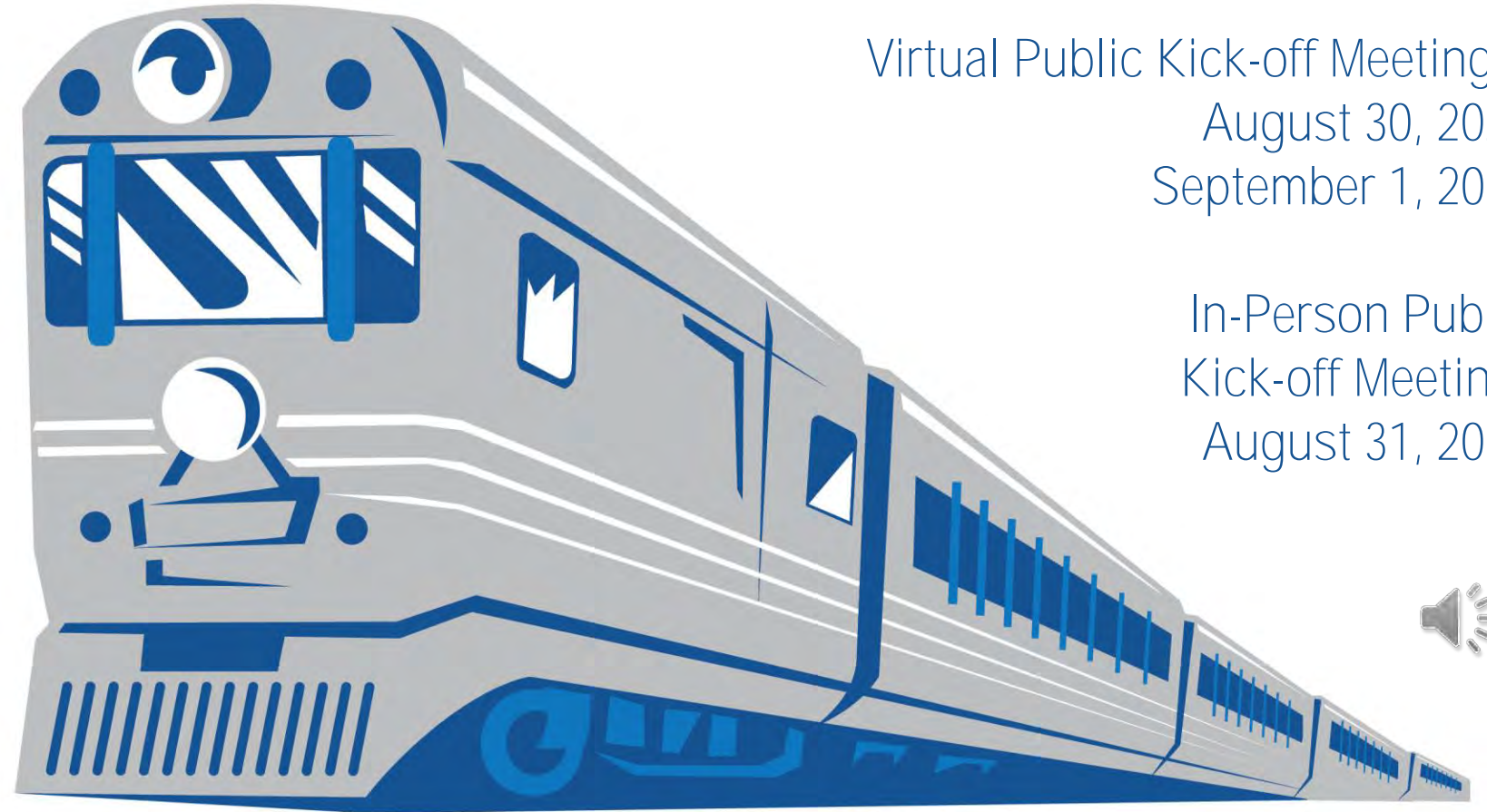




**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), DISTRICT 4**  
**BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA • FPID: 448942-1**

Virtual Public Kick-off Meetings:  
August 30, 2021  
September 1, 2021

In-Person Public Kick-off Meeting:  
August 31, 2021





The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express their concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting either:

District Four - Florida Department of Transportation  
District Four, Title VI Coordinator

**Sharon SinghHagyan**

3400 West Commercial Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309-3421  
(954) 777-4190 or  
Toll free at (866) 336-8435, ext. 4190  
Sharon.SinghHagyan@dot.state.fl.us

or

Tallahassee Office - Florida Department of  
Transportation, State Title VI Coordinator

**Jacqueline Paramore**

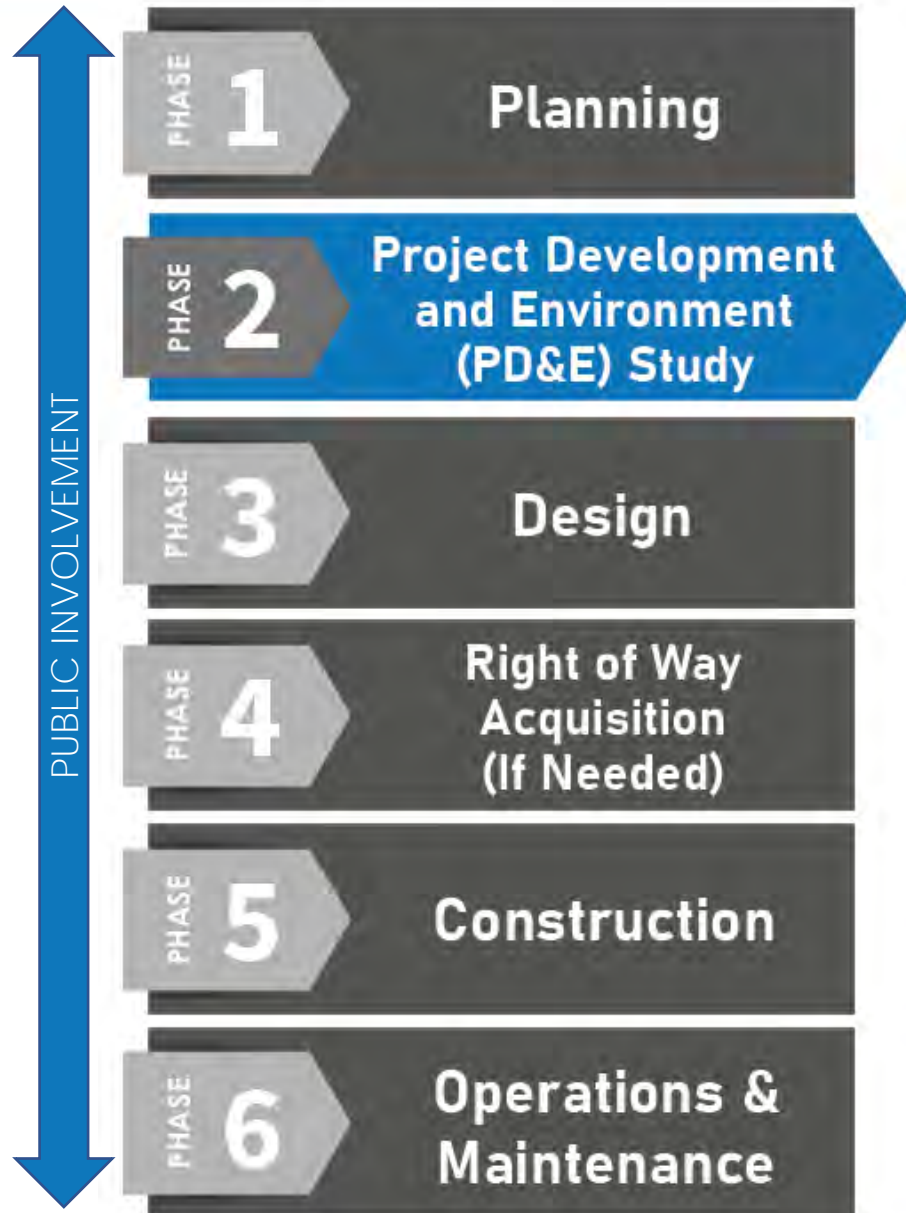
Equal Opportunity Office  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 65  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450  
(850) 414-4753  
Jacqueline.Paramore@dot.state.fl.us

All inquiries or complaints will be handled according to FDOT procedure and in a prompt and courteous manner.



- ❑ Introduce the project and PD&E Study process
- ❑ Serves as an official forum
- ❑ Answer questions about the project
- ❑ **All public comments will become part of the project's public record**
- ❑ Gather and share information





- ❑ Formal FDOT process to ensure that consideration is given to environmental impacts, social impacts, public input, engineering design, and project costs
- ❑ Required to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act and maintain eligibility for federal funding
- ❑ Involves engineering analysis and environmental evaluation
- ❑ Includes public outreach and public participation throughout the entire process
- ❑ Includes data collection, ridership and traffic forecasts, rail operating plan, alternatives development, engineering and environmental analyses, and documentation
- ❑ Preparation of preliminary engineering and environmental documentation for federal environmental action





- ❑ From Aventura in Miami-Dade County to Deerfield Beach in Broward County
- ❑ 27 Miles along the FEC Railroad
- ❑ FEC Railroad and SFRC Pompano Connection
- ❑ 12 municipalities
  - City of Aventura
  - City of Dania Beach
  - City of Deerfield Beach
  - City of Fort Lauderdale
  - City of Hallandale Beach
  - Town of Hillsboro Beach
  - City of Hollywood
  - Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
  - City of Lighthouse Point
  - City of Oakland Park
  - City of Pompano Beach
  - City of Wilton Manors



- ❑ Shared-use corridor with FEC freight trains and intercity passenger trains
- ❑ Florida East Coast Railway, L.L.C. owns the FECR right of way and operates freight service
- ❑ Brightline operates inter-city passenger rail trains via a passenger easement in the corridor
- ❑ Commuter rail will share tracks with freight and Brightline
- ❑ Study is being conducted in coordination with many parties that have an interest in the FEC railroad corridor







## ECONOMIC & RESIDENTIAL GROWTH

- ❑ Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
  - Increased business investment
  - Attract additional jobs
  - Affordable housing incentives
  - Sustainable land use
- ❑ Mixed land uses to support the increase in residential and business development



## ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

- ❑ Increased mobility and transportation choices
- ❑ Greater convenience and safety
- ❑ Greater access to employment, education, and essential services



## TRANSIT INCENTIVES TO THE PUBLIC

- ❑ Reduce travel times and automobile dependence
- ❑ Save money on gas, parking, and car maintenance/repairs
- ❑ Avoid the stress of road traffic



## ENVIRONMENTAL

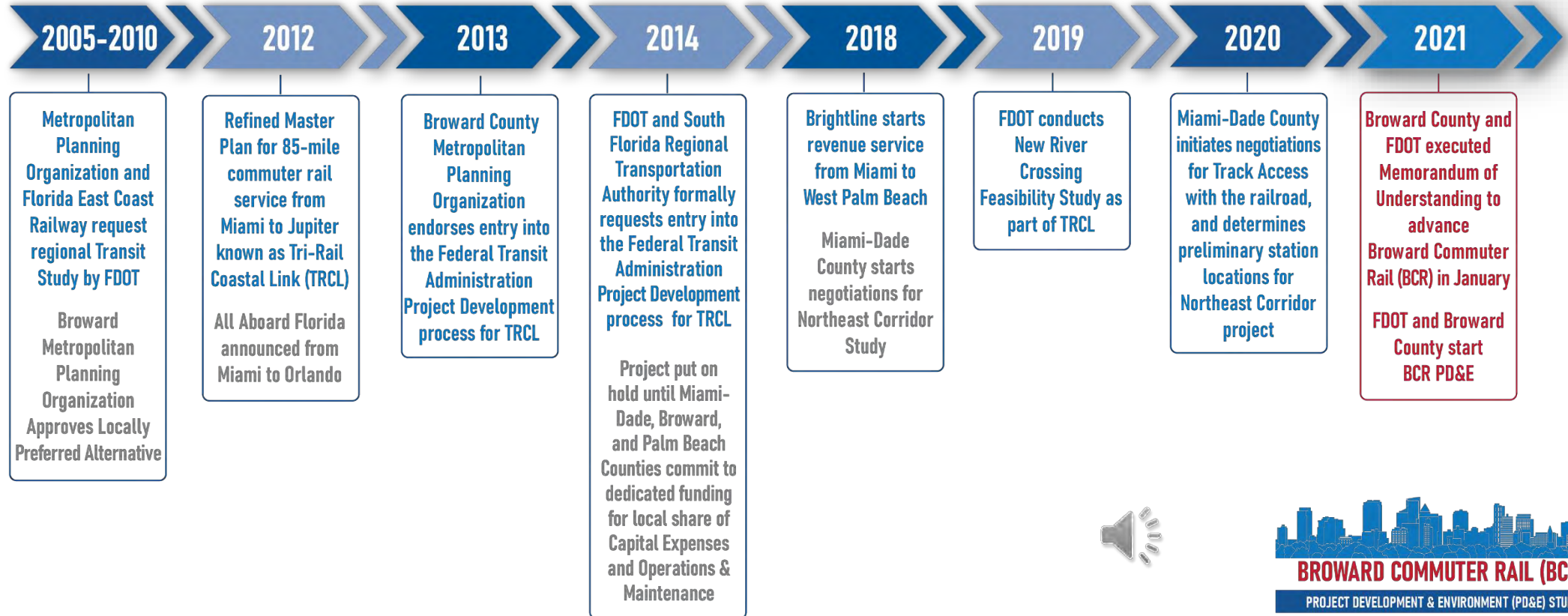
- ❑ Cleaner air by reducing traffic congestion (reduced vehicle emissions)
- ❑ Less wear and tear on our highways



## COMMUTER RAIL BENEFITS EMPLOYERS

- ❑ Potential cost savings on subsidized parking
- ❑ Access to a wider pool of talent
- ❑ Dependable and reliable transit service may boost and enhance productivity





- ❑ Evaluate commuter rail service on the FEC Railway Corridor
- ❑ Evaluate viable alternatives for a new crossing at the New River
- ❑ Include the necessary rail, signaling, safety and communications improvements, and passenger stations and amenities





## □ Purpose

- Address congestion issues
- Maintain freight and Brightline operations
- Support economic and land development policies in eastern Broward County
- Improve mobility

## □ Primary Needs

- Increase north-south travel options for transit dependent and choice riders
- Accommodate existing and future population growth
- Encourage sustainable land use and economic development

## □ Secondary Needs

- Enhance intermodal connectivity
- Improve transit service to high density travel markets
- Preserve and enhance safety and the environment



# Preliminary Station Screening History

- Over 16 years of station planning in the corridor
- Stations refined from nearly 100 potential station areas to 26 potential stations in the tri-county area
- Extensive coordination with municipalities and stakeholders in Broward County to:
  - Further screen the 9 potential BCR locations
  - Recommend 6 to advance through the PD&E process



- ❑ Evaluate area within a half mile radius of the the station or a 10-minute walk
  - Existing land use around the station TODAY- access and overall character
  - Economic development potential around the station in the FUTURE
  - Plans and policies for mobility and transit-oriented design
  - Development opportunities and policy performance
  - Transit connectivity





- ❑ Methodology uses both Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Urban Land Institute (ULI) Criteria for a Successful Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)



## FTA Guidelines for New Starts

### Land Use

*Pedestrian connections, parking, character, affordable housing and density*

### Economic Development

*Ability to attract transit supportive uses, available land, and policies*

### Transit Connectivity

*Ridership, linked trips are crucial*



## ULI Guidelines for TOD

### Development Drives Ridership (Employment over Residential)

*Range of housing options and densities is critical*

### Design Spaces for Walking, Connectivity, and Safety

*Developing safe, comfortable, and connected pedestrian network*

### Build a Place, Not a Project

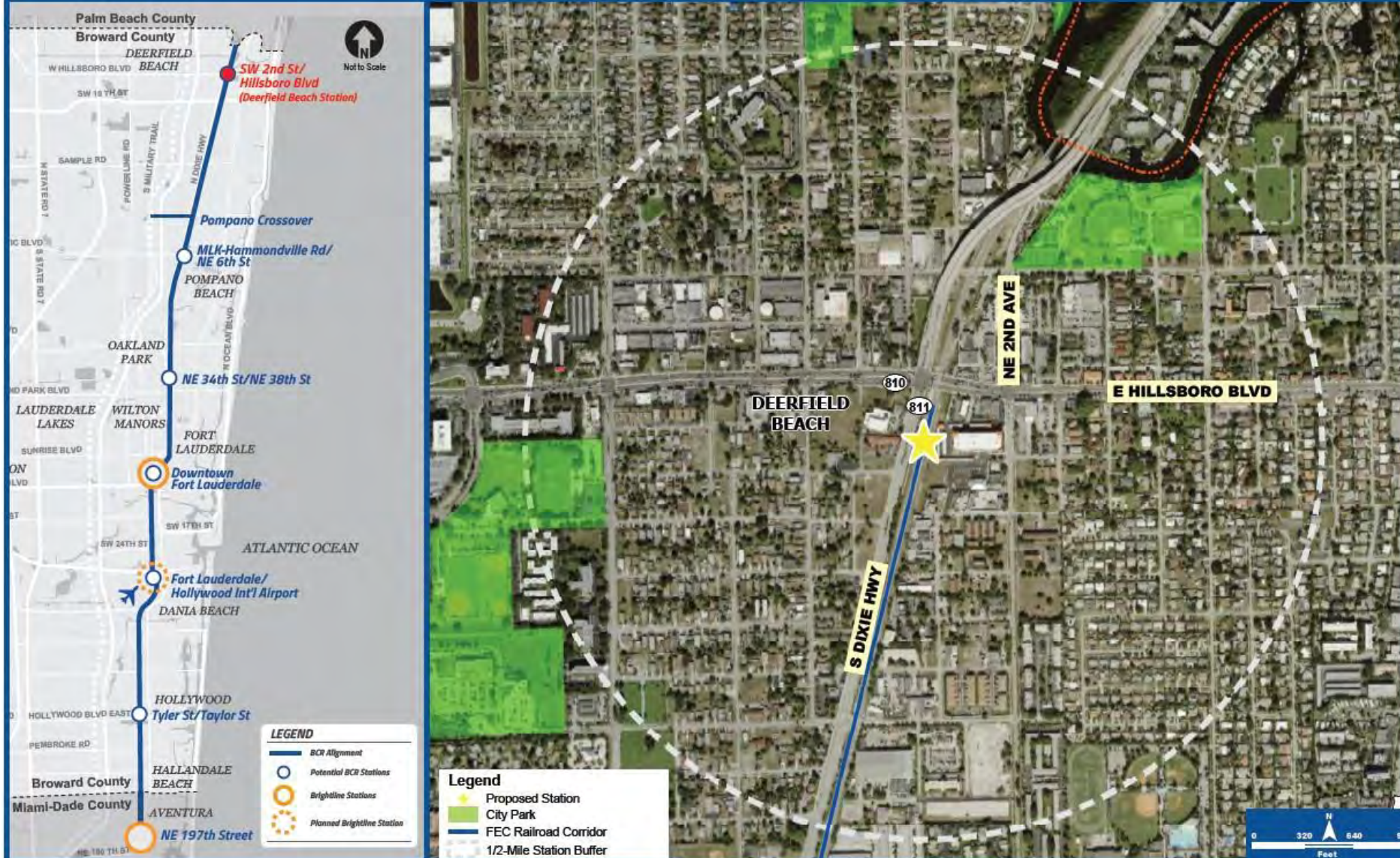
*Locate the transit stop at the center of the neighborhood rather than on its periphery*

### Get the Parking Right

*Parking: pedestrian friendly, viable for development*



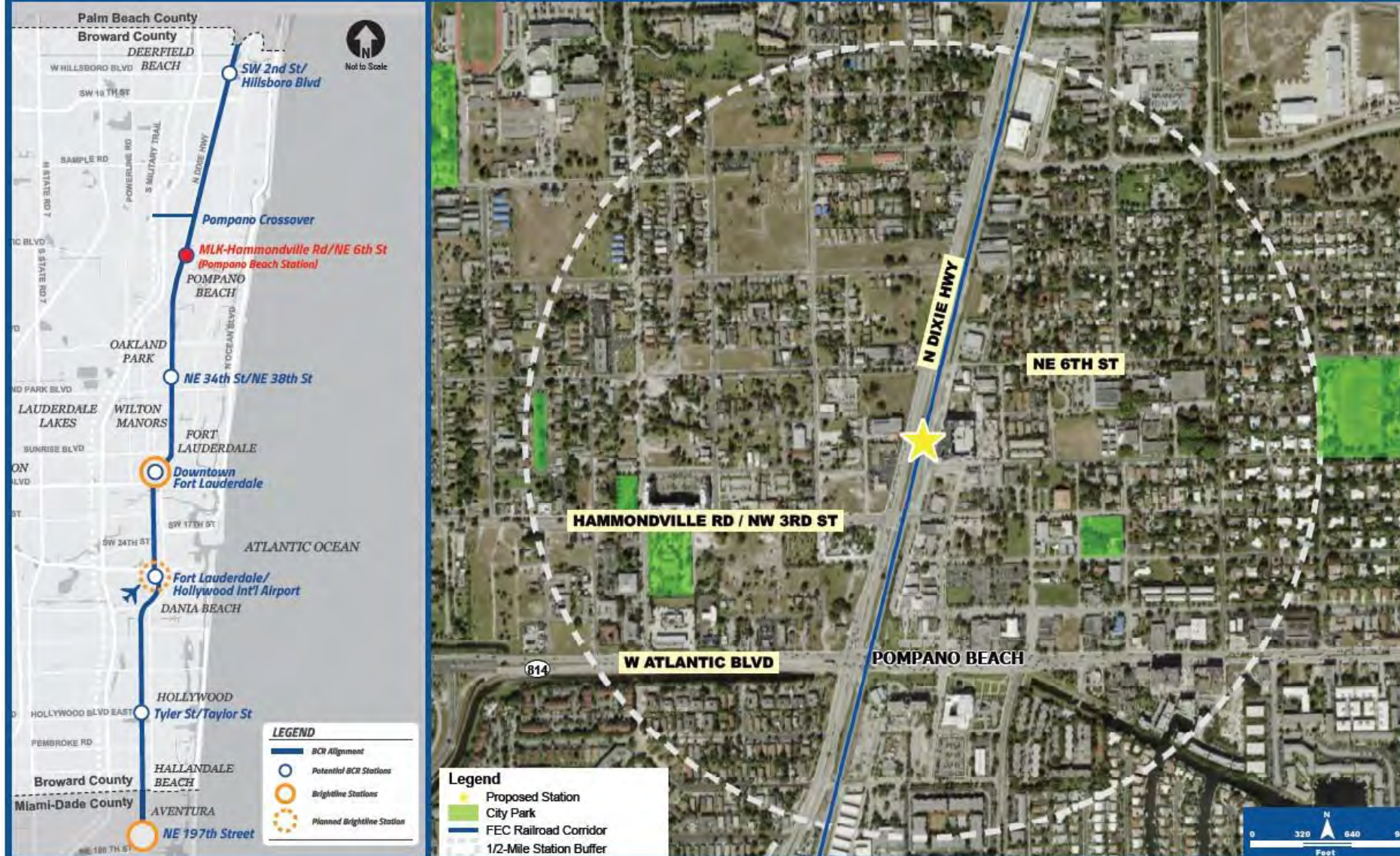
## DEERFIELD BEACH STATION



- ❑ Transit Supportive
- ❑ Mix of residential and commercial uses including affordable housing, and code and design standards to promote new TOD and less reliance on cars
- ❑ Connectivity to two Broward County Transit bus routes
- ❑ Good network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities



