

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, Martínez, 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