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Mario Bailey, Chair SFRPC

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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. 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.

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 <u>CARES ACT Business Revolving Loan Fund program</u> 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.sfregionalcouncil.org.

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