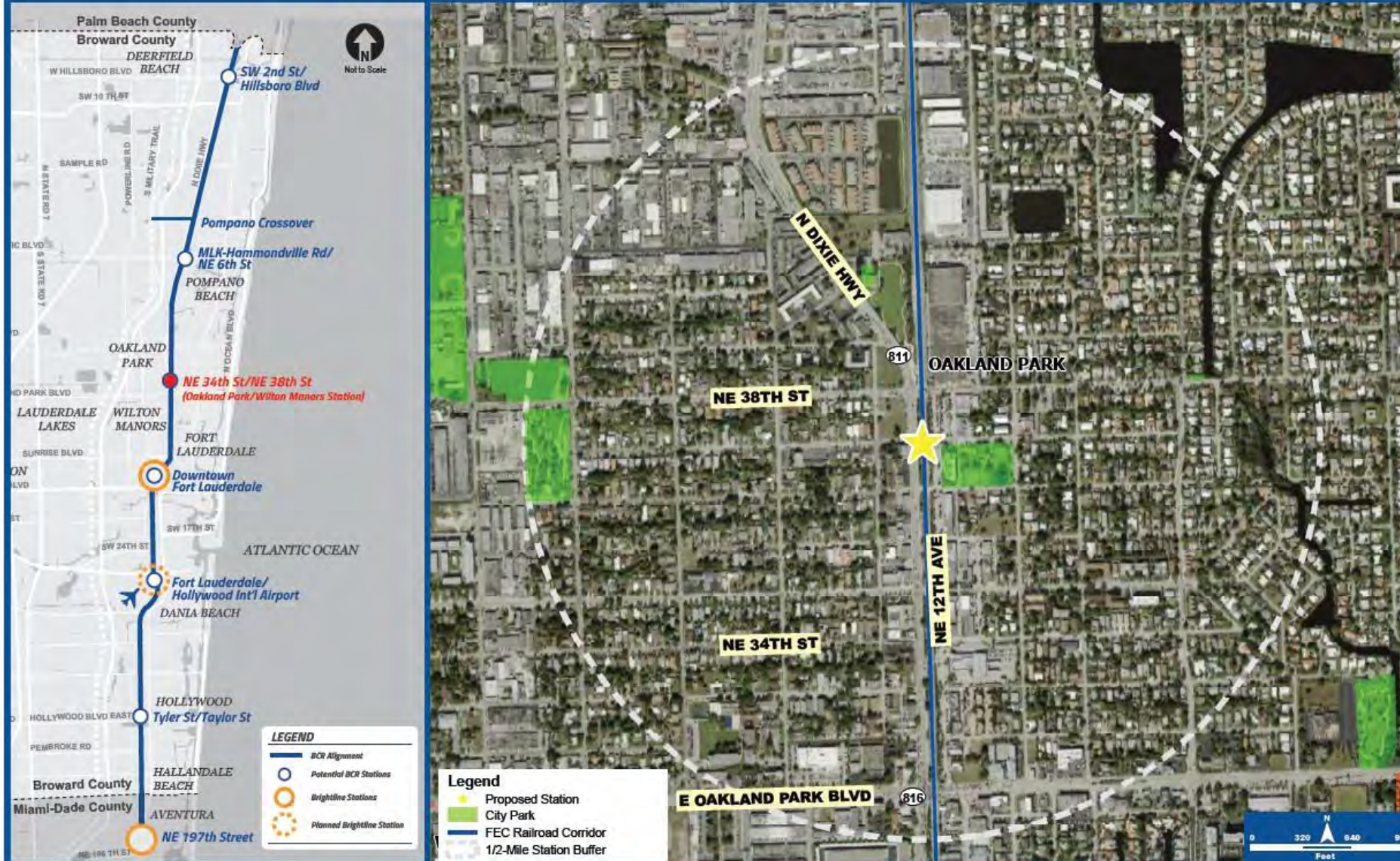
## POMPANO BEACH STATION



- ❑ Designated redevelopment area
- ❑ Significant available land for development, including 30 acres owned by the City
- ❑ Mix of residential and commercial uses and protected affordable housing
- ❑ Well connected and walkable
- ❑ Located adjacent to a bus transit hub



## OAKLAND PARK/WILTON MANORS STATION

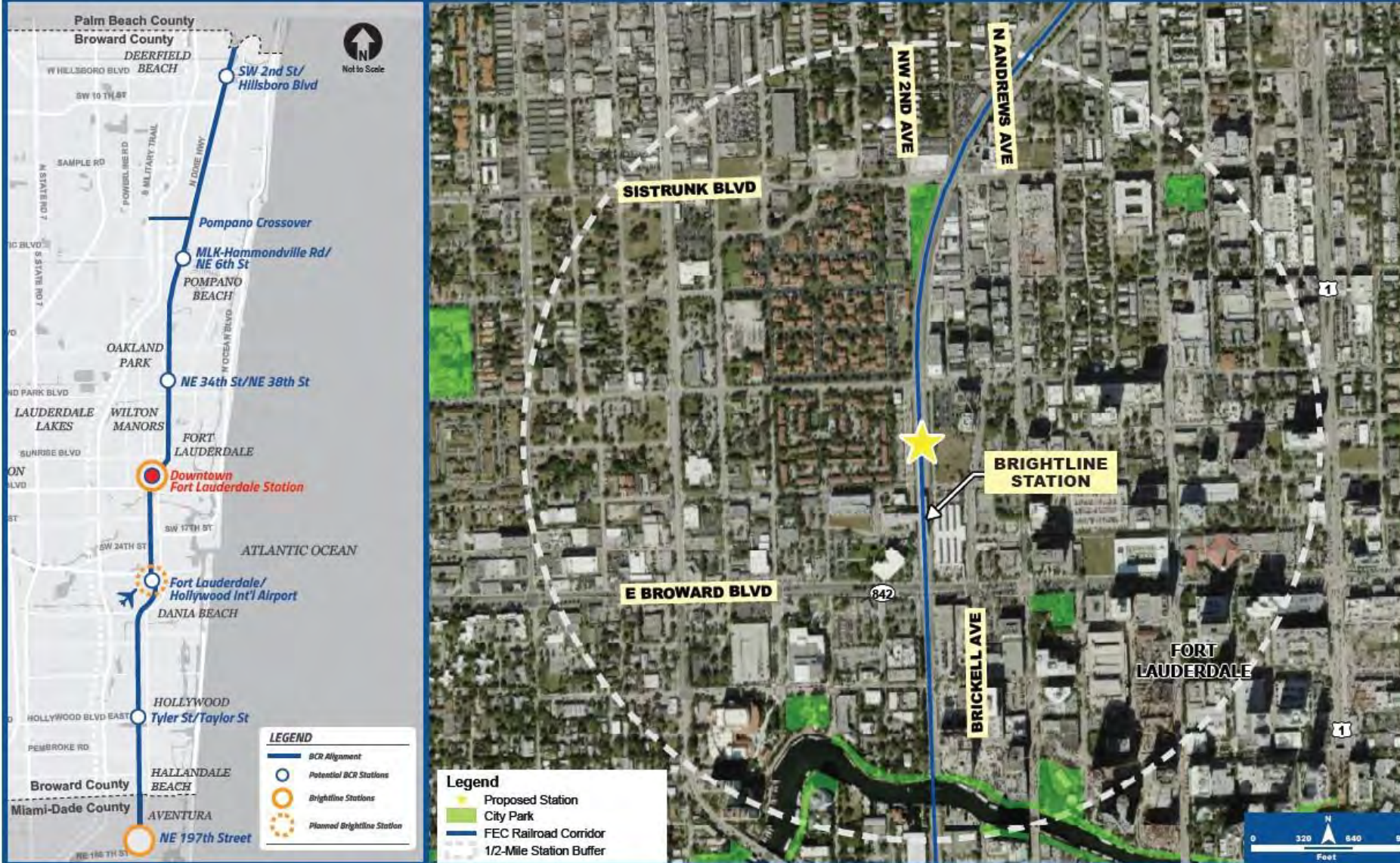


- ❑ Designated redevelopment area - already being developed to support transit, zoning, land use policies, and plans
- ❑ Mix of residential and commercial uses
- ❑ Well connected and walkable
- ❑ Is/will be connected to three Broward County Transit bus routes





## DOWNTOWN FORT LAUDERDALE STATION

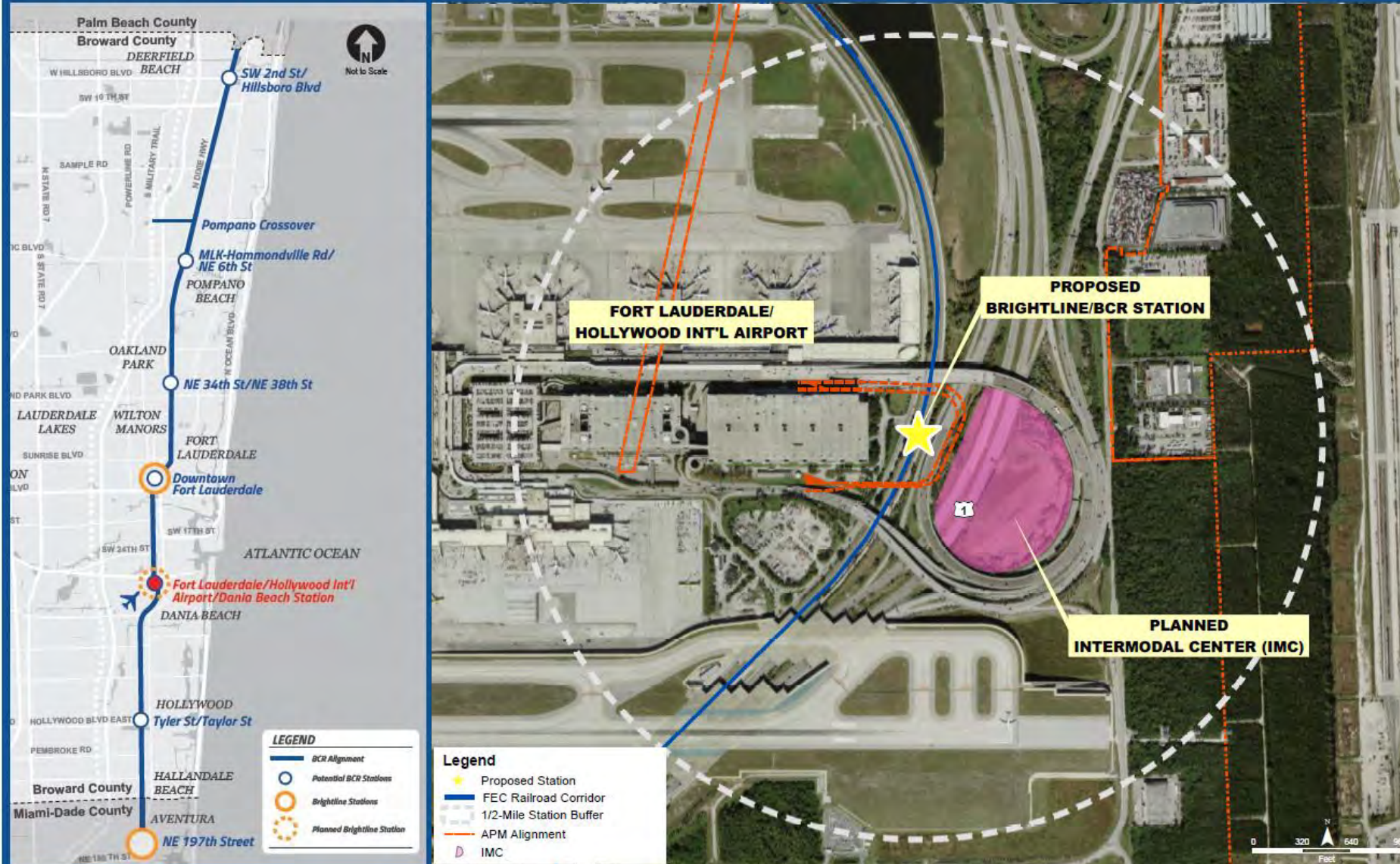


- Central business district
- Regional activity center
- Will be located at the existing Brightline Station and the central bus terminal, and adjacent to planned premium transit on Broward Boulevard
- Existing bicycle lanes and sidewalks enhance station access





## FORT LAUDERDALE/HOLLYWOOD INT'L AIRPORT/DANIA BEACH STATION

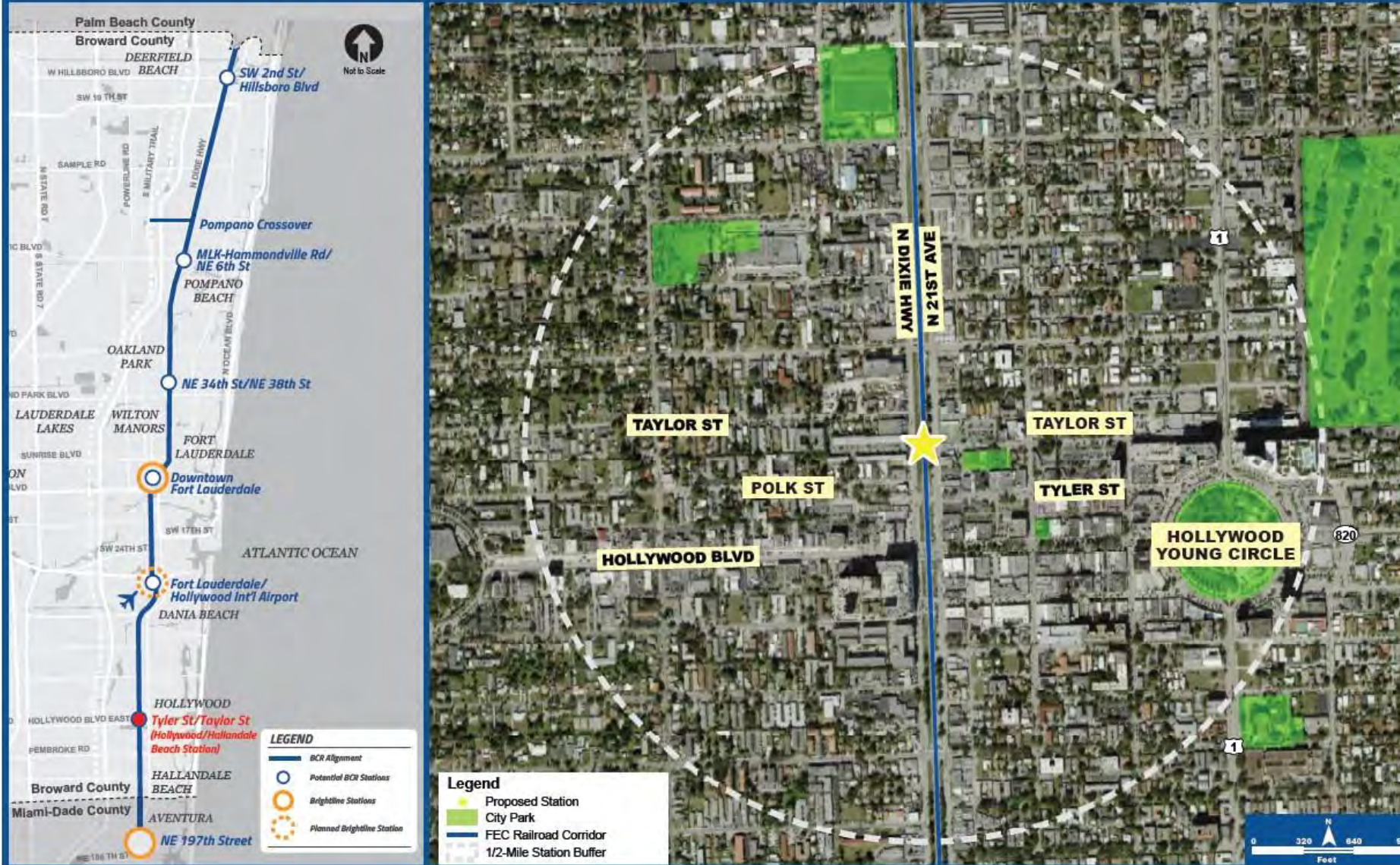


- ❑ Major trip generator
- ❑ Most commuter rail customers will be residents commuting to and from another station, or visitors using it to travel to another destination
- ❑ It is anticipated at least three bus routes serving this location
- ❑ Planned intermodal center





## HOLLYWOOD/HALLANDALE BEACH STATION



- Residential and commercial uses, active construction sites, planned development, and vacant land
- Designated redevelopment area
- Very walkable
- Connects with six Broward County Transit bus routes and one planned premium transit route





- ❑ Feasibility Study Completed in 2020
- ❑ Extensive Stakeholder and Agency Coordination
- ❑ Considerations
  - Maintain maritime, freight and passenger operations
  - Existing freight bascule bridge to remain
  - Accommodate planned Premium Transit on Broward Boulevard
  - Connect to Brightline station downtown
  - Improve connectivity downtown
  - Avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to historical resources, neighborhoods and right of way
- ❑ Four Crossing Alternatives Under Evaluation from Feasibility Study\*
  - Low-Level Bascule Bridge: \$250 – \$375 Million
  - Mid-Level Bascule Bridge: \$460 – \$690 Million
  - High-Level Fixed Bridge: \$470 – \$700 Million
  - Tunnel: \$2.5 – \$3.8 Billion



\*Note: Preliminary cost estimates are reasonable high-level ranges at the current stage of this PD&E Study. Refined cost estimates will be continually updated throughout the life of the project.





## ❑ Social Environment

- Social Resources
- Economic
- Land Use Changes
- Mobility
- Aesthetic Effects
- Relocation
- Recreational Section 4(f) (Parks and Preserves)

## ❑ Cultural Environment

- Historic Resources
- Archaeological Resources
- Involves Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer

## ❑ Natural Environment

- Wetlands
- Protected Species
- Essential Fish Habitat
- Water Resources
- Floodplains
- Special Designations

## ❑ Physical Environment

- Farmlands
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Contamination



Pedestrian Crossing North of the New River Bridge



Looking South at New River Bridge



Old Fort Lauderdale Village Historic District



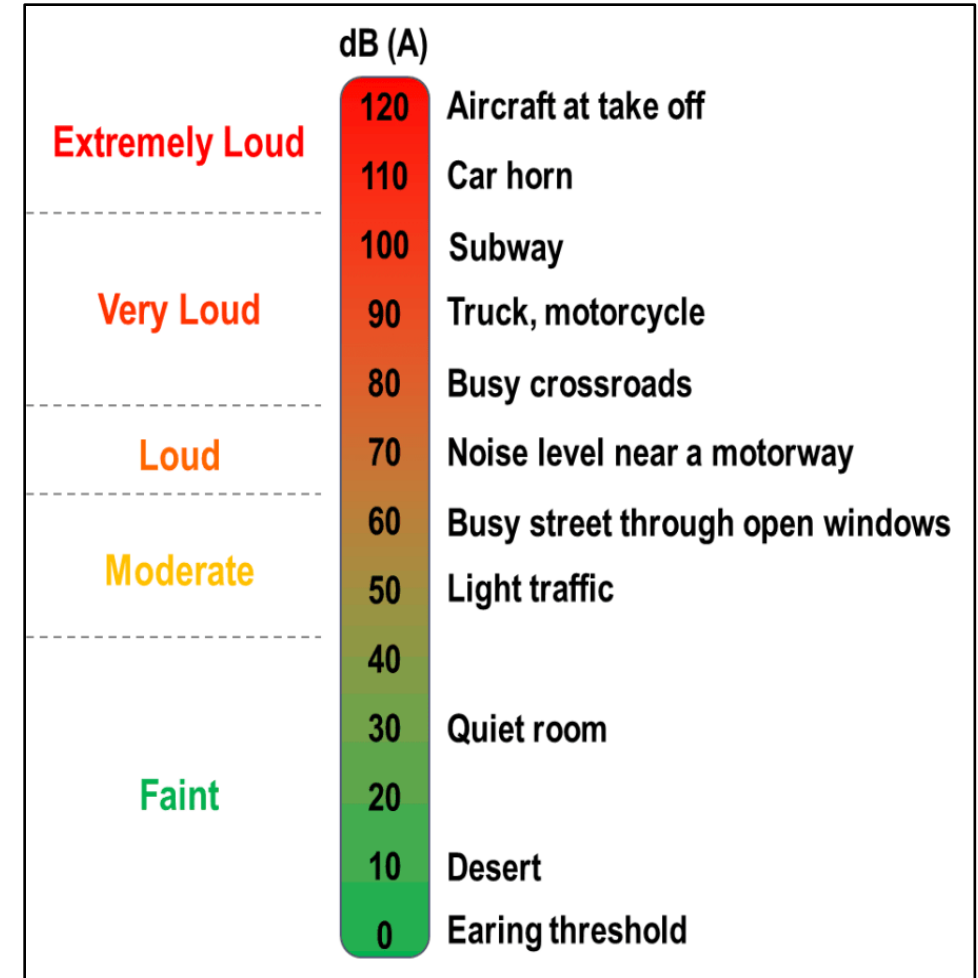
- ❑ Roadway Traffic Analysis at:
  - Representative railroad crossings on east-west roads
  - Proposed station locations
- ❑ Evaluation of Existing, No-Build, and Build Alternatives
- ❑ Step-By-Step Process
  - Identify traffic analysis locations and collect data
  - Estimate future traffic demand
  - Perform traffic operational analysis
    - Intersection's level of service
    - Queuing length analyses



- ❑ **Safety is the Project's highest priority**
- ❑ Safety Evaluation
  - Evaluation of safe connections between modes of transportation
  - Improvements to all 66 at-grade rail/roadway crossing dynamic envelopes
  - Safe access to/from new stations
  - Evaluation of mobility for various design alternatives



- ❑ Determine potential noise and vibration impacts for:
  - New commuter rail service along FEC Corridor
  - Proposed stations
  - Improvements to existing maintenance facility at Hialeah Rail Yard or another location
  - The potential Pompano Connector from FEC Corridor to the South Florida Rail Corridor
  
- ❑ Evaluate noise-sensitive sites such as residences, schools, libraries, parks
  
- ❑ Determine existing noise levels
  - Perform short-term (1 hour) and long-term (24 hour) monitoring
  - Existing noise levels will determine the criteria for impacts
  
- ❑ Evaluate potentially impacted sites for noise abatement
  - Noise barriers in addition to Quiet Zones



## CAPITAL COST ASSUMPTIONS



≤50%

### FEDERAL FUNDS

- Subject to Federal Transit Administration recommendation and Congressional appropriation.



