

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

November 21, 2022

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually and in person on this date at the Council's office located at 1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, FL 33020. Chair Geller called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and reminded everyone of the meeting's procedures. Chair Geller welcomed the Councilmembers as well as those attending virtually. Chair Geller asked Councilmember Lincoln to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chair Steve Geller
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey**
Councilmember Frank Caplan*
Councilmember Craig Cates*
Councilmember Joseph Corradino
Councilmember Beam Furr
Councilmember René García**
Councilmember Oliver Gilbert, III**
Councilmember Cary Goldberg*
Councilmember Samuel Kaufman*
Councilmember Michelle Lincoln
Councilmember Kionne McGhee**
Councilmember Greg Ross*
Councilmember Michael Udine*
Councilmember Ana M. Ziade

* Virtually Present

** Absent

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

A quorum was not present, and Mr. Goren suggested that Councilmember Ziade and Councilmember Corradino be temporarily appointed to the Executive Committee. Chair Geller appointed Councilmembers Ziade and Corradino to participate as the Executive Committee Members. Mr. Goren confirmed that there is a full quorum present for the Executive Committee.

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

Jon Moore for Jason Andreotta representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (SE District)

Lorraine Mayers representing the South Florida Water Management District

The following Ex-Officio Member was absent:

Dat Huynh representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI

II. Approval Council Agenda

Chair Geller motioned to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Ziade moved the motion and Councilmember Lincoln seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Chair Geller requested a modification of the Council Agenda to continue with Council business and proceed with the Presentations at the scheduled time.

IV. Action Items

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. September 19, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting
2. September 19, 2022, Council Meeting
3. October 17, 2022, Council Meeting

Chair Geller motioned for the approval of the Meeting Minutes for September 2022 and October 2022. Councilmember Furr moved the motion and Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Financial Report

Director of Finance and IT, Leo Braslavsky Soldi presented the Financial Report in detail.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo summarized the Counties' dues increase that will continue for the next four years. Chair Geller asked if the SFRPC has enough in the budget to bring on a Deputy Director. Mrs. Cosio Carballo and Mr. Braslavsky Soldi confirmed that the budget includes \$125,000.00 for this position pending negotiations.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the Financial Report. Councilmember Ross moved the motion and Councilmember Furr seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

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

Public Hearing

Proposed

- Islamorada, Village of Islands 22-02ACSC
- City of Key West 22-04ACSC
- City of Key West 22-05ACSC
- Village of Pincrest 22-01ESR

Public Comment

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

Chair Geller motioned to approve the Agenda Item IV.C Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review, Proposed. Councilmember Lincoln moved the motion, and Councilmember Ross seconded, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Public Hearing

Adopted

- City of Dania Beach 22-01ESR

Councilmember Furr asked if this amendment covers the Water Supply Facility Plan and the water supply allowance. Mrs. Cosio Carballo referred to Council staff. Ms. Christina Miskis, SFRPC Principal Planner, recommended that the City of Dania Beach follow up with the SFWMD for any of their concerns.

- City of Fort Lauderdale 22-01ESR
- City of Marathon 22-07ACSC
- City of West Park 22-01ER

Chair Geller motioned to approve the Agenda Item IV.C Consent Items: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Adopted. Councilmember Furr moved the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Public Comment

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

D. Regional Issues: None

E. 2023 Meeting Schedule

Chair Geller postponed the Meeting Schedule discussion to coincide with the planning conversation since they are closely related.

F. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Chair Geller stated that pursuant to the rules, the SFRPC must appoint three members to the Nominating Committee representing each county. Following the Chair's appointments and the Council's Statement of Organization, the Nominating Committee consists of Immediate Past Chair Bailey (Miami-Dade County), First Vice Chair Kaufman (Monroe County) as Chair of the Nominating Committee and Councilmember Udine (Broward County).

Councilmember Udine stated that he would like to make a motion to allow the same Executive Committee to continue for the following year. With the Executive Director retiring in October 2023, this would be maintaining the continuity of the SFRPC. Mr. Goren stated that the rules provide a mandatory Nominating Committee; however, the rules are established by the Council. He explained there is nothing in the rules that state the Council, as an organizing body, cannot make decisions such as this request. Mr. Goren mentioned Sec. 8.0 which requires a Nominating Committee must be elected each year. Chair Geller moved to motion Councilmember Udine to be on the Nominating Committee along with Councilmembers Kaufman and Bailey.

