



South Florida Regional Planning Council

*Proudly serving South Florida since 1974*

Isabel Cosio Carballo, MPA  
Executive Director

Senator Steve Geller, Chair  
Broward County Commissioner

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SOUTH FLORIDA REVOLVING LOAN FUND BOARD SUCCESSFULLY LENDS  
\$5.38 MILLION TO COVID IMPACTED BUSINESSES IN RECORD TIME**

**HOLLYWOOD, FL** – Since 1974, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC/Council) has served as the regional planning agency for Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties. It is governed by a public/private board of county and municipal elected and appointed officials from three counties. The Council supports the region’s elected leaders and public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders through regional, collaborative planning and the development and implementation of programs and strategies including economic development and revolving loan fund programs.

The [SFRPC Revolving Loan Fund](#) (RLF) Program was established to assist businesses following the devastation of Hurricane Andrew, which on August 24, 1992 ravaged South Florida, particularly southern Miami-Dade County. Today, the SFRPC continues to serve small- and medium-size businesses who seek financial capital to grow their businesses but are unable to obtain conventional financing. In 2020, the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) partnered with the Council to capitalize a new \$5.38 million [CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund](#) for businesses adversely impacted by COVID-19. These funds are being utilized to help alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the coronavirus in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. **To date, this program has provided 24 businesses with the tools and resources they need to continue their recovery from the pandemic and keep Floridians working.**

At its January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the RLF Board reached the milestone of completely lending the EDA appropriated funds to Covid-impacted businesses in South Florida six months ahead of schedule. Additional loans become available as loans are repaid. In other business, the Board elected SFRPC Councilmember [Cary Goldberg](#) to the position of Vice Chair, and SFRPC Councilmember [Samuel Kaufman](#) to the position of Secretary. RLF Chair Lisa Mooney, Vice President, Bank United; Treasurer Tequisha Myles, Esq., Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County; and Isabel Cosio Carballo, SFRPC Executive Director were re-elected to the Board. Lastly, the Board welcomed its newest member [Marie Gill](#), President & CEO of M. Gill & Associates. Marie Gill is a successful entrepreneur whose primary focus is assisting small, minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses to successfully compete in the domestic and global markets.

The SFRPC RLF is an award winning program. In August 2021, the Council was a proud recipient of the [Aliccann Wohlbruck NADO Impact Awards](#) from the National Association of Development Organizations. This award honors members for their creative approaches to advancing regional economic development and an improved quality of life. *“This award is an honor to receive and we continue to anticipate great things for years to come by providing our small businesses within the region with the financial support and assistance they need to succeed and help make South Florida a vibrant and beautiful place to work and live.”* **Jeff Tart (pictured), Senior Loan Officer, Revolving Loan Fund Programs, SFRPC**



*“We congratulate SFRPC Councilmembers Cary Goldberg and Samuel Kaufman on their election to the Executive Committee and thank them for their continued service. We are delighted to welcome Marie Gill to the RLF Board. Her expertise and work with the region’s small, minority businesses will serve the Board well. We are honored to stand with the EDA to secure and provide critically needed financial resources to South Florida’s small businesses. These funds will help preserve existing jobs and create new ones, build greater economic diversity, and enhance the resiliency of the region’s entrepreneurs during these unprecedented times and in the future.”* ~ **Lisa Mooney, Chair, SFRPC RLF Board**

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