≥25%

### STATE FUNDS

- Subject to FDOT approval and future allocation in the Work Program.



≥25%

### LOCAL FUNDS

- County and Municipal Government funds, other local funds, and private sector investment.

## OPERATING COST ASSUMPTIONS

- Operations and Maintenance (O&M) costs are assumed to be funded from fares, local sources, and items such as advertising and sponsorship revenue.





PROJECT MILESTONES	2021												2022											
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Begin Study	◆																							
Data Collection	■																							
Public Kick-off Meeting								◆																
Engineering and Environmental Analyses				■																				
Draft Financial Plan									■															
Alternatives Public Workshop														◆										
Select Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)													■											
Request Class of Action from FTA																							◆	
Entry into FTA Project Development																							◆	
Complete Engineering and Environmental Reports																■								
Public Hearing																							◆	
Apply for Capital Investment Grant (Federal Grant Program)																							◆	
MPO Adopts the LPA																							◆	
Location and Design Concept Acceptance																							◆	
Public Involvement	■																							

**WE ARE HERE**

■ General Project Tasks     
 ◆ Public Meetings     
 ◆ General Project Milestones     
 ◆ Critical Project Milestones



FDOT will coordinate meetings with the public, agencies and stakeholders throughout the study

## Public Meetings

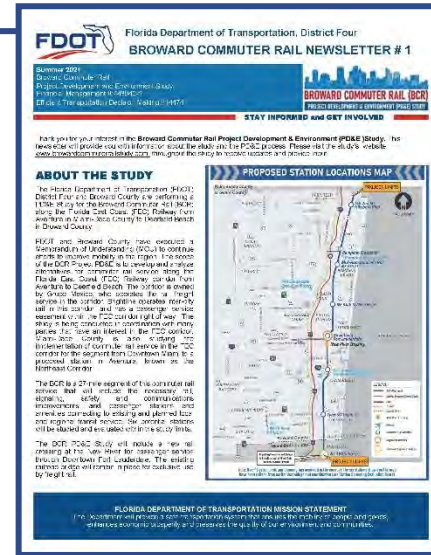
- Public Kick-off Meeting
- Alternatives Public Workshop
- Public Hearing



## Other Meetings

- Small Group Meetings
- One-on-One Stakeholder Meetings
- County and City Commission Meetings
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board and Committee Meetings

## Newsletters



## Project Website

[www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com](http://www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com)

## Social Media

 @ MyFDOT\_SEFL  MyFDOTSEFL

1. Comment during the public meeting using the GoToWebinar Questions tool
2. Email your comments to: [Phil.Schwab@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Phil.Schwab@dot.state.fl.us)
3. Mail your comments to : Florida Department of Transportation, District Four  
3400 West Commercial Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
4. Submit comments on project website: [www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com](http://www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com)



1. Review exhibits on the project website:  
[www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com](http://www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com)
2. Attend upcoming public meetings
3. Contact the FDOT Project Manager: **Phil Schwab, P.E.**





**Phil Schwab, P.E.**

Project Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation  
District Four

(954) 777-4524

[Phil.Schwab@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Phil.Schwab@dot.state.fl.us)

**Mike Ciscar, P.E.**

Consultant PD&E Project Manager  
The Corradino Group

(954) 777-0044

[mciscar@corradino.com](mailto:mciscar@corradino.com)

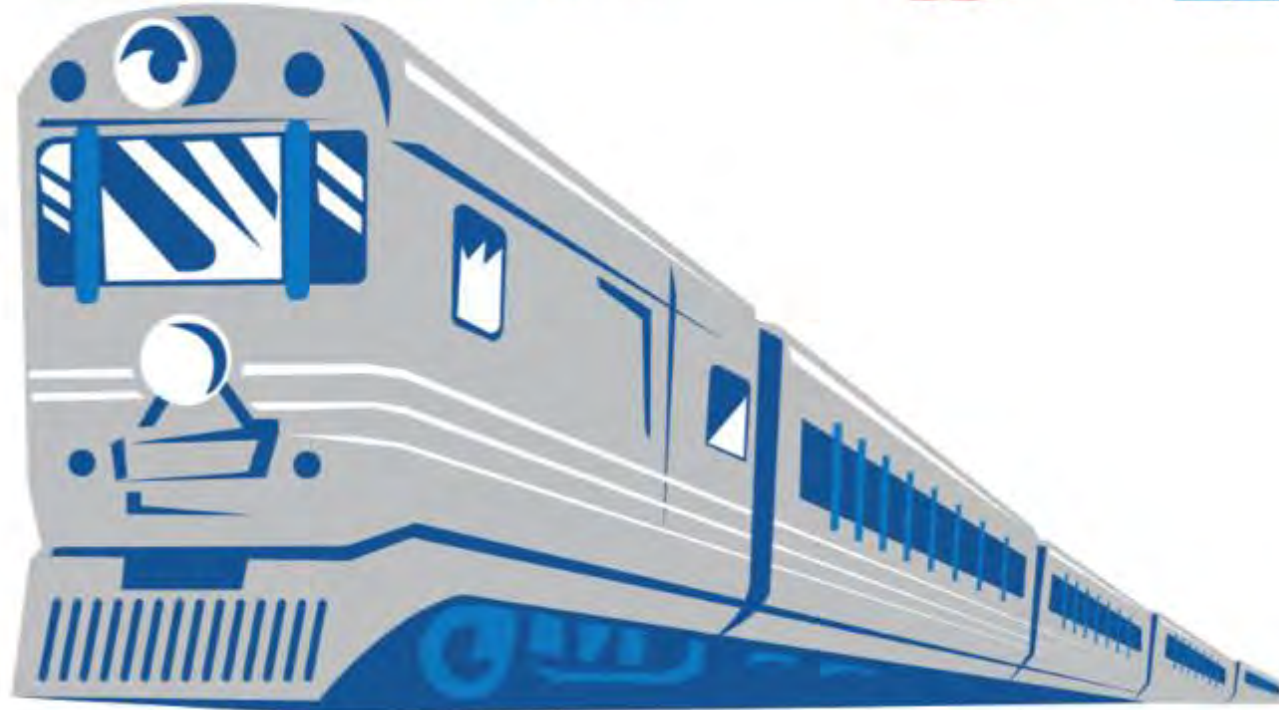




# BROWARD COMMUTER RAIL (BCR)

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), DISTRICT 4  
BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA • FPID: 448942-1



Thank You



# Fort Lauderdale's Mayor On The Tesla Tunnel That Could Be Coming To The City

WLRN 91.3 FM | By [Caitie Switalski Muñoz](#)

Published August 23, 2021 at 4:22 PM EDT



Caitie Switalski Munoz/WLRN

The city commission sees the proposed tunnel as a traffic solution for Las Olas Blvd.

**Last month, city commissioners in Fort Lauderdale accepted a proposal from Elon Musk's venture — The Boring Company — to build an underground tunnel from downtown to State Road A1A.**

A tunnel of Elon Musk's Teslas is getting closer to transporting people from Downtown Fort Lauderdale to the beach and back.

There's been a lot of buzz about the idea but the proposal has also been getting a lot of criticism. It's also not a done deal yet.

***As the pandemic continues, you can rely on WLRN to keep you current on local news and information. Your support is what keeps WLRN strong. Please become a member today. [Donate](#) now. Thank you.***

The city commission may have accepted a proposal by The Boring Company, but that came with a window for other companies to submit proposals for the project. That 45-day period is set to end Monday, Aug. 30, at 5 p.m., according to a spokesperson for the city.

WLRN spoke with Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis about why he believes the futuristic project is what the city needs, who would pay for it, and why he thinks it won't be "the Wave Streetcar 2.0."

*The following conversation has been edited for clarity and length.*

**WLRN: I have to start with the issue of sea level rise. Florida's made of limestone. Why would an underground tunnel work here?**

**TRANTALIS:** We already have tunnels in Florida. We have a tunnel here in Fort Lauderdale that was built 60 years ago. We have no problems with it.



The Boring Company ... they brought their chief geologist here. They did an examination of the underground structure. They feel that they can build a safe and sustainable underground tunnel here in our city.

We know in the end that the goal is going to be to be able to bring people from our downtown to our beach in a matter of a few minutes without the hassle of going through all the traffic.

As we have polled our community year after year, asking them, you know, what are the challenges that they see that are most important to them? And traffic conditions have seemed to be number one every year, year after year.

We just spent all this money on a traffic consultant to try to come up with solutions for traffic on Las Olas, and no one was happy with the result. You cannot make Las Olas any wider. I don't care how many times you paint a lane and arrows — these streets were designed for a certain amount of volume.

So by siphoning off the number of vehicles from the streets, by creating an underground system — people might even prefer to go through the tunnel than to worry about having to confront the kind of traffic that we've suffered through year after year.

**I saw someone on Twitter call this underground tunnel idea, the "Wave 2.0" referring to the Wave streetcar project that was killed after years and years of working on it because the cost was simply going to be too much. And there were criticisms that it was outdated technology. That project was canceled after already costing taxpayers money. What can residents expect this time around?**

The Wave streetcar — the goal of that was not a transportation goal, it was an economic development goal. It was strictly driven by developers because they thought it was cool and it might bring millennials to the downtown area and thought that they would populate their buildings. But here we are today. Those buildings are being populated and we don't even have a Wave streetcar.

This leg that we are talking about from the downtown to the beach is only just part of a system. We would love to see this connected to a system that starts at the airport, goes to the seaport, then swing by the beach and then swing through the downtown and make a loop pattern throughout our city, which is really what this ultimately should turn into.

Why the tunnel makes more sense — because it anticipates the storm conditions. We are not subject to be subjected to wind and the water, the increased rain and so forth, would be siphoned out through a pump system and through a pipe system.

**What will this tunnel cost? And how much of that is coming from taxpayers and how much of that is coming from Elon Musk's company?**

The details of the financing of it, we're not allowed to discuss because that's within the 45-day period as part of their proposal.

But I will say this, they can build these tunnels between \$10 and \$15 million a mile. So if we're looking at, say, a 2.5-mile tunnel out to the beach and then a 2.5-mile tunnel back. So if you're looking at, \$15 million dollars per mile times five miles, is \$75 million.

Then there's the construction of the of the stations at each end, so it could cost anywhere between, you know, \$90 and \$100 million to do this.

So where's the money coming from? One funding source we will look into is the one-cent sales tax that is designed strictly for transportation.

**If the city says yes to this, when can the residents expect it to actually happen? Expect to actually be able to ride in this tunnel?**

When the city of Fort Lauderdale has reached out to its community and has made the decision to go forward — and we've secured our funding sources — they can build this tunnel in less than a year.





**SR 5/US-1/FEDERAL HIGHWAY  
FROM SR 869/I-595 TO  
SR 842/BROWARD BOULEVARD  
HENRY E. KINNEY TUNNEL REHABILITATION**

Project Identification Nos.: 439714-1-52-01/439714-1-52-01  
Broward County

Virtual Public Information Workshop  
September 24, 2020



# Startup and Welcome



WELCOME



# Welcome



WELCOME



Commissioner Sorensen  
District 4



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



# Meeting Purpose and Speakers



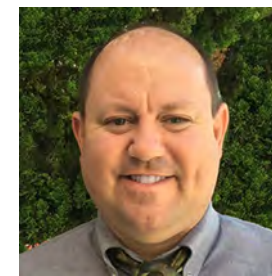
Images from preliminary concept



**Laila Haddad**  
Media Relations Group  
Public Information Officer

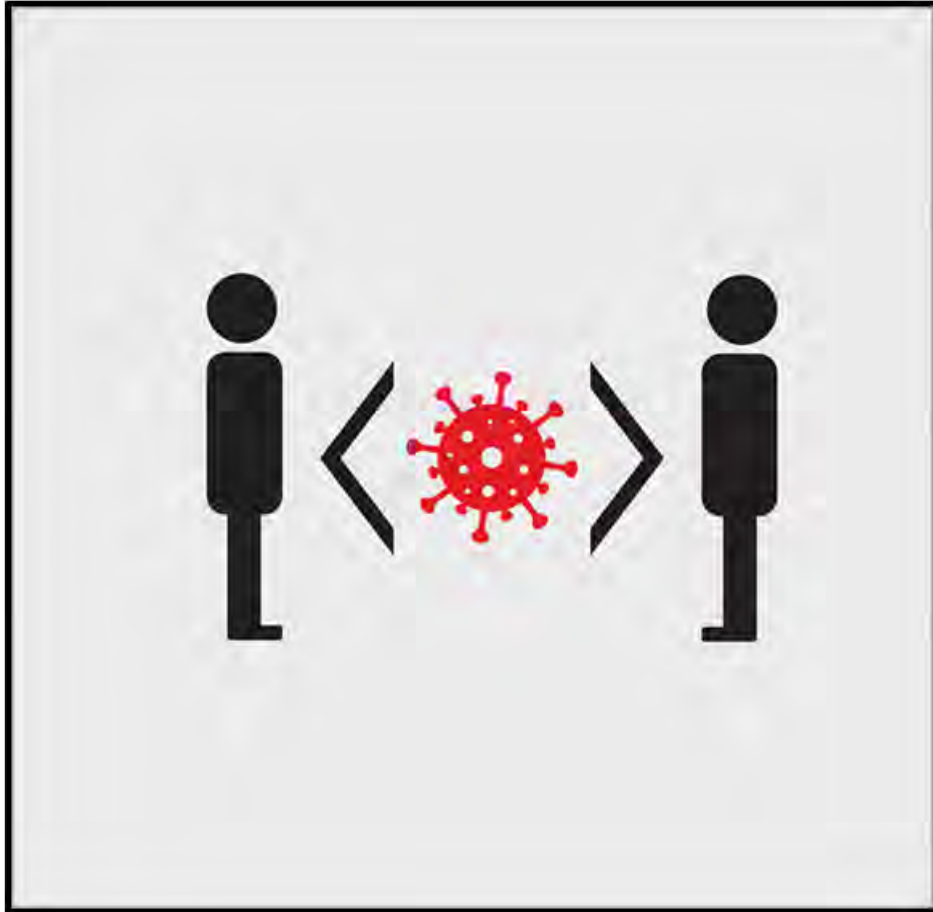


**Naldo Gonzalez, P.E.**  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
Project Manager



**Brian Shore, R.L.A.**  
Miller Legg  
Landscape Architect

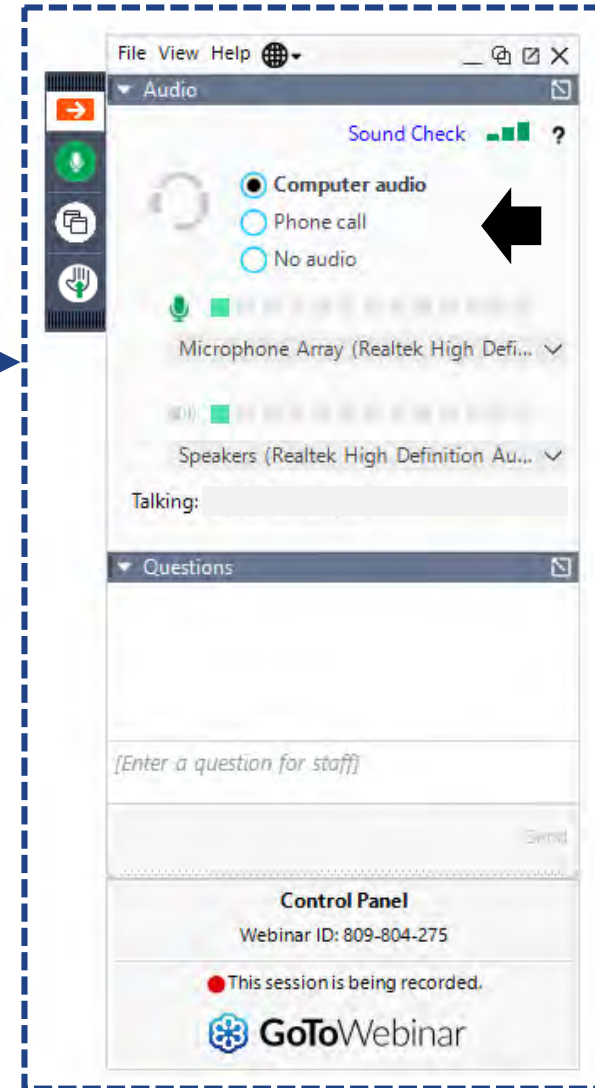
## About the Virtual Meeting Format



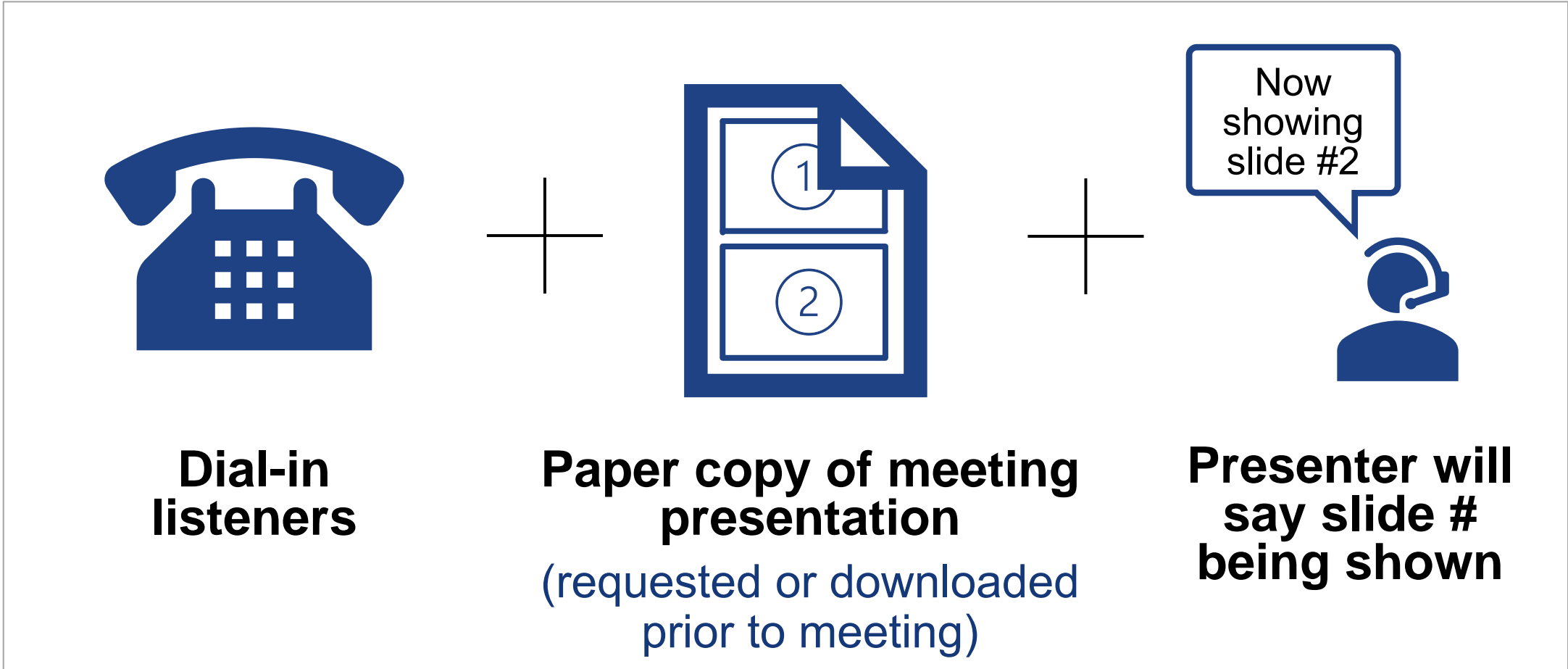
- **COVID-19 pandemic**
- **A State of Emergency is in effect (Executive Order 20-52)**
- **GoToWebinar online meeting platform**
- **No cost to the public to log-in or dial-in to the meeting**



# Technical Information



# Technical Information for Dial-in Attendees



## SCRIPT SECTION: Technical Information (Listen Only mode)



All attendees will be placed in **'Listen Only'** mode throughout the meeting.

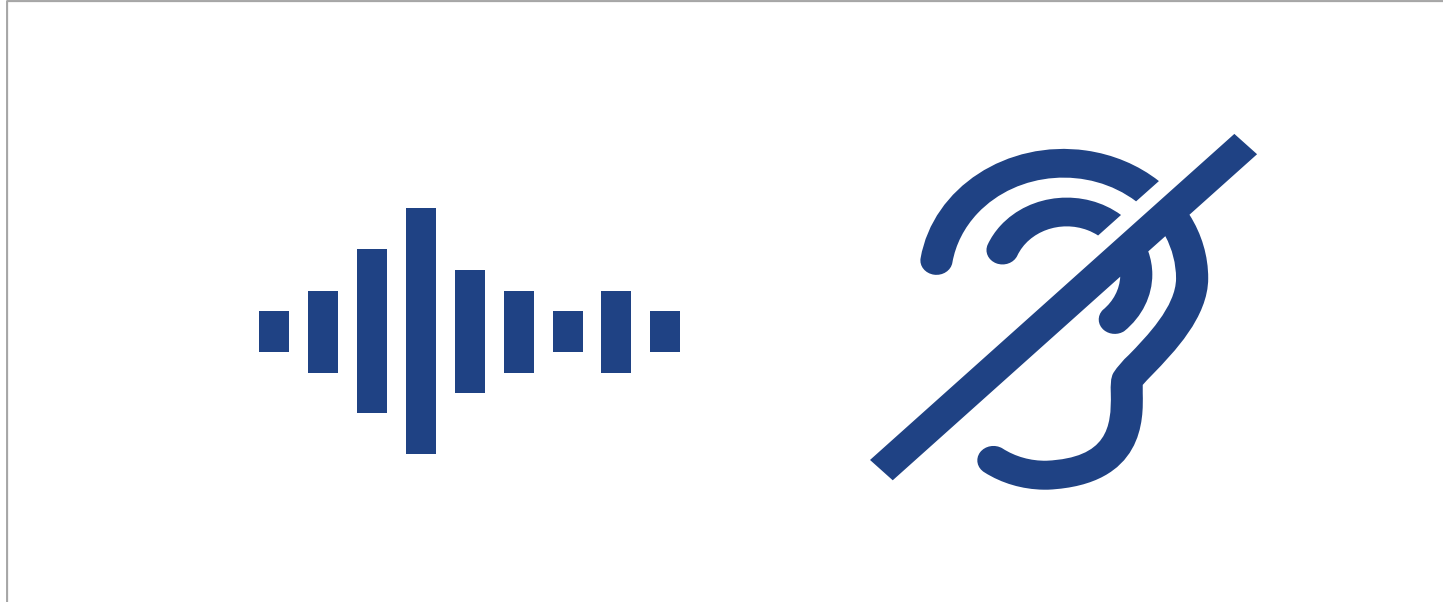


Type your comments or questions in the control panel **Questions pane.**



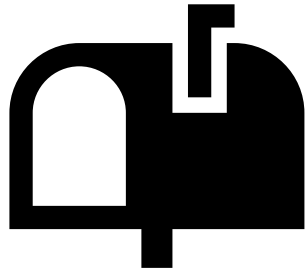
**Responses** to comments and questions will be provided later.

## Technical Information (Technical Issues)



This meeting is being recorded.

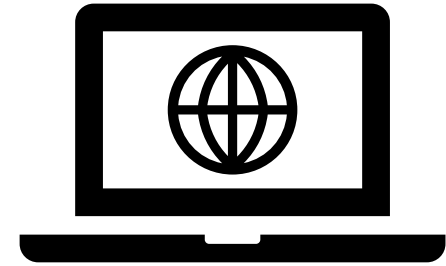
# Virtual Public Meeting - Public Notice



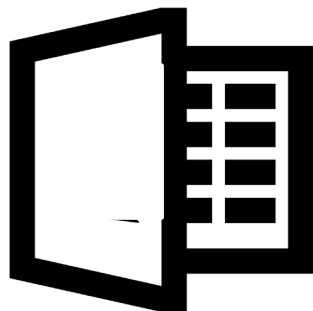
Property owner/tenant letters



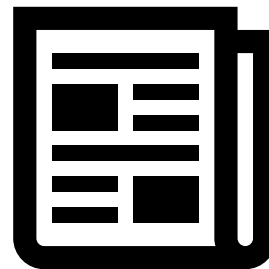
Emails to project contacts list



Department or project webpage



Florida Administrative Register



Newspaper



Social media



## Non-discrimination Statement and Contacts

The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various **non-discrimination laws and regulations**, including **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**.

**Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.**

Persons wishing to express concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting either:

**District Title VI Coordinator, Florida Department of Transportation**

Sharon SignhHagyn  
3400 West Commercial Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309  
(954) 777-4190

[Sharon.SignhHagyan@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Sharon.SignhHagyan@dot.state.fl.us)

**Statewide Title VI Coordinator, Florida Department of Transportation**

Jacquelin Paramore  
605 Suwannee Street MS 65  
(850) 414-4753

[Jacqueline.Paramore@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Jacqueline.Paramore@dot.state.fl.us)

## Public Comment

### During meeting



Type comments or questions in the **Questions pane** on the control panel.

### After meeting

1. Fausto.Gomez@dot.state.fl.us



2. 3400 W. Commercial Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33309



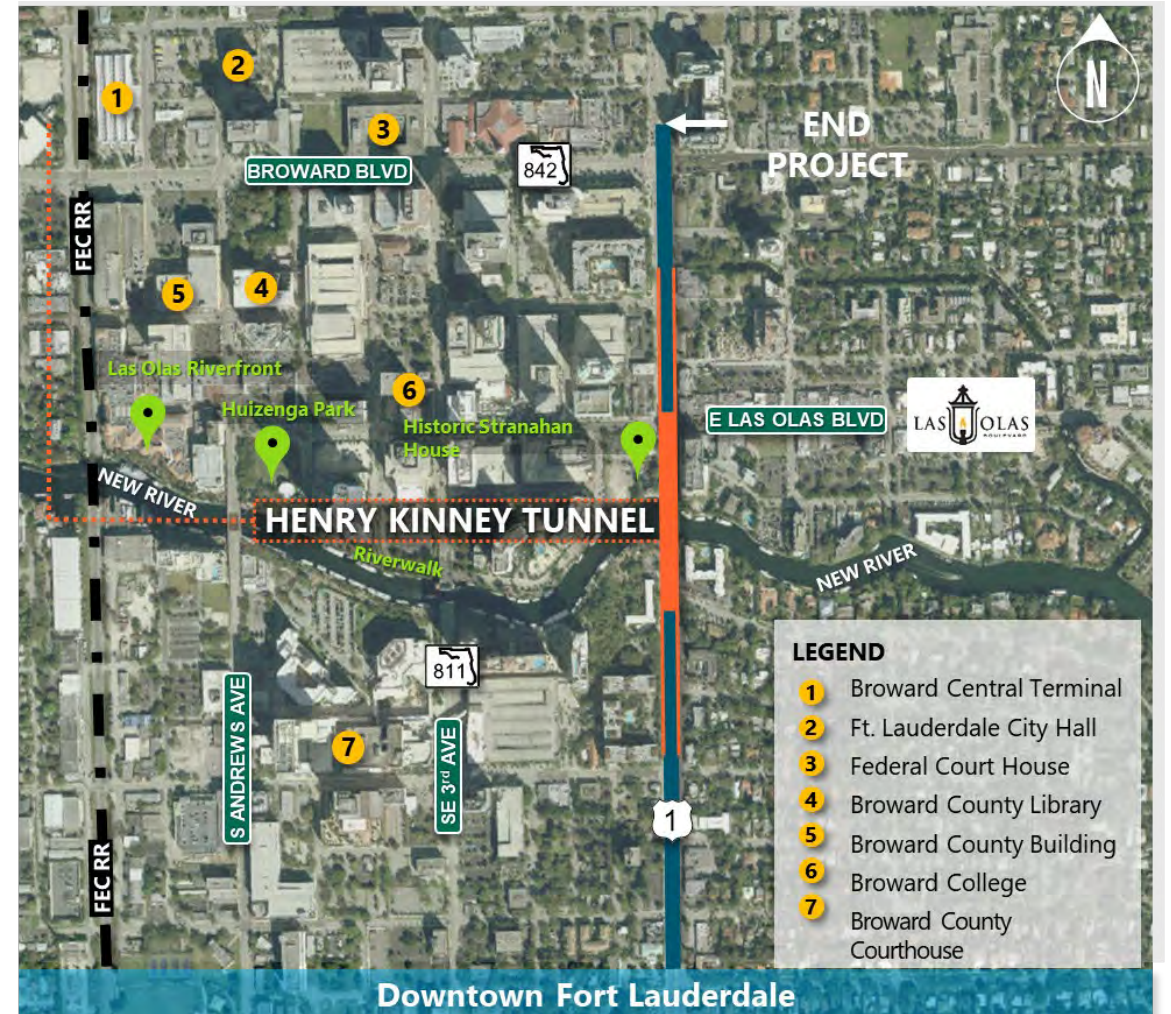
3. (954) 777-4466 or  
Toll Free (866) 336-8435; Ext. 4466



# Project Location



SR 5/US-1/Federal Highway from I-595 to north of Broward Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, Florida



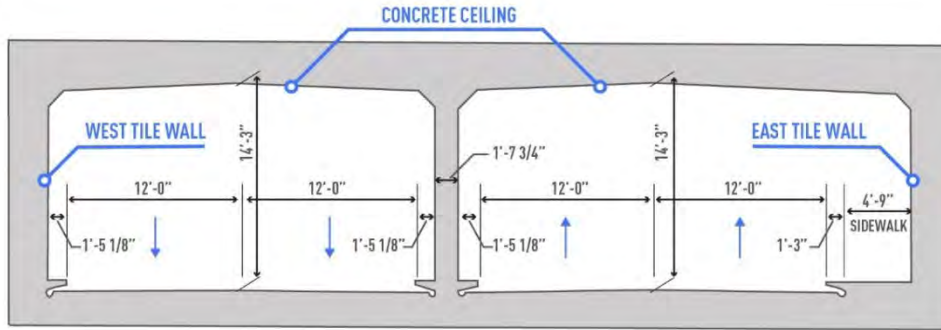


## Purpose and Objectives

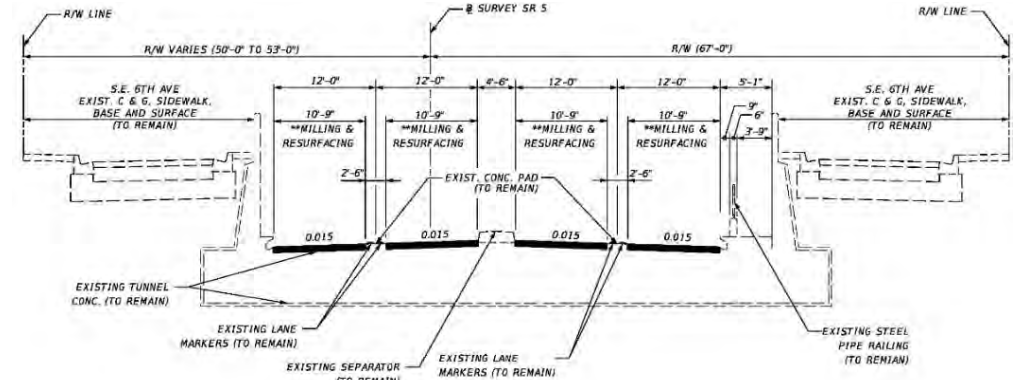
- **Rehabilitate the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel** to meet the latest federal, state, and local standards and guidelines for architecture, structural, mechanical, electrical, and life safety
- **Improve safety and mobility on US-1**
- **Enhance East Las Olas Boulevard at SE 6th Avenue** for a livable community



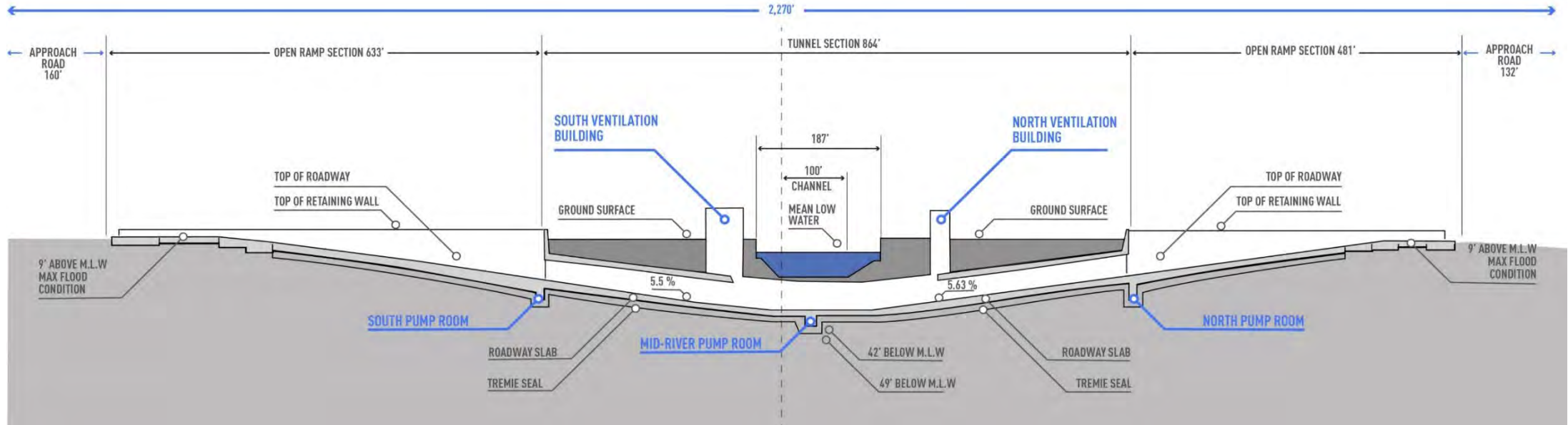
# Existing Conditions – Tunnel



**DOUBLE-BARREL TUNNEL TYPICAL SECTION**



**OPEN RAMP TYPICAL SECTION**

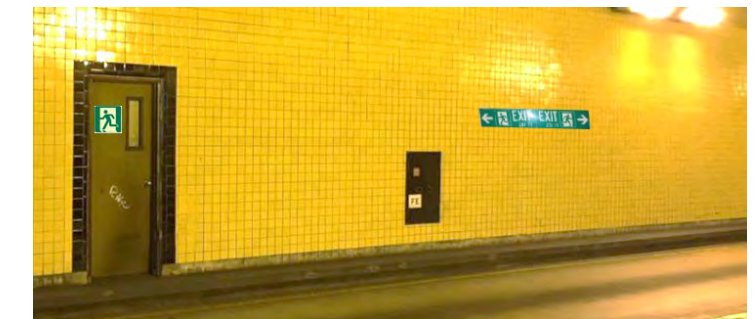
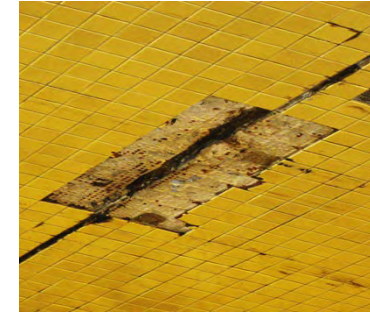




# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Rehabilitation

- Structural
  - Remove delaminated tiles
  - Repair spalls
- Architecture/Civil
  - Repair South Ventilation Building
  - Install impact attenuators at portals
  - Replace drainage grates (for bicycles)
- Mechanical
  - Replace pumps and ventilation fans
  - Install detectors for hazardous gases
- Electrical
  - Replace lighting with LED
  - Replace control systems and wiring
- Life Safety
  - Install exit signage in tunnel
  - Replace fire detection system and valves



# Proposed Improvements

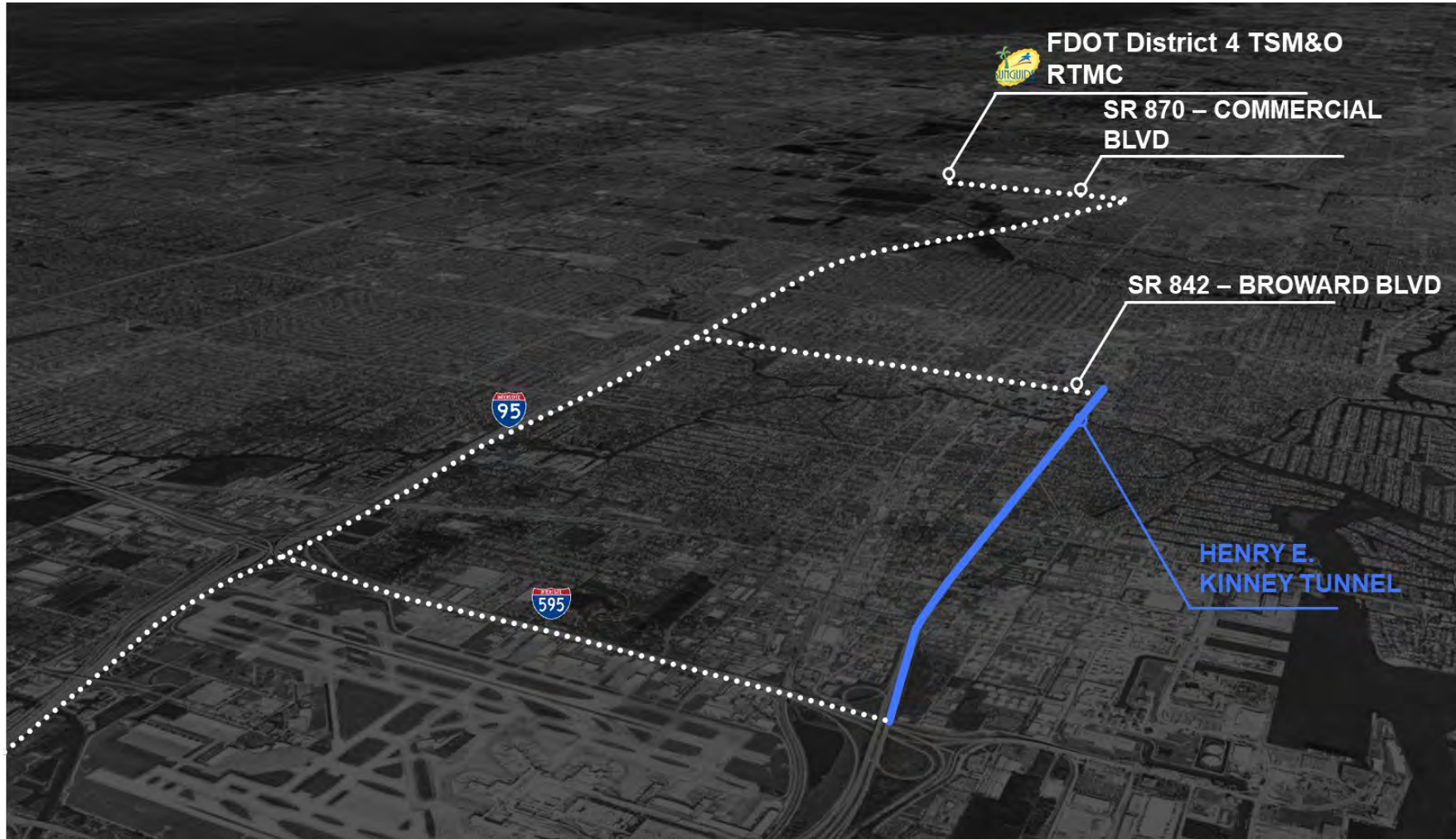
## Improve Safety and Mobility

- Adaptive Traffic Signal Control (ATC) System on US-1 at:
  - SE 30<sup>th</sup> Street
  - SE 28<sup>th</sup> Street
  - SR 84/Marina Boulevard
  - SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Davie Boulevard
  - SE 9<sup>th</sup> Street
  - SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Broward Boulevard





# Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)



# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Elements



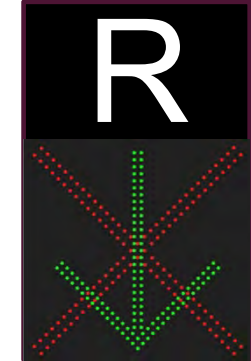
ROADWAY CCTV  
CAMERA AND TRAFFIC  
SENSOR (MDVS)



WARNING  
GATE



FLASHING  
BEACON



TUNNEL TRAFFIC  
CONTROL DEVICE



OVER HEIGHT DETECTION SENSORS



BLUETOOTH (AVI)  
READERS



ARTERIAL DYNAMIC MESSAGE SIGNS (ADMS)



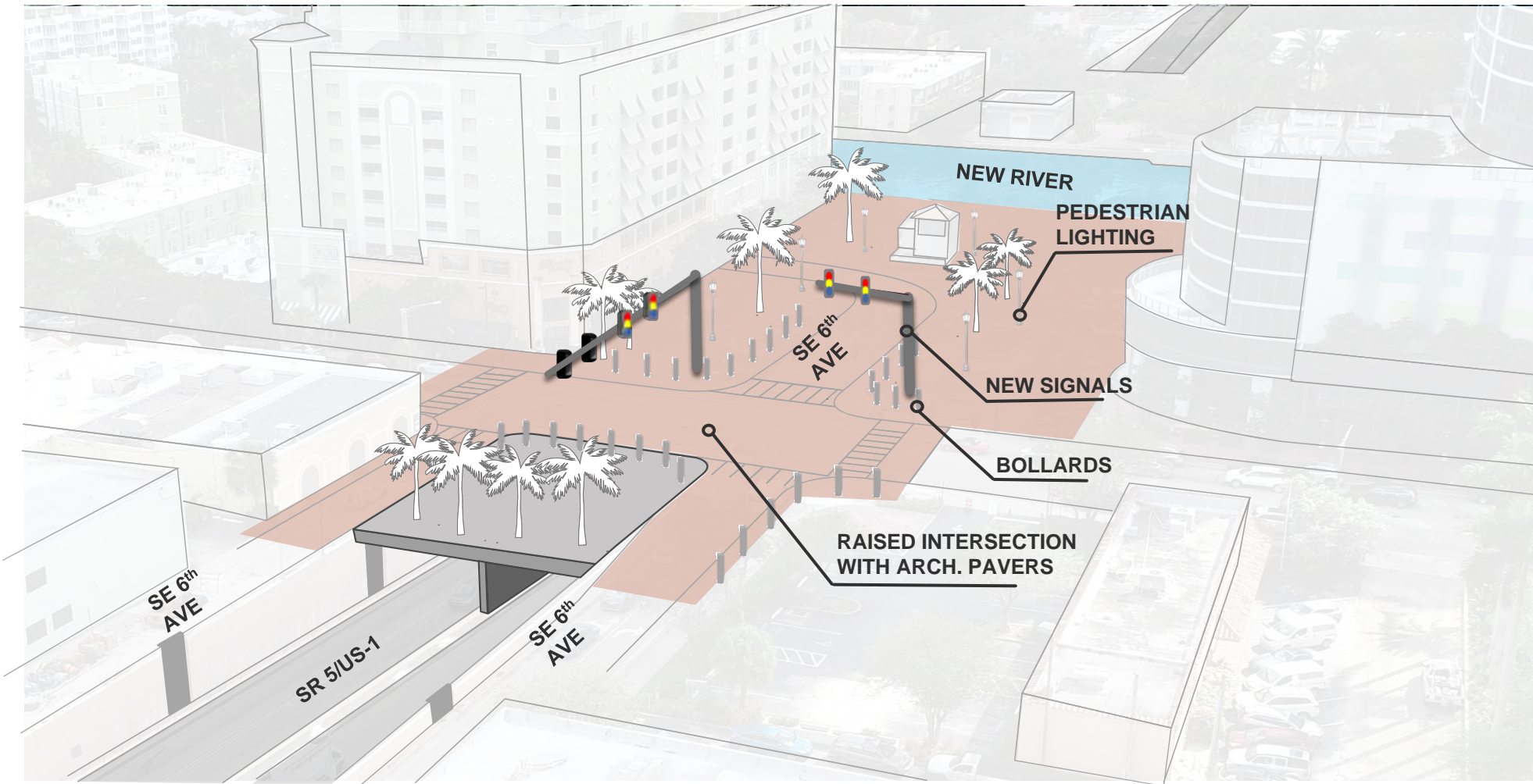
# Existing Conditions





# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



Conceptual Image

## Proposed Improvements

### Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza

- City of Fort Lauderdale Local Funded Agreement (\$10.6M)
- FP ID 439714-1-52-02
- Funded by City's Park Bonds
- Improves sight distance for SE 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southbound at Las Olas Boulevard
- Enhance Las Olas Boulevard at SE 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue:
  - Construct New Pedestrian Plaza/Tunnel Extension (117-ft)
  - Raised intersection
  - Reconstruct North ventilation building
  - Reconstruct SE 6th Ave and Laura Ward Riverwalk Plaza
  - Install hardscape and landscape
  - Replace signals with new mast arms



# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza – Coordination and Public Outreach

- Previous concepts and public meetings
  - Downtown Development Authority (DDA) 2013 Concept
  - City’s Structural Study of North Deck Extension 2015
  - FDOT Locally Funded Agreement (LFA) Concept 2017
  - Presentations and Public Meetings
    - Commission Meetings
    - Public Meeting on April 24, 2019
    - Public Meeting on November 25, 2019
    - Parks, Recreation, & Beaches Advisory Board Meeting on January 22, 2020 approves funding for final design and construction



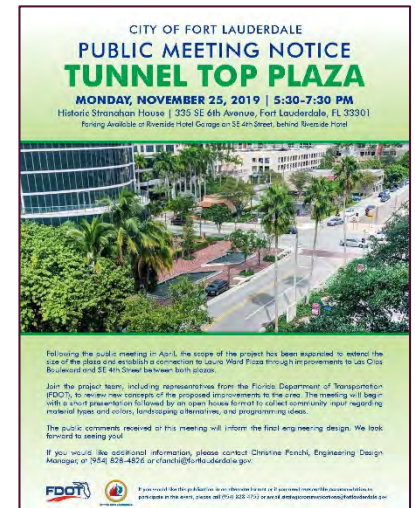
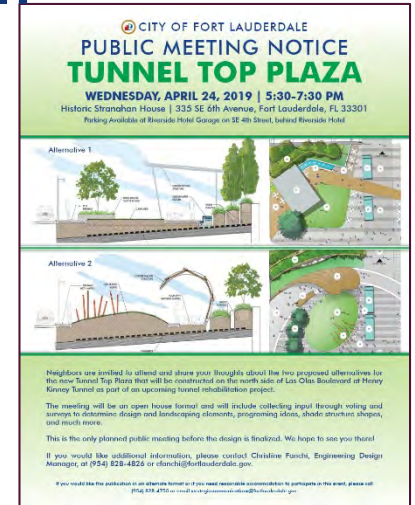
DDA Concept (2013)



Public Meeting Concept (April 2019)



Final Concept (Jan. 2020)





# Proposed Improvements

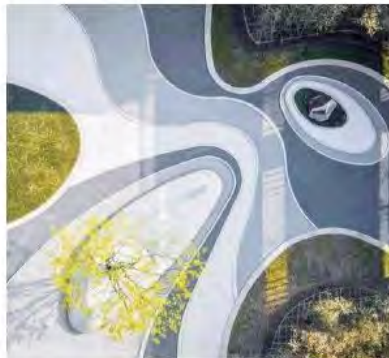
## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza





# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza





# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



Conceptual Image

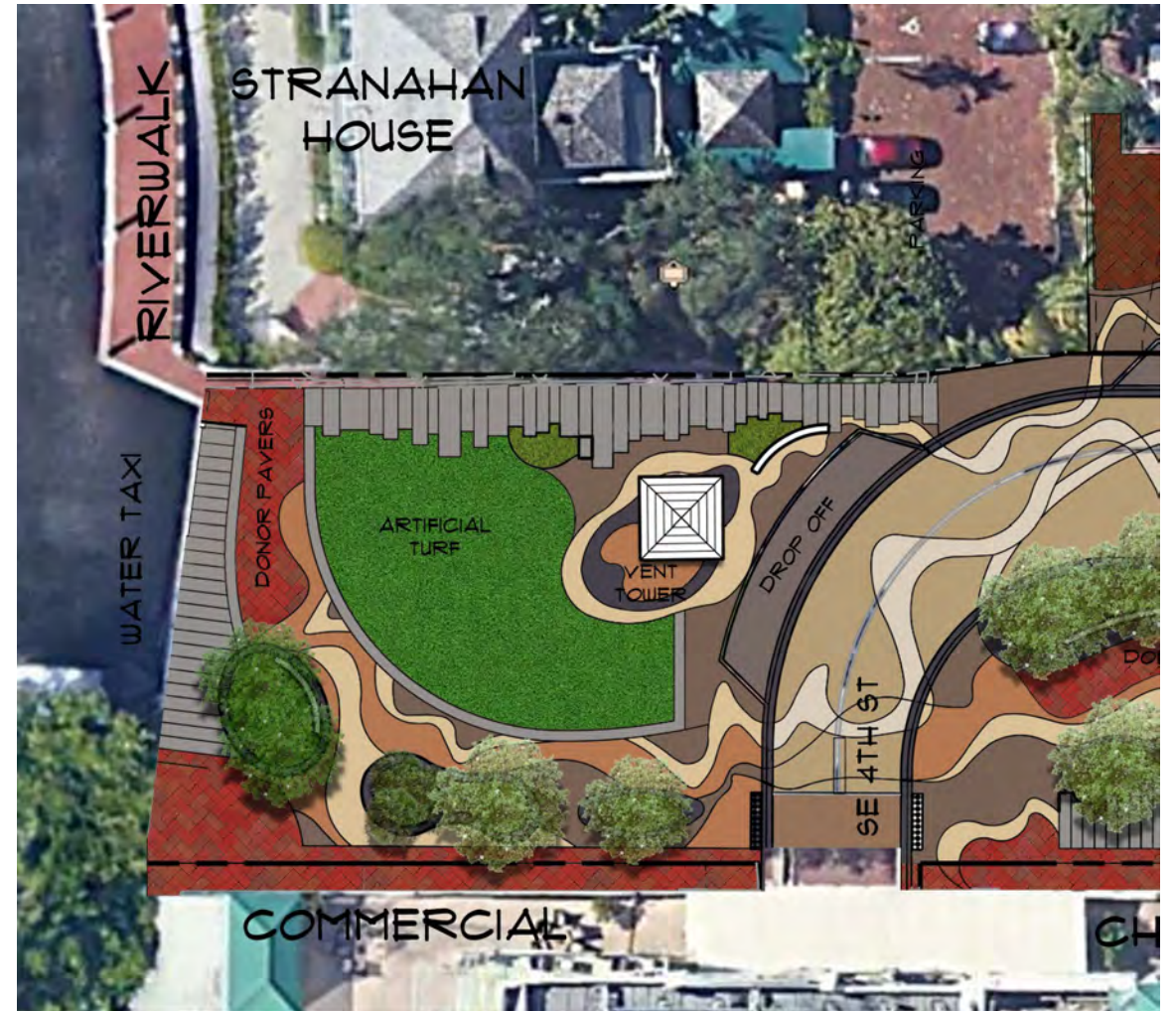


# Proposed Improvements

## Laura Ward Plaza

### Key Features:

- Trail head for Riverwalk
  - Connection to Las Olas
- Artificial turf event space
- Water Taxi improvements
  - Defined space
  - Seating
  - Shade
  - Lighting
- Vent Shaft improvements
  - Increase pedestrian space and opportunity for interpretative panels
- Planting focused on native canopy



Conceptual Image

# Proposed Improvements

## Riverside Hotel & ICON Plazas

### Key Features:

- Redefined cohesive patterned pavement to enhance flowing concept
  - Provides transition of "the canvas"
  - Preservation of Riverwalk donor pavers
- Renovation of fountain
- Preservation of access to Stranahan House
- Planting focused on native canopy



Conceptual Image

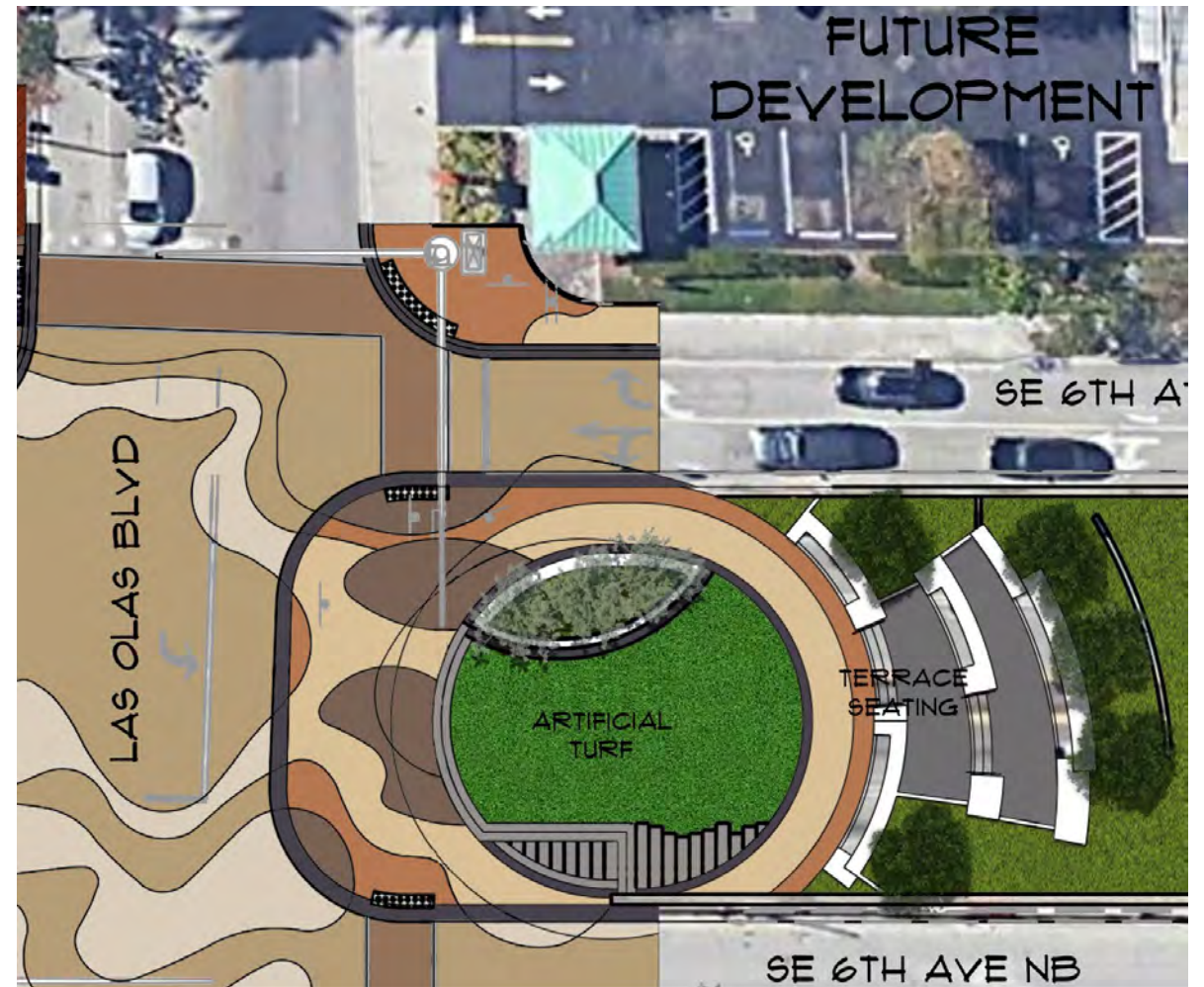


# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Plaza

### Key Features:

- Terrace seating
  - Elevated view to New River
  - Thematic head spring flowing to New River
- Elevated artificial turf play space
- Planting focused on native canopy



Conceptual Image



# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



Images from preliminary concept



# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



Images from preliminary concept



# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



Images from preliminary concept

# Proposed Improvements

## Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza



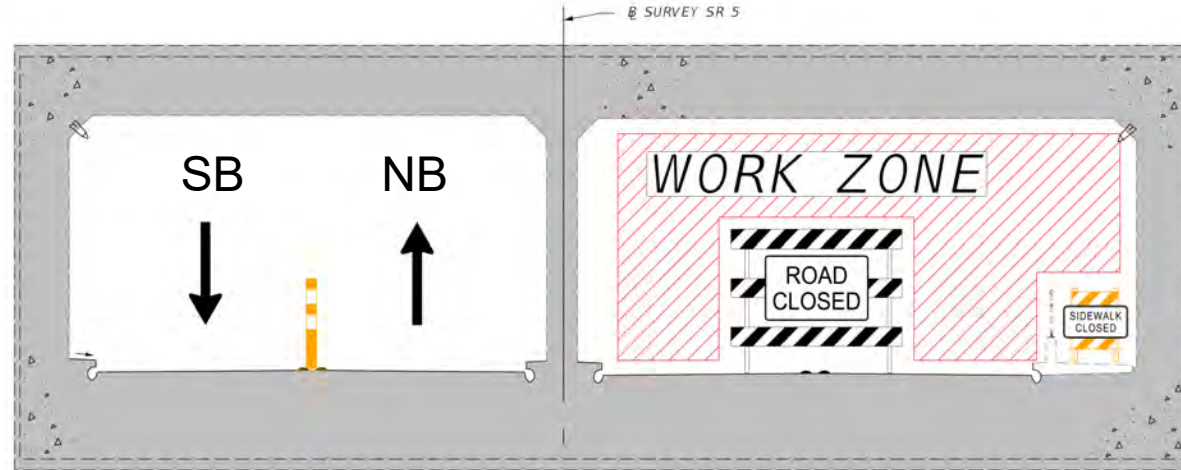
Historic  
Preservation  
Consultation



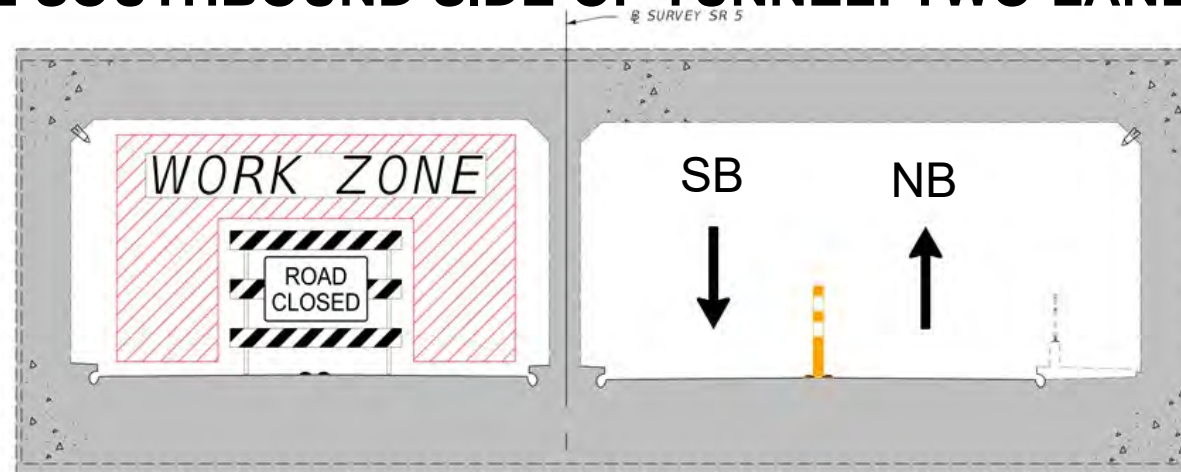


# Traffic Control Plan

## TCP 1 - CLOSE NORTHBOUND SIDE OF TUNNEL: TWO-LANE TWO-WAY TRAFFIC

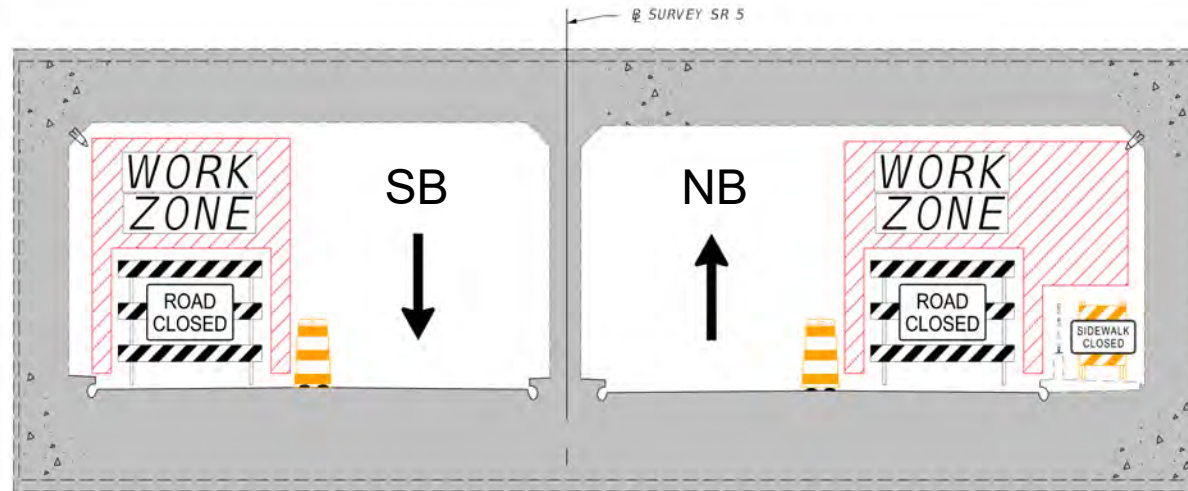


## TCP 2 - CLOSE SOUTHBOUND SIDE OF TUNNEL: TWO-LANE TWO-WAY TRAFFIC

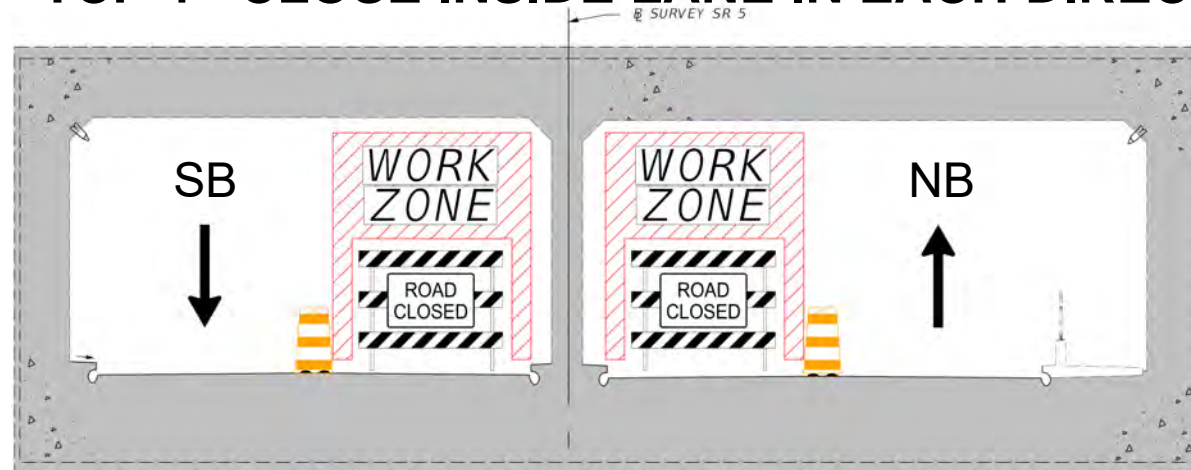


# Traffic Control Plan

## TCP 3 - CLOSE OUTSIDE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION



## TCP 4 - CLOSE INSIDE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION

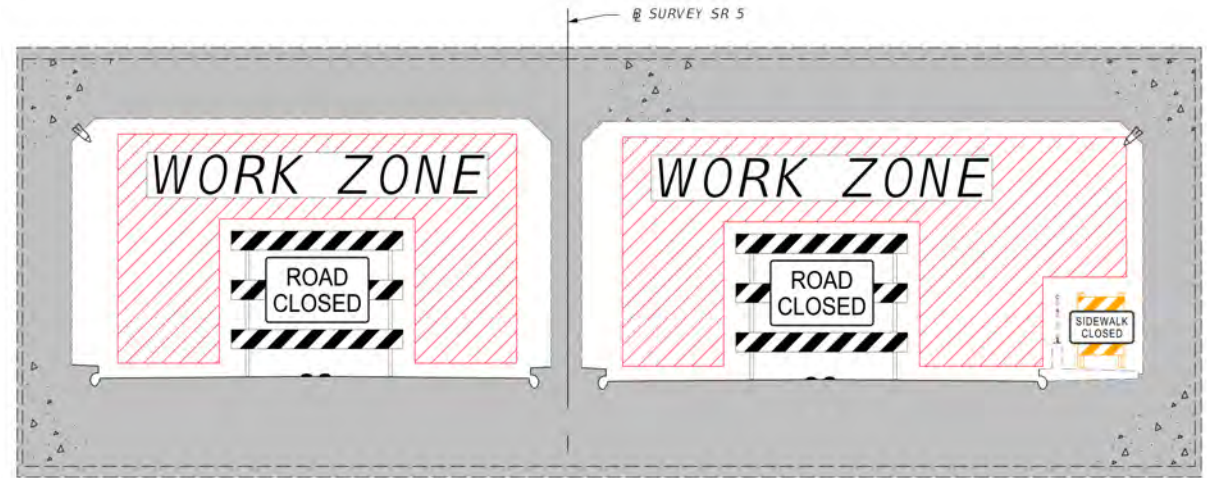
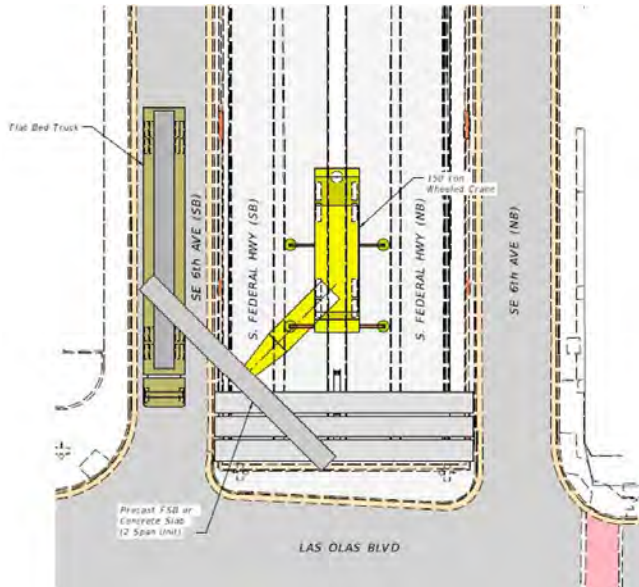




# Traffic Control Plan

## TCP 5 - FULL TUNNEL CLOSURE – DETOUR TRAFFIC

- Install detour for vehicle and pedestrian traffic on US-1 at tunnel
- Close all lanes of US-1 to traffic at tunnel

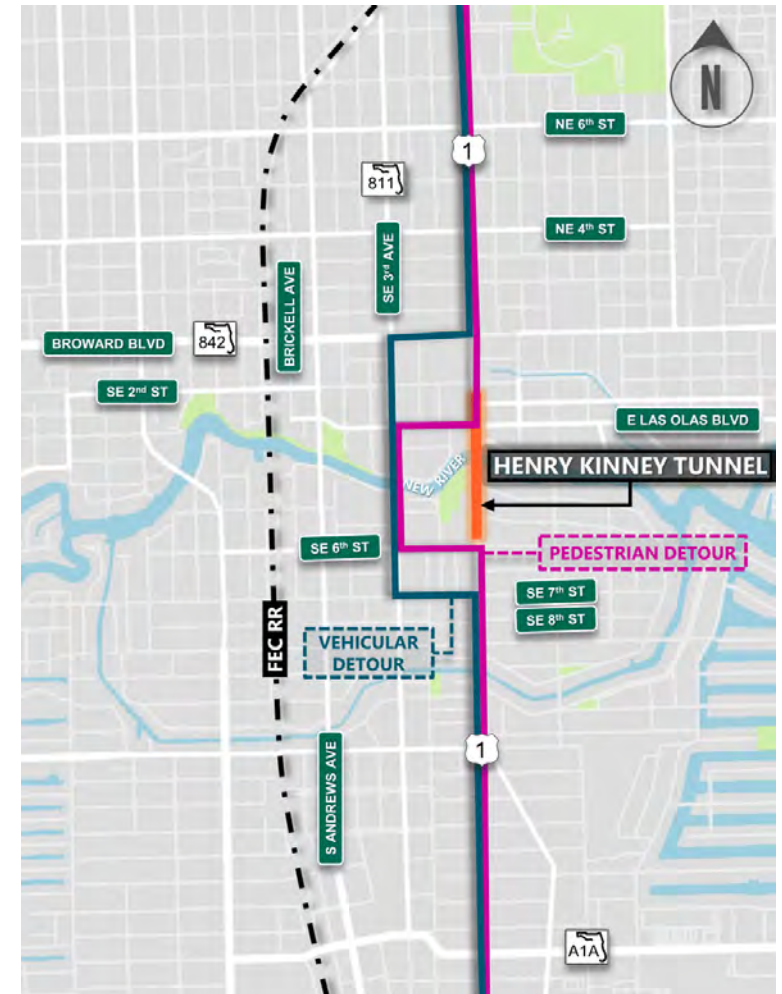


# Traffic Control Plan

## FULL TUNNEL CLOSURE – DETOUR TRAFFIC (NIGHTTIME OR WEEKENDS)

### TCP 5

- Detour traffic on US-1 at the tunnel
- Coordinate with emergency responders, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue bridge, and Broward County Traffic
- Detour of traffic through local streets (SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Broward Boulevard
- Pedestrian (sidewalk) traffic shall use SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street, SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, and East Las Olas Boulevard for detours



## Project Schedule and Cost

- Construction Cost Estimate: **\$26 Million**
- Final Design Completion: **December 2020**
- Letting Date (Bid Opening): **May 2021**
- Construction Start: **Summer 2021**

## Questions and Answer Session

- To provide a comment, please use the **“QUESTION”** button to send your text on your **GoToWebinar Panel**. Please **provide your full name and email address, then your comment**.
- If your question is not responded to during the event, a response will be provided in writing following the virtual workshop



# Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Rehabilitation and Tunnel Top Plaza Project

## Thursday, September 24, 2020

The presentation has concluded. This is now the question/comment and answer session.

Please submit your question using the question feature and a project team member will respond momentarily.

Team members will be available on this virtual workshop until all questions are answered.

- Questions can also be submitted via email to the Project Manager at [Fausto.Gomez@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Fausto.Gomez@dot.state.fl.us)
- The presentation can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/2ZE2DgF>
- A recording of the Virtual Public Information Workshop can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2ZqZyjO>.



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.E

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) UPDATE

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On Monday, September 13, 2021, the South Florida Regional Planning Council officially initiated the 5-year update of the CEDS for 2022 – 2027 with an inaugural CEDS Strategy Committee Meeting convened by CEDS Committee Chair Senator Geller.

The CEDS Strategy Committee consists of many of the region’s key public, private, non-profit, educational, labor, and resiliency leaders. The CEDS Strategy Committee’s work will be supported by Council staff and additional subject matter experts and leaders from the region.

At the meeting, participants were welcomed by Chair Geller who presented the larger view of regional planning, priority setting, and collaboration to include Palm Beach County and beyond. Council staff presented an overview of the CEDS and how it integrates into federal economic development investment and how the 2022-2027 CEDS will serve to maximize economic development investment in South Florida.

Please find herewith the agenda and meeting materials including staff presentation on the CEDS, CEDS process, CARES Act Economic Disaster Recovery Strategic Plan, and Baseline Data and Summary Background Report.

## Recommendation

Information Only





## **CEDS Strategy Committee (Invited)**

The Honorable Senator Steve Geller, Chair  
Mayor, Broward County

### **Committee Members**

Steve L. Abrams, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

Maria C. Alonso, President & CEO, United Way of Miami

Gretchen Beesing, LCSW, Chair, South Florida Community Development Coalition; CEO, Catalyst Miami

Honorable Joseph Corradino, President, Miami-Dade League of Cities; Mayor, Village of Pinecrest Nelson

Nelson Fernandez, Executive Vice President, ANF Group, Inc.

Michael Finney, President & CEO, The Beacon Council

Lynn Goldman, Community Relations Coordinator, Broward Technical Colleges

Oliver Gross, President, New Urban Development

Jonathan Guevarra, Ph.D., President, College of the Florida Keys

Gregory A. Haile, J.D., President, Broward College

George Hanbury, Ph.D., President & CEO, Nova Southeastern University

Carol Hylton, President / CEO, Career Source Broward

Alan B. Levan, Chairman & CEO, BBX Capital Corporation

Ana Carolina Cohelho Maran, Ph.D., District Resiliency Officer, South Florida Water Management District

Pablo G. Ortiz, Ed.D., Vice President & Vice Provost, Biscayne Bay Campus, Florida International University

Madeline Pumariega, President, Miami-Dade College

Daniel Reynolds, President, Broward County AFL / CIO

Matthew Rocco, President, South Florida Manufacturing Association

Mark Rosenberg, Ph.D., President, Florida International University / Life Sciences South Florida

Juliet M. Roulhac, Chair, Broward Workshop; Director, Corporate External Affairs, Florida Power & Light

Daniel Samess, M.S., CEO, Greater Marathon Chamber of Commerce

Newton Sanon, President & CEO, OIC South Florida

Jared Smith, Chair, South Florida Hospital Association; Chairman & CEO, Broward Health Coral Springs

Bob Swindell, President & CEO, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance

TJ Villamil, Senior Vice President – Intl Trade & Business Development, Enterprise Florida

John Wensveen, Ph.D., Chief Innovation Officer, Nova Southeastern University; Executive Director,

Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation

The Honorable Vice Mayor Beverly Williams, City of Lauderdale Lakes; President, Broward League of Cities





## **DRAFT AGENDA**

### **South Florida Comprehensive Economic Development (CEDS) Strategy Committee Kickoff Meeting**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
Phone: 954-924-3653

**Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

**THIS WILL BE A PHYSICAL / VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/412983541>

You can also dial in using your phone.

**United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679**

**United States: +1 (571) 317-3116**

**Access Code: 412-983-541**

#### **I. Meeting Objectives**

- A. Understand how the CEDS integrates into federal economic development investment in the region, and how the 2022-2027 SFRPC CEDS will serve as an important vehicle for maximizing economic development investments in South Florida.
- B. Define Strategy Committee's Roles and Relationships
- C. Present baseline data and summary background report
- D. Discuss upcoming SWOT Survey
- E. Adopt program of work and understand next steps



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020  
954-924-3653 Phone, 954-924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfrationalcouncil.org](http://www.sfrationalcouncil.org); [sfadmin@sfrpc.com](mailto:sfadmin@sfrpc.com)

**II. Public Comment**

**III. Welcome and Introductions**

- A. The Honorable Steve Geller, Chair, South Florida CEDS Strategy Committee, State Senator & Mayor, Broward County
- B. Mark Cassidy, SFRPC Economic Development and Research Manager
- C. Eralda Agolli, SFRPC CARES Act Economic Disaster Recovery Coordinator

**IV. Regional Strategic Planning Efforts**

- A. South Florida Economic Development District and Regional Coordination
- B. What is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?
- C. Current SFRPC 2017-2022 CEDS Overview
- D. Best Practices

**V. CARES ACT South Florida Economic Disaster Recovery Strategic Plan**

**VI. Define Strategy Committee Roles and Relationships**

- A. Focus Areas
- B. Working Groups

**VII. Baseline Data and Summary Background Report**

**VIII. SWOT Analysis Survey**

**IX. Next Steps**

- A. Expected Upcoming Quarterly Meetings
  - December, 2021
  - March, 2022
  - June, 2022
  - September, 2022

**X. Public Comment**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this hearing is asked to advise the Agency at least 5 days before the hearing by contacting the South Florida Regional Planning Council at one of the following: (1) One Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020; (2) Phone 954-924-3653; (3) Fax 954-924-3654; or (4) [sfadmin@sfrpc.com](mailto:sfadmin@sfrpc.com). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TTY/VCO), 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice), 1 (800) 955-8773 (Spanish).

Agenda packets for upcoming CEDS Committee meetings will be available at the Council's website, <https://sfregionalcouncil.org/portfolio-items/economic-dev-district-edd/>

If you would like to be added to the e-mail list to receive the link to the agenda, please e-mail the Council at [sfadmin@sfrpc.com](mailto:sfadmin@sfrpc.com).

# Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for South Florida, 2022-2027

Strategy Committee Inaugural Meeting  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021



# Opening Remarks



**The Honorable Steve Geller**, Chair, South Florida CEDS Strategy Committee  
State Senator & Mayor, Broward County

- CEDS is the region's economic development blueprint
  - Updated every 5 years
- Guided by regional leaders to maximize impact
- ***Organized set of priority projects ready when large funding opportunities come out***



# Welcome



**Mark Cassidy, AICP**  
Economic Development & Research Manager  
South Florida Regional Planning Council

# Today's Objectives

- Understand CEDS
- Define Strategy Committee's Roles and Relationships
- Present baseline data and summary background report
- Discuss upcoming SWOT Survey
- Adopt program of work

# Regional Strategic Planning Efforts

- South Florida Economic Development District
- What is a CEDS?
- Current SF CEDS and best practices
- CARES ACT South Florida Economic Disaster Recovery Strategic Plan



# South Florida EDD and CEDS

- SFRPC is the Region's Economic Development District (EDD)
- CEDS is a five-year economic development roadmap for the Region
  - Align with federal, state, and regional planning efforts
- SFRPC Manages the 5-year update of the CEDS
  - Next update September 2022
  - Ideas led by strategy committee



# What does *CEDS* do?

- Past, present, future of regional economy
- Establish regional goals and objectives
- Develop a regional plan of action
- Identify priority projects and funding sources
- Performance Metrics



# SFRPC 2017-2022 CEDS



“to be the leading international community and commerce gateway, welcoming the world to Florida, the nation’s top performing economy. It will be recognized as one of the world’s best places to live, visit, learn, work and conduct business.”

# Example Goal and Objective

- Innovation and Competitiveness
  - Goal
    - Enhance the resilience of the South Florida economy in the face of natural disasters and changes to the national and state economies through increased awareness and preparation by businesses for environmental risks.
  - Objective
    - Support organizations that increase international trade, achieve a positive trade balance with partners
      - Provide technical assistance to organizations such as MIA, FLL, Key West Airport and Port Miami, Port Everglades, Port Miami.

# Strong Example

2020

## EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA CEDS

### TOWARDS A RESILIENT REGION

Brevard  
Lake  
Marion  
Orange  
Osceola  
Seminole  
Sumter  
Volusia

This report was prepared by the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council under Award # EDA20ATL3020018 from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

- Outline priority projects and potential funding sources outlines
- Avoid lengthiness
- Make connections to EDA Investment Priorities

# EDA Investment Priorities

-  **Equity**
-  **Recovery & Resilience**
-  **Workforce Development**
-  **Manufacturing**
-  **Technology-Based Economic Development**
-  **Environmentally-Sustainable Development**
-  **Exports & Foreign Direct Investment**

# CEDS Required Components

- Summary Economic Background and Framework
- SWOT Analysis
- Strategic Direction/Action Plan
  - Strategic Direction: Vision Statement and Goals/Objectives
  - Action Plan: Implementation
- Evaluation Framework: Performance measures
- Economic Resilience:
  - Specific section or integrate throughout
  - 2022 CARES Act Economic Disaster Recovery Strategic Plan Element\*



# CARES Act South Florida Economic Disaster Recovery Strategic Plan



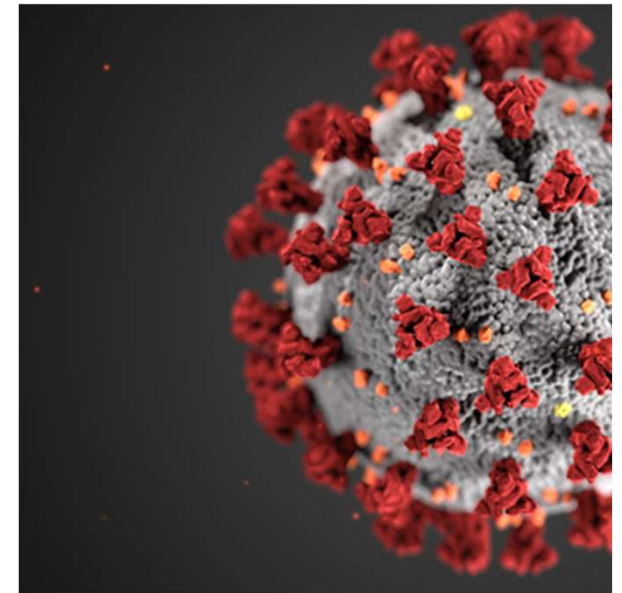
**Eralda Agolli, MPA**

CARES Act Economic Disaster  
Recovery Coordinator  
South Florida Regional  
Planning Council

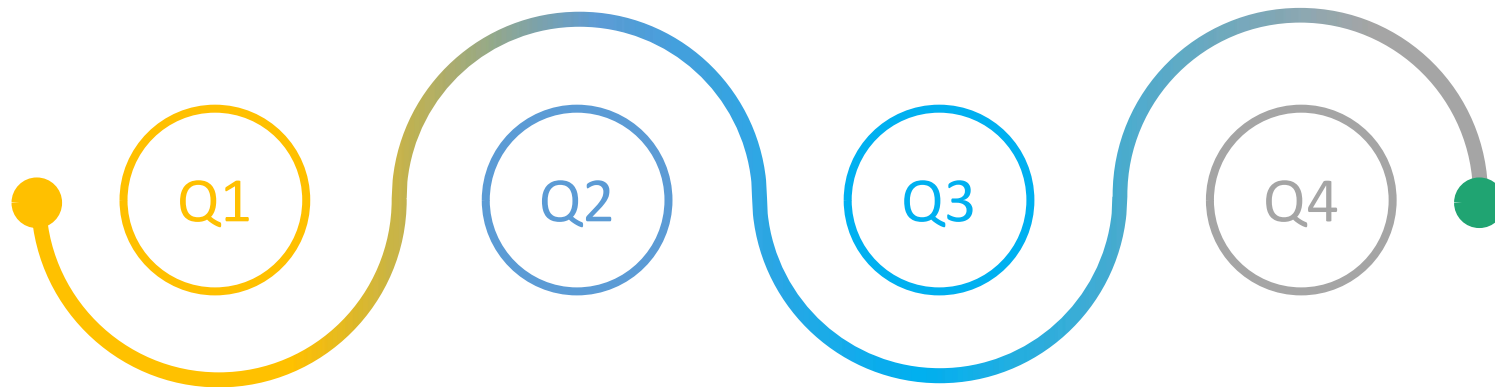
# CARES ACT Scope of Work

**August 2020 – June 2022**

- The SFRPC was recently awarded funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to support economic resilience efforts across the region directly related to the coronavirus pandemic.
- This funding will enable the SFRPC to augment and focus staff resources, towards priorities related to coronavirus response, recovery, and long-term planning over the next two years.



# Grant Roadmap



JULY 20 – SEP. 20

- Hired EDRC September 2020.

OCT. 20-DEC. 20

- Assessed region's COVID-19 Impact via survey establishing top 3 issues.
- Developed list of available funding sources and grants at specific agencies.
- Initiated coordination efforts of an Economic Resilience committee to help guide future recovery efforts.

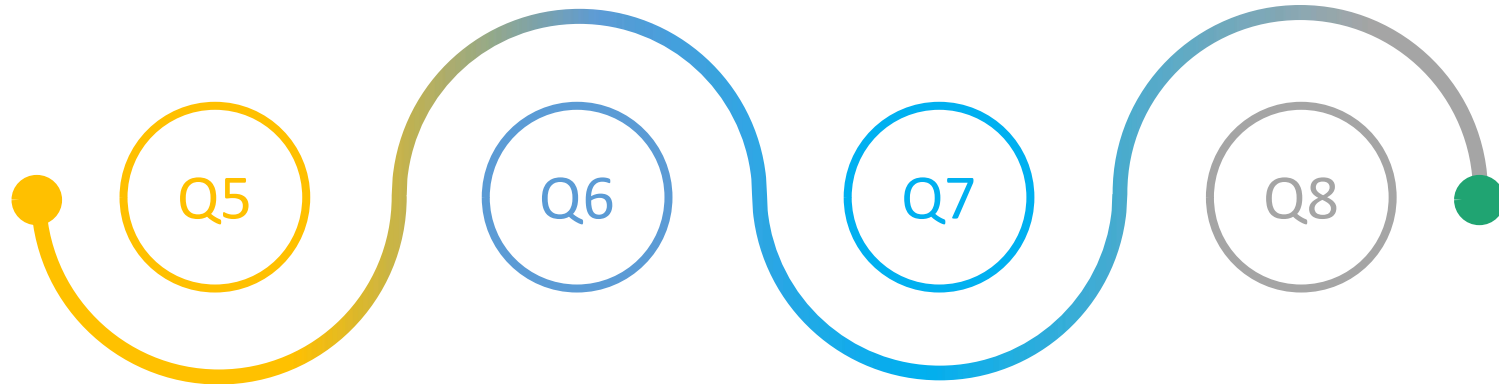
JAN.21- MARCH 21

- Supported Local Governments and Community Partners through outreach and personal phone calls.
- Hosted informational webinar on council's work and EDA priorities.

APRIL 21 – JUNE 21

- Continued community outreach and RLF CARES Act loan promotion.
- Hosted educational webinars. Conducted data research/assessment of economic impact resulting from COVID-19 (SFRPC/TBRPC Report)

# Grant Roadmap



JULY 21-SEP. 21

- Identified regional partners and establish & convene Ec. Resilience committee.
- Utilize group to develop Long Term Economic Resilience Plan.

OCT. 21 – DEC. 21

- Work with the Committee to develop Long-Term Economic Resilience Plan that supports economic diversification, job creation, capital investment, and workforce development and opportunities.
- Draft due **March 2022**. **Final report due to EDA June 2022**. Continue outreach through educational webinars.

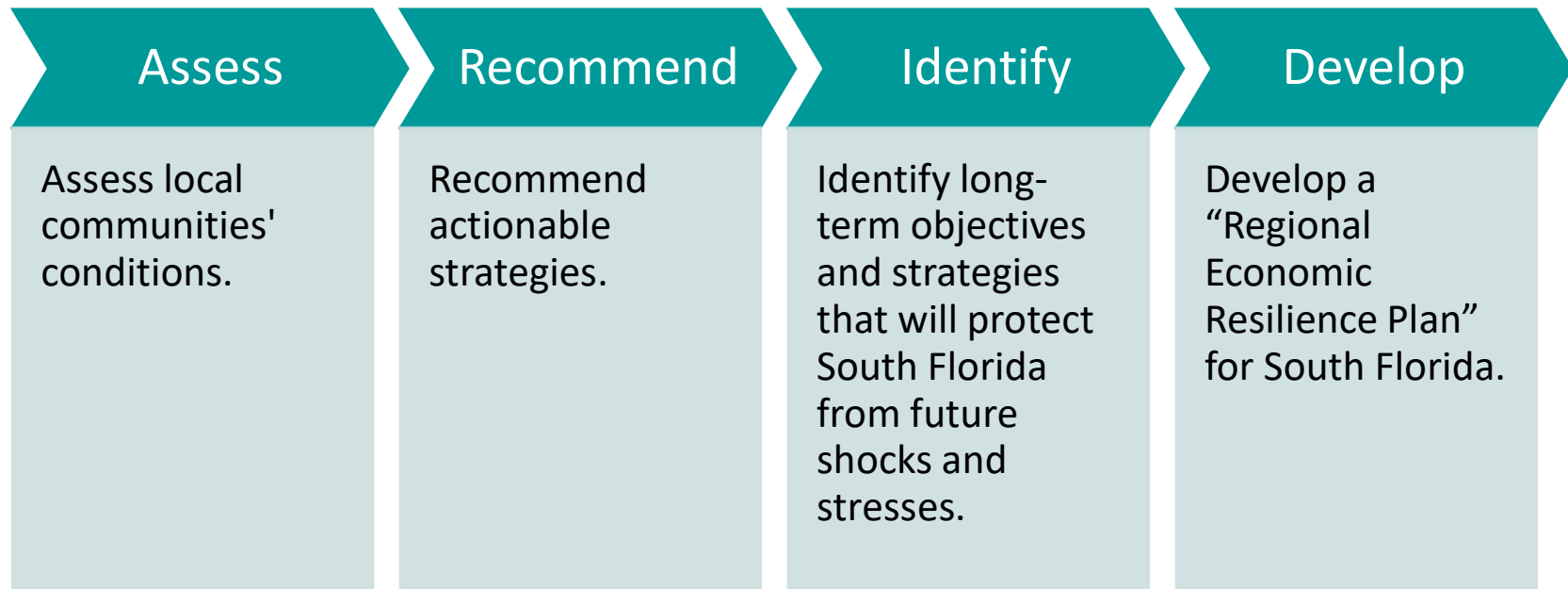
JAN. 22 – MARCH 22

- Work on draft report. Report to include actionable strategies that will assist member governments and communities in meeting short-term economic recovery objectives relating to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Provide performance measures for future similar events.

APRIL 22 – JUNE 22

- Finalize and submit report.
- Present recommendations to EDOs.

# CARES Committee Role







# Roles and Relationships

- Process led by SFRPC staff
- Ideas from Executive Strategy Committee
  - Devise Vision, Action and Implementation Plan
  - Identify projects that address the unique economic development needs of the region
- Working Groups – volunteer or designate
- Focus Areas

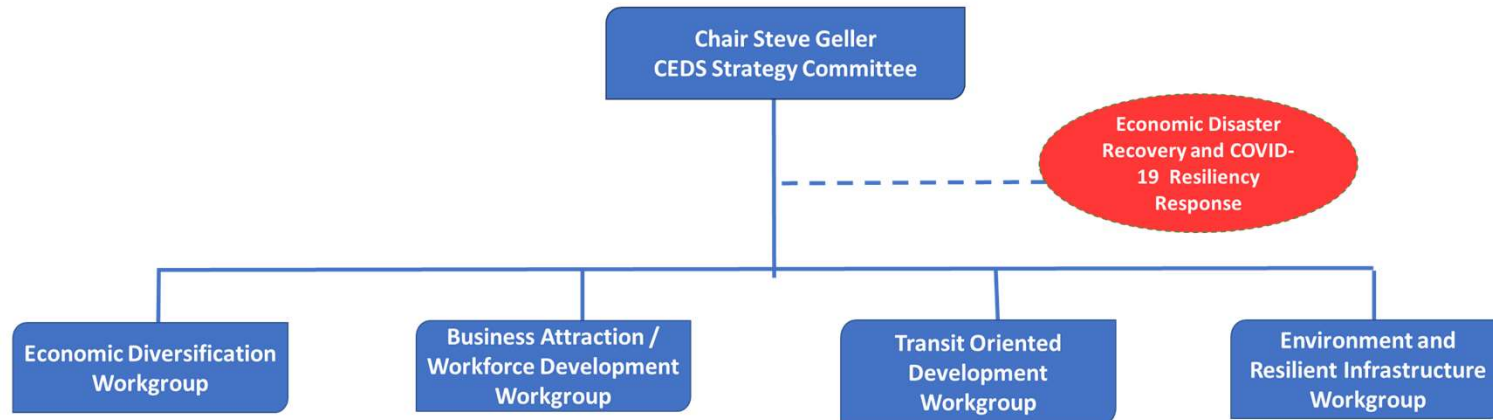
# Work Group Framework



2022-2027 DRAFT CEDS  
Framework

**FOCUS ON REGIONAL TRENDS,  
ISSUES, SYSTEMS, CONNECTIONS,  
AND GAPS**

**Goals: Regional Economic Growth & Resiliency / Enhanced Access to Opportunity / Disaster  
Prevention & Recovery / Affordability**



**FOCUS ON REGIONAL TRENDS,  
 ISSUES, SYSTEMS, CONNECTIONS,  
 AND GAPS**

**Goals: Regional Economic Growth & Resiliency / Enhanced Access to Opportunity / Disaster Prevention & Recovery / Affordability**

**Chair Steve Geller  
 CEDS Strategy Committee**

**Economic Disaster  
 Recovery and COVID-  
 19 Resiliency  
 Response**

**Economic Diversification  
 Workgroup**

**Business Attraction /  
 Workforce Development  
 Workgroup**

**Transit Oriented  
 Development  
 Workgroup**

**Environment and  
 Resilient Infrastructure  
 Workgroup**

**Traditional and Emerging Industries  
 Creating an Innovation Economy**

**Workforce  
 Development -  
 Education**

**Business  
 Friendly  
 Environment**

**Connectivity and Access**

**Resiliency**

- Agriculture / Aquaculture
- Arts & Culture
- Construction & Real Estate
- Defense
- Freight & Logistics
- Health Care
- Hospitality / Tourism

- Life Sciences
- Innovation & Technology
- Manufacturing
- Marine Industry / Fisheries
- Marine Research
- Eco Tourism
- Professional Services

- Trade / Vocational
- Colleges
- Universities
- Community Organizations

- Growing Middle Class
- Healthy / Safe Communities
- Expedited Permitting

- Broadband
- Mobility
- Land Use / Connectivity
- Multimodal Network
- Opportunity Zones

- Affordable Living
- Housing
- Transportation
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Child Care
- Health Care
- Food
- Education

- Water / Wastewater
- Flooding
- Energy / Alt Fuel
- Natural Environment
- Urban Environment

# Work Group Meetings

- Each work group meets once in between Strategy Committee Meetings
- 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month proposed (approximately 2 hours)
- Discuss current activities and desired outcomes for each topic
- Topics:
  1. CARES Act
  2. Focus Areas and Action Plan \*
  3. Projects and Funding Sources \*
  4. Finalize

\* May be longer due to level of work.

# Meetings and Topics

- CEDS Strategy Committee Meetings
  - December 2021
    - SWOT, Performance Measures, CARES Act
  - March 2022
    - Vision statement, Action Plan, goals and objectives
    - Draft CARES Act Element
  - June 2022
    - Projects and Funding Sources
    - Approve CARES Act Element
  - September 2022
    - Approve Final CEDS



# Baseline Data and Summary Background Report



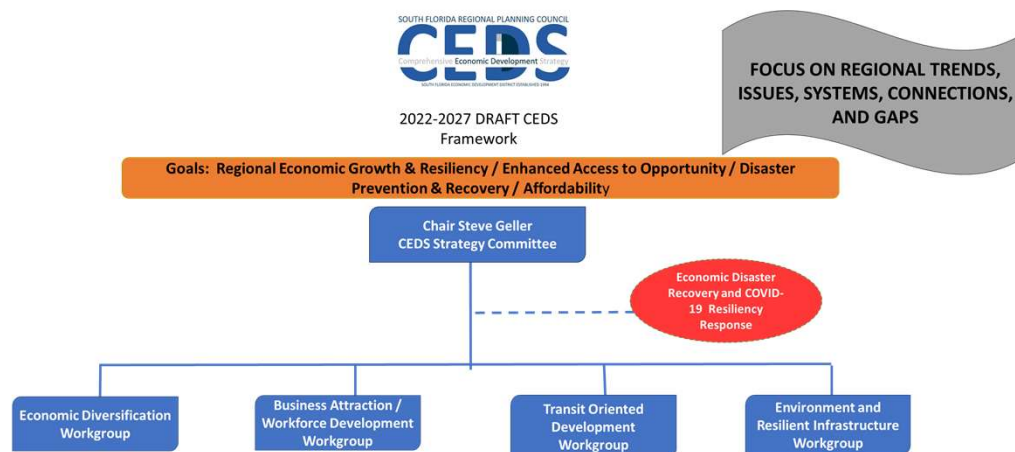
# State of the Region

- Baseline demographic and economic information
  - Population, income, employment
- Additional Supporting
  - Innovation Index
  - ALICE Index
  - Local Skills Gap Surveys
  - Maps of Current and Future Infrastructure



# State of the Region

- Organize by Focus Areas:
  - Economic Disaster Recovery and COVID-19 Resiliency Response
  - Economic Diversification
  - Business Attraction / Workforce Development
  - Transit-Oriented Development
  - Environment and Resilient Infrastructure



# Example State of the Region

- Data from 2020 Annual Report and Update
- Demonstrate example of summary background data for Economic Disaster Recovery and COVID-19 Resiliency Response

# 2020 CEDS Annual Report and Update

- EDA requests a CEDS Amendment from time to time
  - Additional data or other information
- Most recent update - 2020
  - SLR projections
  - Economic Data
  - COVID-19 Impacts
  - Opportunity Zones



# Updated Economic Data

- GDP growth Pre-COVID
- Steady reduction in unemployment until COVID-19
- ALICE Index + Poverty improved regionally but still lagging

Geography	ALICE	Poverty	Below ALICE Threshold
Broward	37%	13%	50%
Miami-Dade	37%	17%	54%
Monroe	29%	8%	37%
State – FL	33%	13%	46%

Source: United Way 2020 ALICE Report

# South Florida Region Unemployment 2019-2020



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Job Loss by Industry

## Percentage Job Loss in Largest Industries September 2019-2020

Industry	Broward	Miami-Dade
Leisure and Hospitality	-28.7%	-20.9%
Retail Trade	-2.7%	-4.5%
Education and Health Services	-6.6%	-5.7%
Professional and Business Services	-5.5%	-3.8%
Transportation, trade, and utilities	-3.8%	-4.4%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Forecasted Economic Impacts

Used REMI to forecast based on May 2020 data:

Forecasted Economic Indicators % Change from 2019 - 2020			
Category	Employment	GDP	Disposable Income
Broward	-9.1%	-6.2%	-1.8%
Miami-Dade	-8.6%	-5.8%	-1.3%
Monroe	-11.8%	-8.5%	-7.0%
South Florida	-9.0%	-6.0%	-2.0%
State of Florida	-7.7%	-4.8%	-1.8%
U.S	-5.7%	-2.7%	-1.2%

Source: SFRPC analysis using Policy Insight Plus from Regional Economic Models, Inc.

# South Florida 2021 COVID-19 Economic Impact Report

Table 5: Summary of Employment Loss in 2020 (REMI)

Category	Units	Counties							
		Broward		Miami-Dade		Monroe		Total	
Total Employment*	Individual (Jobs)	-102,928	-8%	-150,530	-8%	-9,123	-15%	-262,581	-8%
Labor Force*	Individual (Jobs)	-8,310	-1%	-13,413	-1%	-1,726	-4%	-23,449	-1%
Gross Domestic Product	Millions of Current Dollars	-\$5,666	-5%	-\$8,574	-5%	-\$702	-12%	-\$14,922	-5%
Personal Income	Millions of Current Dollars	\$2,892	3%	\$4,990	3%	-\$310	-4%	\$7,573	3%

Source: TBRPC REMI PI+ (2021) \*Currency Figures in current \$



# South Florida 2021 COVID-19 Economic Impact Report

Table 6: Summary of Employment Recovery in 2021 (REMI)

Source: TBRPC REMI PI+ (2020) \*Currency Figures in current \$

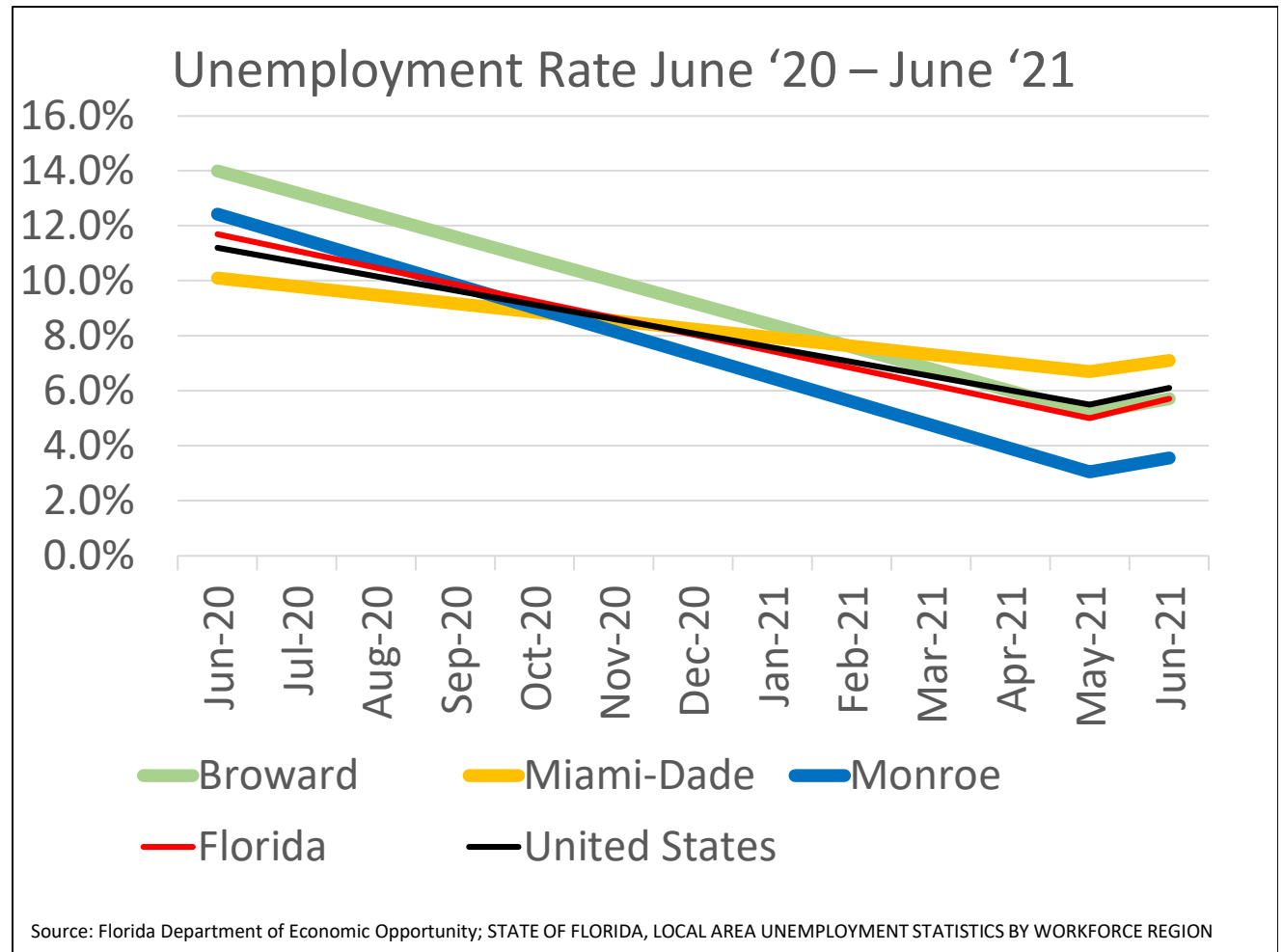
\*The number of people in the labor force, i.e., employed or seeking work; calculated with participation rates by

Category	Units	Counties							
		Broward		Miami-Dade		Monroe		Total	
Total Employment	Individual (Jobs)	-79,330	-6%	-106,825	-0.1%	-8,424	-13%	-194,579	6%
Labor Force*	Individual (Jobs)	-10,978	-1%	-16,780	-0.01%	-2,492	-6%	-30,249	-1%
Gross Domestic Product	Millions of Current Dollars	-\$3,584	-3%	-\$4,629	-0.02%	-\$703	-12%	-\$8,904	-3%
Personal Income	Millions of Current Dollars	\$1,789	2%	\$4,749	0.03%	-\$419	-6%	\$6,118	2%

age cohort. Other Definitions found in Appendix.

# Recent Unemployment Data

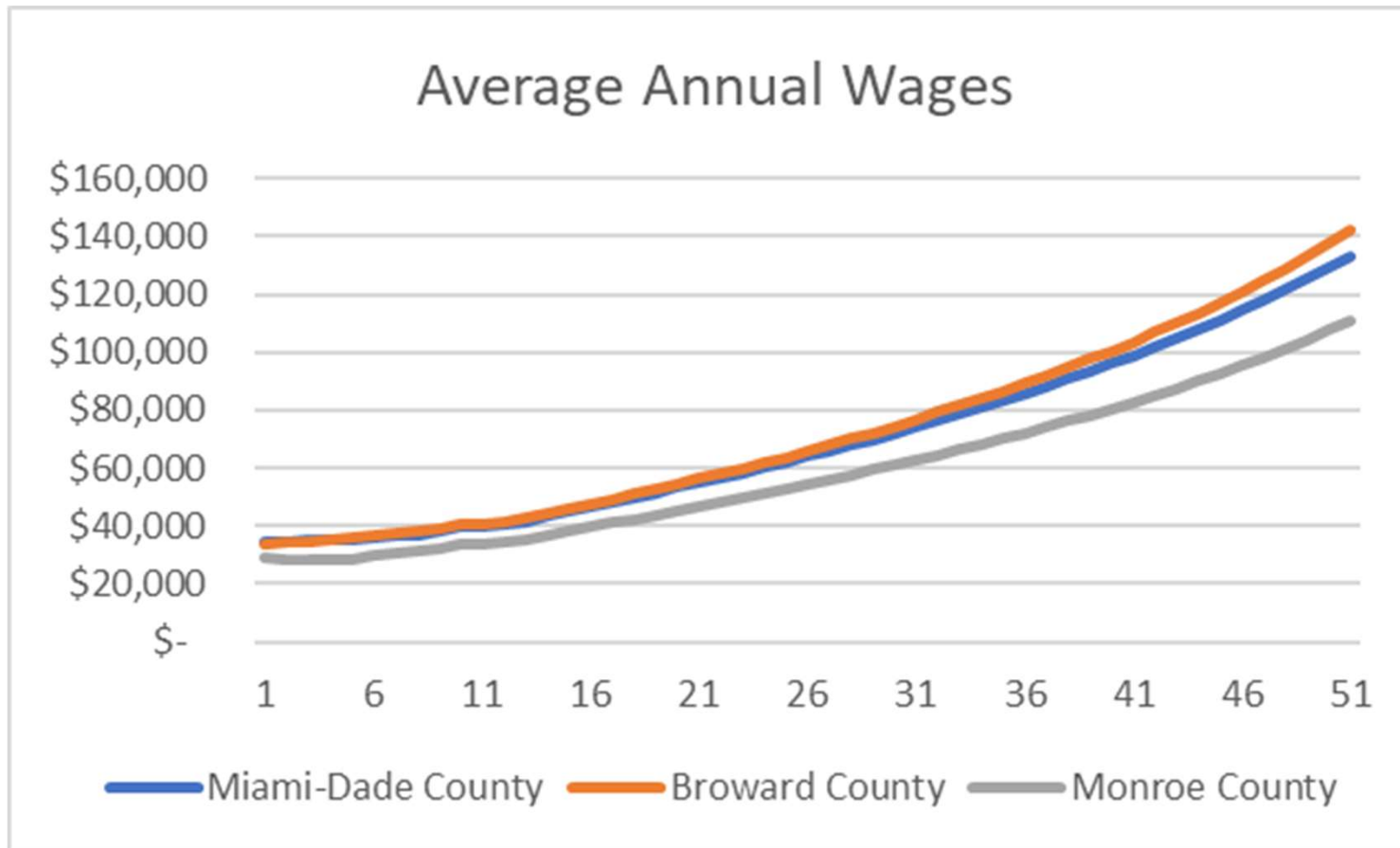
- Strong decrease over the past year
- Slight uptick recently
- Miami-Dade lagging



# Typical Performance Metrics

- HS Graduation Rates
- Eight Grade Math Performance
- Average Annual Unemployment
- Average Wage per Week
- Daily Vehicle Miles Travelled
- Gross Domestic Product
- Annual Building Permits
- Percent of Persons Living in Poverty
- Real Personal per Capita Income
- Location Quotient
- Tourism Development Tax Collections
- Employment by Industry

# Average Annual Wages



# Performance Metrics

- Agreed upon by CEDS Committee from suggested list from SFRPC
- Discuss next meeting - December 2021
- New EDA and NADO guidance:
  - State or Regional Scorecard
  - Core Performance Metrics
    - Wages
    - Location Quotient / Shift Share
  - Regionally Unique
    - Tourism
    - Blue Economy
    - Patents Granted







# SWOT Analysis Survey

- SFRPC Staff will distribute brief questionnaire
  - Top 5 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
  - Economic Resiliency Target Priority
  - Performance Metrics
  - Select Work Group or Designate Representative
- Please respond before December Meeting
- Suggestions to include?

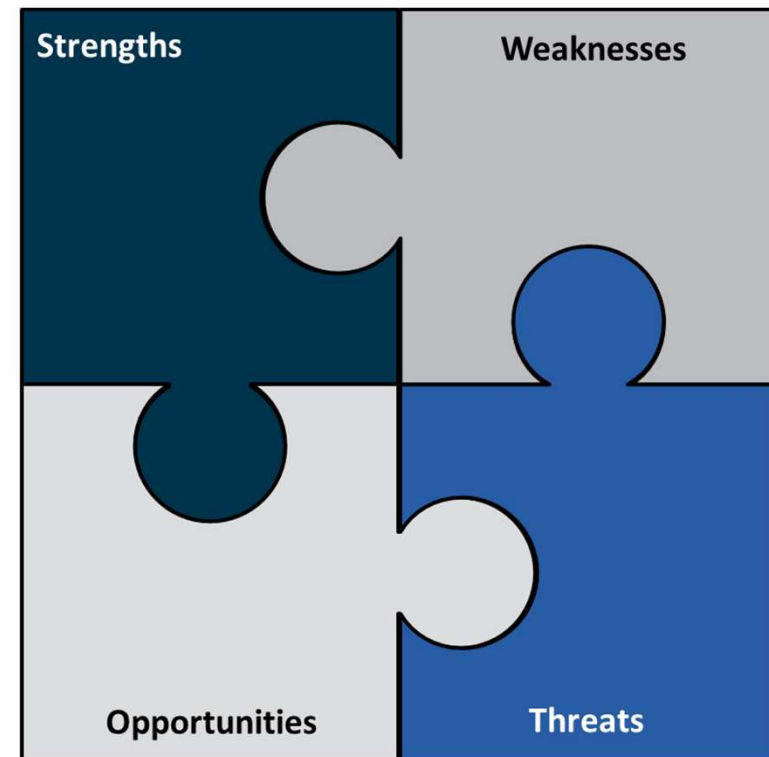


# Summary and Next Steps

- **CEDS is an economic development blueprint that helps secure significant funding for the region**
- **SFRPC creates a network to exchange expertise and ideas**
- **Look out for SWOT Survey**
  - **Respond including join or designate work group representative**
  - **Propose performance measures**
- **Work group kickoff meetings in Oct – Nov**
  - **1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday or Friday of month?**

# Next Meeting – December 2021

- **SFRPC staff presents**
  - SWOT summary report
  - List of proposed performance measures
  - Progress on CARES Act Strategic Plan
- **CEDS Committee Discussion**
  - SWOT Analysis – compile key takeaways
  - Finalize Performance Measures
  - Action Plan & Evaluation Framework



# CEDS Strategy Committee Meetings

## 1. September 13, 2021 (Today)

- Define Strategy Committee's Roles and Relationships
- Present baseline data and summary background report
- Distribute SWOT Survey
- Adopt program of work

## 2. December 2021

- SWOT Analysis and Performance Measures
- Discuss Action Plan and Evaluation Framework
- Working topic – CARES Act Strategic Plan

# CEDS Strategy Committee Meetings

## 3. March 2022

- Finalize Action Plan and Evaluation Framework, formal vision statement, goals, and objectives
- Draft CARES Act Strategy

## 4. June 2022

- Approve Final CARES Act Strategic Plan
- Identify potential projects and funding opportunities in Action Plan
- Present Draft 2022-2027 CEDS

## 5. September 2022

- Approve the 2022-2027 CEDS



**Mark Cassidy, AICP**  
Economic Development &  
Research Manager  
[mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com)

**Eralda Agolli, MPA**  
Program Manager, Economic  
Disaster Recovery  
[eagolli@sfrpc.com](mailto:eagolli@sfrpc.com)

W: [sfrationalcouncil.org](http://sfrationalcouncil.org)  
P: 954.924.3653

**CONTACT US**





# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VII.A

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DATE:            SEPTEMBER 27, 2021  
TO:              COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM:            STAFF  
SUBJECT:         ATTENDANCE FORM

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Information only.



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020  
954.924.3653 Phone, 954.924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)

2021 ATTENDANCE RECORD

<b>COUNCILMEMBERS</b>	2/22/21 Physical / Virtual	3/19/21 * Virtual	4/26/21 Physical / Virtual	5/7/21 ** Physical / Virtual	5/24/21 Physical / Virtual	6/28/21 Physical / Virtual Miami-Dade County	7/26/21 Physical / Virtual
<b>BAILEY, Mario, <i>Chair</i></b> Governor's Appointee	P	VP	P	VP	P	P	P
<b>COLDIRON, Michelle</b> Mayor, Monroe County	VP	*	VP	*	VP	*	VP
<b>CORRADINO, Joseph</b> Mayor, Village of Pinecrest	*	*	*	*	A	P	*
<b>FURR, Beam, <i>Treasurer</i></b> Broward County Commission	P	*	P	VP	P	P	P
<b>GARCIA, René</b> Miami-Dade Co. Commission	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP	*	VP
<b>GELLER, Steve, <i>First Vice Chair</i></b> Mayor, Broward County	P	VP	P	VP	P	*	P
<b>GILBERT, III, Oliver</b> Miami-Dade Co. Commission	A	VP	D	*	*	*	*
<b>GOLDBERG, Cary</b> Governor's Appointee	VP	VP	VP	*	*	*	*
<b>KAUFMAN, Samuel, <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair</i></b> Commissioner, Key West	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP
<b>LEONARD, Jordan, <i>Secretary</i></b> Councilmember, Bay Harbor Islands	VP	VP	VP	VP	*	P	P
<b>MARTÍNEZ, Eddie</b> Monroe County Commission	P	*	VP	*	*	*	*
<b>MONESTIME, Jean</b> Miami-Dade Co. Commission	*	*	A	*	A	*	*
<b>ROSS, Greg, <i>Immediate Past Chair</i></b> Mayor, Cooper City	P	VP	P	VP	P	VP	P
<b>UDINE, Michael</b> Broward County Commission	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP	VP
<b>ZIADE, Ana M.</b> Mayor, North Lauderdale	VP	VP	P	P	VP	P	VP

2021 ATTENDANCE RECORD

<b>EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS</b>	2/22/21 Physical / Virtual	3/19/21 * Virtual	4/26/21 Physical / Virtual	5/7/21 ** Physical / Virtual	5/24/21 Physical / Virtual	6/28/21 Physical / Virtual Miami-Dade County	7/26/21 Physical / Virtual
<b>ANDREOTTA, JASON</b> Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection	*	*	D	D	*	D	*
<b>MAYERS, Lorraine</b> South Florida Water Management District	-	-	-	*	*	*	VP
<b>HUYNH, DAT</b> Florida Dept. of Transportation	VP	VP	VP	D	D	VP	VP
Department of Economic Opportunity		-	-	-	-	-	-

P = Present

VP = Virtually Present

A = Absent

D = Designee Present

\* = Excused Absence

- = Not Yet Appointed

CC = Via Conference Call

\* *Joint Meeting March 19, 2021*

\*\* *Exec. Committee/Workshop*



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VII.B

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DATE:            SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

TO:                COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:            STAFF

SUBJECT:         CORRESPONDENCE AND ARTICLES

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## Recommendation

Information only.



South Florida Regional Planning Council  
1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, Florida 33020  
954.924.3653 Phone, 954.924-3654 FAX  
[www.sfregionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfregionalcouncil.org)



## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

### **Will Miami-Dade move urban development boundary for industrial park by Homestead base?**

**BY DOUGLAS HANKS**

UPDATED AUGUST 25, 2021 10:29 AM

A proposed industrial complex in South Miami-Dade County would require county commissioners to move the Urban Development Boundary, which restricts high-density projects. *MIAMI HERALD FILE*

Miami-Dade County's new political landscape faces a familiar controversy in the coming weeks: whether to "hold the line" on urban expansion or allow millions of square feet of new development to take over existing farmland.

A push by developers to expand Miami-Dade's Urban Development Boundary [for a project near the Homestead Air Reserve Base](#) is making its way to a county commission where six of the 13 members are newcomers.

The administration of the county's new mayor, Daniella Levine Cava, is urging the commission to reject the application by developers Stephen Blumenthal, Jose Hevia and others for what would be Miami-Dade's largest industrial park — a 9-million-square-foot complex south of the Florida Turnpike, by Southwest 286th Street.

"If approved as filed, the application would encourage the proliferation of urban sprawl," read an Aug. 13 report from Miami-Dade's Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, which houses the land-planning and zoning divisions.

After winning a vote before a community planning board Monday, the proposed South Dade Logistics and Technology District industrial park faces a hearing before the countywide Planning Advisory Board on Wednesday, Aug. 25, at 10 a.m. in the Stephen P. Clark Center at 111 NW 1st St., Miami.

After that, the proposal heads to the county commission for a preliminary vote that's expected on Sept. 9. If it passes then, a final commission vote would follow a state review of the proposal.

Backers call the industrial center and the projected 8,000 jobs there a lifestyle changer for South Miami-Dade, since it would provide the suburban region with an employment center and spare workers from long commutes to find decent-paying employment in the northern part of the county.

"It is time for this area to get jobs, and allow people to have quality of life," resident Lourdes Rodriguez, wearing a white Bring the Jobs! T-shirt, said at a planning board meeting Monday night dedicated to the proposed project. "It's not enough to just say: go north for an hour."

That session before the South Bay Community Council ended in a unanimous vote in favor of expanding the development boundary to allow for construction of the new complex. "I travel in the traffic every single day," council member Christina Farias said. "I definitely look forward to this project."

The county report states the project would bring industrial space that the southern portion of the county doesn't need, since there's enough within the development zone to last through 2040.

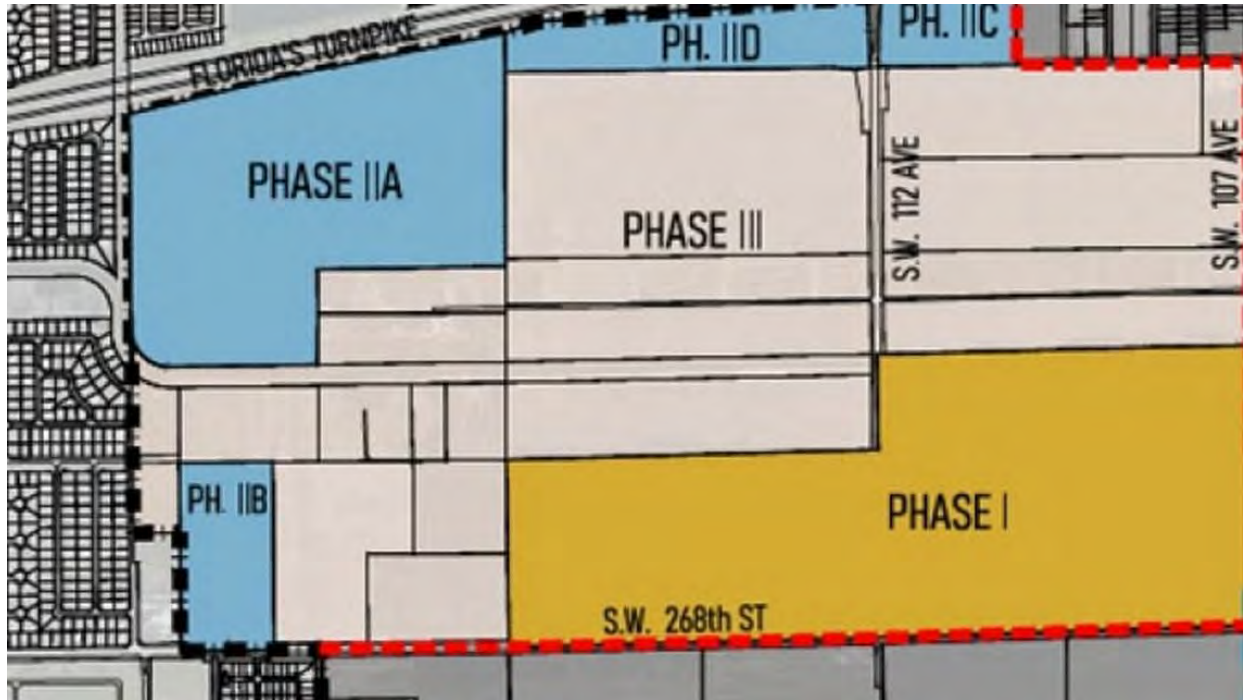
The nearly 800-acre site is designed to be a distribution hub for Home Depot and other retailers supplying the fast-growing South Miami-Dade, and would double the region's existing supply of industrial space.

Commissioners last moved the Urban Development Boundary in 2013, when they approved expanding to include [about 500 acres near Doral](#) that were already surrounded by buildings in what planners considered a "donut hole" of development restrictions that needed to be eliminated.

# Miami Herald

## Expanding urban boundaries for 11,500 jobs? Miami-Dade is faced with a false choice | Editorial

BY THE MIAMI HERALD EDITORIAL BOARD  
UPDATED AUGUST 28, 2021 6:02 PM



A proposed industrial complex in South Miami-Dade County would require county commissioners to move the Urban Development Boundary, which restricts high-density projects. *MIAMI HERALD FILE*

The solution to South Miami-Dade's problems — from lack of jobs to the pollution of Biscayne Bay — can all be solved with one project.

That's the alluring pitch for a proposition the County Commission will be tempted to approve next month when a group of developers asks them to make an 800-acre exception to the county's rules designed to curb urban sprawl.

Our elected officials should look past the slick packaging and vote it down.

Relying on a haphazard proposal county planners said is filled with holes and doesn't meet standards, developers so far have been successful in convincing two advisory boards to ignore staff recommendations and endorse the construction of an industrial complex on land that's currently outside the county's Urban Development Boundary.

That boundary, known as the UDB, is an invisible line drawn by the county to protect rural areas and the Everglades from urban encroachment. Building outside those boundaries should only happen as a last resort — and county staff have determined there is no need to do that now. There's enough industrial land in the southern part of the county to last through 2040.

However, developers are trying to convince the County Commission there's no other option but to move that line and allow almost 800 acres of farmland [to become Miami-Dade's largest industrial park](#) — a 9-million-square-foot complex south of Florida's Turnpike, near Southwest 286th Street. The complex, about three miles north of the Homestead Air Reserve Base, would accommodate a 150-room hotel and a distribution hub for Home Depot and other retailers.

On Wednesday, the Planning Advisory Board recommended, with a 8-2 vote, that the County Commission, which is expected to hear the proposal on Sept. 9, approve sending the project to review by the state, a necessary step before full approval.

There are many problems with this proposal, but let's start with the biggest one: That land is one of the parcels under consideration for a project — called the [Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration](#) — to clean water that flows into Biscayne Bay, according to Laura Reynolds, president of the Hold the Line Coalition, which seeks to preserve the UDB.

The county has made restoring the Bay a priority, so it would be contradictory to turn the area into an industrial complex before knowing whether it will be needed for restoration. The county might also be risking another lawsuit from environmental groups. Those groups already have a pending challenge to a previous expansion of the urban boundaries to accommodate the western extension of 836/Dolphin Expressway over lands that are [key to guaranteeing drinking water for Miami and the Keys](#).

Developers of the South Dade project have a team of consultants trying to convince the county that an industrial park will actually help Biscayne Bay. They estimate stormwater systems would reduce pollution that currently flows into canals, and eventually into the Bay, by 75% . But it's hard to believe this will yield better results than efforts years in the making to restore the historical flow of water into the Bay.

Those consultants say they also have a plan to address the land's location in a low-lying zone subject to hurricane flooding that will only get worse as sea levels rise. They would build the project at a higher elevation — 5 feet for some parts and 9 feet for others. But that means “neighboring properties could face flooding risks from the applicants’ elevation,” according to a county report. No wonder Mike Hall, one of those neighbors, attended a recent public meeting to [express his displeasure](#) with the half-baked proposal.

“We need that land to absorb all the water that comes down with the rain,” he told the South Bay Community Council, which endorsed the project on Monday, the [Herald reported](#).

The argument that South Dade needs jobs is undeniable and the developers’ projection of almost 11,500 permanent jobs would be a game changer — if they come true. We doubt they will.

That impressive figure is based on three phases of the project, according to the county, but the developers only control land for phases 1 and 2. The land for phase 3, which accounts for more than half of the 800 acres, has not been secured and the applicants have shown “no definitive development program” for it, the county report says. That means the 4,100 jobs attached to that third phase seem like pie in the sky.

And there's another issue with the proposal. Under current law, UDB-expansion applications must be accompanied by a zoning application. That's the county's way of ensuring that “we know what it is we're getting,” Assistant Director for Planning Jerry Bell told the Herald Editorial Board. But the developers want to circumvent that requirement. They are asking the County Commission to amend its code to exempt non-residential developments from the requirement to submit a concurrent zoning application for the entire area.

That would not only allow this expansion of the UDB to happen without a definite development plan, but also make it easier to build outside urban boundaries in the future.

The Miami-Dade County Commission should reject this false choice between economic development and preserving the environment. There are 430 acres of vacant industrial land in South Dade that are in parcels greater than 10 acres and don't require the county to expand urban boundaries, according to county staff (developers dispute all of that land is available).

This proposal would surely benefit landowners, who would see their property values skyrocket, but its benefits seem too dubious to justify a potential interference with Biscayne Bay restoration.

AUGUST 25, 2021 7:24 PM

The Urban Development Boundary, often called the “UDB,” represents a growth barrier separating land allowed for dense housing and commercial uses, including shopping centers and warehouse districts, and rural land reserved for farming and houses with significant land between them. It’s also considered a protection tool for the Everglades and the agriculture industry.

Miami-Dade’s growth rules call for the UDB to expand once the county runs out of land inside it for homes and commercial projects. The proposed project sits on land designated as an area slated for expansion of the UDB once the county is ready for more development sites.

While county planners say land inventory for single-family homes is running out within the development zone, they predict the southern part of Miami-Dade won’t need new acreage for commercial projects through 2040. Should the proposed project get built, planners say the region would have more than a 100-year supply of industrial land.

Advocates behind the project, which includes plans for a 150-room hotel, argue the county’s analysis ignores the need for more employment centers in South Miami-Dade and relies too much on commuting patterns that residents in the area dislike.

“Our focus here is on local conditions,” said Andrew Dolkart, an economic consultant working for the developers. He said South Miami-Dade residents are stuck with long commutes because so much of the county’s decent-paying jobs are in the north but affordable housing is easier to find in the south. “Most people live where they can find something they can afford,” he said.

A developer presentation showed the 800-acre project producing Miami-Dade’s largest industrial park, compared to about 600 acres at the Sawgrass Corporate Park and nearly 500 acres at Beacon Lakes.

Environmental groups are leading the fight against the project, warning it will disrupt efforts to prevent harmful groundwater run-off into Biscayne Bay from adjoining canals that are already a source of fertilizer pollution from the tree farms that are there now.

In an Aug. 23 letter, the Everglades Coalition said the project could doom efforts to fix a canal system “causing havoc on the quality of these ecosystems.”

They’re also warning the land is too low for a major new industrial complex and will be enveloped by rising sea levels.

That’s a problem developers say they’re addressing by elevating streets and buildings, with some floors set to be built nine feet above the ground.

The county report warned “neighboring properties could face flooding risks from the applicant’s elevation,” worsening the threat from sea level rise in an area already designated a Coastal High Hazard area.

That was the complaint from Mark Hall, who lives near the farms that would be converted to an industrial park under the proposal. “We need that land to absorb all the water that comes down with the rain,” he told the South Bay council.



Mark Hall addresses members of the South Bay Community Council on Monday, Aug. 23, 2021. He opposes a planned industrial complex in the Homestead area that would require moving the Urban Development Boundary. BY DOUGLAS HANKS [DHANKS@MIAMIHERALD.COM](mailto:DHANKS@MIAMIHERALD.COM)

**[DOUGLAS HANKS](#)**  
**[305-376-3605](tel:305-376-3605)**

Doug Hanks covers Miami-Dade government for the Herald. He’s worked at the paper for nearly 20 years, covering real estate, tourism and the economy before joining the Metro desk in 2014. [Support my work with a digital subscription](#)



<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/politics/fl-ne-nsf-realtors-take-housing-initiative-off-ballot-20210908-xr63thgfxrcatl7yie5ojck53q-story.html>

## **Affordable housing ballot initiative halted. Realtors to work with state to create program for lower-wage workers**

By Jim Saunders

News Service of Florida | Sep 08, 2021 at 8:30 AM

TALLAHASSEE — Realtors are halting an effort to pass a constitutional amendment to ensure funding for affordable housing, saying they will work with legislative leaders to create a program to help people such as nurses, police officers and firefighters buy homes.

The decision, announced Tuesday night, came after the group Florida Realtors and the National Association of Realtors contributed at least \$13 million to a political committee spearheading the effort to put the proposed constitutional amendment on the 2022 ballot.

The committee, Floridians for Housing, had spent about \$2.75 million as of July 31 as it worked to collect the 891,589 petition signatures needed to get on the ballot. The state Division of Elections had received 64,937 signatures for the initiative as of Tuesday.

“Floridians made it known through their broad public support for the ballot initiative that workforce housing affordability must be a top priority, and this has opened the door for positive discussions in the Capitol,” Florida Realtors President Cheryl Lambert said in a prepared statement. “The legislative leadership has committed to working with us to find significant, immediate solutions to Florida’s workforce housing crisis. This crisis cannot wait. Every day, we hear about workers who are bearing the brunt of the pandemic who can’t afford a home. This approach will help bring homeownership within reach of Floridians much faster.”

The proposed constitutional amendment came after years of frustration in the real-estate industry and among other groups about decisions by lawmakers to use money from a state affordable-housing trust fund, known as the Sadowski trust fund, for other purposes.

The proposal would have established in the Florida Constitution the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund. It also would have required that the trust funds receive at least 25 percent of the revenue from documentary-stamp taxes — which are collected on real-estate transactions — and would have detailed how the money could be used to address affordable housing.

Getting the measure on the ballot would have involved a difficult — and costly — process as the 891,589 signatures would have needed to be submitted by a Feb. 1 deadline. As a preliminary step, the committee would have needed to submit 222,898 signatures to trigger a crucial Florida Supreme Court review of the proposed ballot wording.

Ultimately, the measure would have needed support from 60 percent of voters to pass.

But aside from the mechanics of reaching the ballot and passing the amendment, backers of the proposed amendment also ran the risk of angering legislative leaders. Republican lawmakers in recent years have taken a series of steps to make it harder to pass constitutional amendments and have objected to proposals that they see as encroaching on their powers to make policy and budget decisions.



The announcement Tuesday night by Florida Realtors said the decision to halt the constitutional amendment drive “was made following highly productive discussions with legislative leaders indicating strong support to address this (affordable housing) crisis.”

It said Florida Realtors, formerly known as the Florida Association of Realtors, will work with legislative leaders to protect existing housing programs and to create a program that would provide down-payment and closing-cost assistance for workers such as nurses, law-enforcement officers and firefighters. The 2022 legislative session will start in January.



“Front-line workers are the absolute foundation of our communities, something that has been made even more apparent during this pandemic,” Florida Realtors CEO Margy Grant said in a prepared statement. “They are putting their lives and health on the line every day to benefit those around them, yet Florida has no homeownership program in place to ensure that these heroes can live in the communities where they work. We’re pleased that legislative leaders recognize the importance of this issue and we look forward to working with them on meaningful solutions.”

<https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/environment/2021-09-06/miami-dade-county-rejected-an-army-corps-plan-to-fight-storm-surge-heres-what-the-corps-says-is>

[Environment](#)

## Miami-Dade County Rejected An Army Corps Plan To Fight Storm Surge — Here's What The Corps Says Is

WLRN 91.3 FM | By [Jenny Staletovich](#)

Published September 6, 2021 at 11:00 AM EDT



Hurricane Irma flooded Brickell Drive and other parts of Miami-Dade County in 2017.

**The Corps and Miami-Dade would have shared the \$4.6 billion cost for the work that included fortress-like flood walls and gates. How much the Corps pays will now depend on the plan the county proposes.**

This week, Miami-Dade County rejected a \$4.6 billion U.S. [Army Corps of Engineers plan](#) to build flood walls and gates around Biscayne Bay to protect neighborhoods from hurricane storm surge — opting to instead devise its own plan.

The move followed [criticism](#) from [the county](#) and environmentalists who worry that the barriers could harm seagrass and other marine life in a bay already battling pollution.

“The community has been giving feedback for the last three years and asking for exactly this,” said Rachel Silverstein, executive director of Miami Waterkeeper. “Miami is blessed with many ecosystems that will naturally protect us from storm surge like dunes and wetlands and mangroves and coral reefs and we really want to see those enhanced.”

Because [so little design work](#) had been done — given the \$3 million budget for planning, just 10% is complete — critics worried the full environmental impacts remain unknown.

Had the plan advanced, the federal agency would have split the multi-billion dollar cost with Miami-Dade 65-35, with the Corps paying a larger share. The plan was on track to be sent to Congress for approval in time for a 2022 Water Resources Development Act, which typically gets approved every two years.

The county decision upends that schedule.

Michelle Hamor, planning chief at the Corps' Norfolk District, told WLRN's Jenny Staletovich the Corps will now need to request more money and time to continue the work.

*What follows is an edited excerpt of that interview.*

**WLRN: Explain what happens next now that Miami-Dade County has sent a letter saying that they want to suggest a locally-preferred alternative.**

HAMOR: I'll just note that [Miami-Dade County] has the right to request a locally-preferred plan. So this is part of the process and other projects have experienced the same thing. We received an official request letter this week.

We will review it and ultimately that goes up to the assistant secretary of the Army's Civil Works Office. Normally for feasibility studies we would cost share 50-50. But in this case, the federal government provided the \$3 million for the study. And so we would have to request additional funding to continue the study. It's possible, though, that we could send that up and it not be approved.

**Do you have any idea how much more it would cost to do the additional review? Are we talking about another \$3 million?**

It really depends on the scope of the locally preferred plan and how much additional analysis will be required to develop that.

**What kinds of things could be in a local plan that the Corps is willing to consider?**

So we have to develop a plan that maximizes the net benefits. And really we're trying to consider the federal taxpayer investment. There may be items that Miami-Dade would like to see. Maybe more natural, nature-based features. But if they don't support the return on the federal taxpayer investment, Miami-Dade might be required to pay for those.

**You all have already spent three years developing and analyzing a plan. Is there a deadline for the county to provide their alternative? Will it be another three years?**

There are a couple of factors that play into it. For the recommended feasibility study, as it is right now, we had submitted an environmental compliance policy exception which indicated that we were at a 10% level of design. And certainly the resource agencies would like to see additional detail.

If you think about the enormous recommended plan, it's covering [seven] focus areas in Miami-Dade County. We're recommending features that are new to southern Florida. So we're talking about surge barriers and flood walls and these are not normal features in this area. So understandably, the resource agencies would like to see additional detail to understand how that would impact the environment moving forward. So we might have to do additional design.

The goal for the study was to have a chiefs report ready by October of this fiscal year and that would have positioned it for consideration if there was a Water Resources Development Act of 2022. If we could do this additional analysis, the goal would be by December 2023 for consideration if there's a possible WRDA 2024.

**The cost [share] here is, was I correct that it's 40-60, or am I thinking of Everglades restoration?**

That would be 65-35.

**And will that split remain the same or does it depend on what goes into the plan?**

That's a great question. It depends on what goes into the plan.

We've developed the National Economic Development Plan [cost-benefit analysis] in the draft final report, and that was our recommended plan. That plan will be used to compare to the [Miami-Dade County proposal] and that will also determine the cost share between the two plans.

**You said it sometimes happens where the local [government] has said, look, we'd like to offer our own alternative. Do you know of any other cases?**

I'm not aware of any cases around Florida. It does happen in other feasibility studies. Certainly, that's their right to do it. In some cases, the [local government] may not have the capability, the amount of money required for the recommended plan, and they may be interested in kind of a subset of that recommended plan.

**Moving on to Monroe County. I just looked and [Monroe] is on schedule [for approval] in 2022.**

Absolutely. And we are happy to report that will be presented to our chief of engineers on the 24th of September.

**Would the shoreline stabilization of U.S. 1 be the first thing that happens? And when would money become available for property owners to either do flood proofing or elevate properties?**

We have to compete nationally for funding. So it certainly depends on the funding. I'm sure the team will meet with Monroe County and identify the path forward. But I do believe that [U.S. 1] was a high priority for the county and I believe they can start work on design for those shoreline stabilization while they're working to do design on the nonstructural portions.

*You can read more stories like this one by signing up for our environment text letter. Just text "enviro news" to 786-677-0767 and we'll send you a roundup of stories like this — and more — every Wednesday.*

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