G. FRCA Policy Board Appointment

Chair Geller announced that since Councilmember Ziade is no longer be able to serve on the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board there is a vacancy. Mrs. Cosio Carballo explained the FRCA Board logistics and meeting information. Councilmember Caplan stated that he has served on the FRCA Police Board previously and is happy to serve again. Chair Geller confirmed the reappointment of Councilmember Caplan to the FRCA Policy Board.

Public Comment

Chair Geller stated that there is a request for one public comment from Drew Martin. Mr. Martin did not respond or reply; therefore, Chair Geller closed the Public Hearing and Comment.

Chair Geller moved the agenda out of order to discuss the SFRPC Revolving Loan and SFRPC Cares Act.

VI. Program Reports and Activities

- A. SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- B. SFRPC CARES Act RLF Status Report

Mr. Tart announced that the 40th Annual MEDweek Legacy Awards Gala was hosted by M. Gill & Associates, the City of Miami, and the Belize Chamber of Commerce on October 22, 2022, at the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center in Miami, in which the SFRPC received the Small Business Capital Assistance Award. Mr. Tart stated that the SFRPC's CARES ACT RLF Program provided \$6.7 million to 32 businesses and because of the accomplishments of the businesses of this program, the SFRPC has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration as a "Success Story". In addition, the EDA recently conveyed that the CARES ACT RLF Program received the highest annual rating of an "A".

The traditional RLF Program continues to perform well with total assets of \$5.7 million serving 25 borrowers. SFRPC's Legal Counsel continues to provide informative updates on one of the historical borrower litigations since 2017, Angela Dawson, P.A. Further details can be found in the attached RLF Status Report.

Mr. Tart informed the Councilmembers about the Affordable Housing Initiative Program provided by the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc ("SFCDFI"). The Program is in the process of completing the construction of six new affordable single-family homes for first-time minority homebuyers: four (4) in the Lauderhill CRA and two (2) in the City of Hollywood. The Lauderhill project was made possible through funds awarded last year to the SFCDFI by the Housing Finance Authority of Broward County. Recently, the RLF Board approved a new project to build a new two-family affordable housing duplex in Dania Beach.

Councilmember Furr asked about the affordable housing project. Mr. Tart explained that staff is reaching out to the Broward County municipalities to set up meetings with the economic development officers to make them aware that funding is available. He explained the initial funding and the Broward County funding stating that there is a small pipeline of \$1 million available.

Mr. Goren mentioned the ongoing litigation regarding Angela Dawson. There will be a hearing before a judge on December 2, 2022, with a request to the Broward County Circuit Court to dismiss the third and fourth counterclaims. There is also a Motion for Summary Judgment pending, which has been going on for a long time. This is the most that he can state on the record. Chair Geller confirmed that there should be no further comments on the topic pending the upcoming hearing.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo commented that the EDA letter highlighting the program as a Grade "A". This was not always the case. She thanked Jeff Tart for his hard work and the advisement of the RLF Board that the grade was moved from a "C" to an "A".

V. Discussion Items

- A. Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Cosio Carballo stated that the South Miami-Dade DRI process is moving along. She asked Christina Miskis, Principal Planner, to update the Councilmembers. Ms. Miskis stated that the SFRPC received a

response from the applicant regarding the State review agencies' comments on the methodology. The next step is convening the stakeholders to discuss the Agreement to Delete. After that, the applicant can continue to move forward with the application. Ms. Miskis clarified the area is 1,000 acres located west of the Miami Executive Airport and outside of the urban development boundary (UDB). It is still in the preliminary DRI stage and has not been sent to Miami-Dade County Commission. Mrs. Cosio Carballo mentioned a Logistical Center article in the article section. There was a discussion on the various Miami-Dade County amendments regarding the UDB and the DRI. Chair Geller reiterated the process of the Logistical Center and Mrs. Cosio Carballo provided an update stating that a hearing has not been scheduled.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo recognized Ms. Alisha Lopez, Clean Cities Director, for her accomplishments. Ms. Lopez updated the Council on the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition. Ms. Lopez announced that the Department of Energy ("DOE") recognized the SFRPC as the region with the "most infrastructure built" in the southeast United States. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) also awarded the SFRPC a "Coalition Comeback" recognition due to the 25% increase in membership within the last two years. Miss Lopez was elected to the Drive Electric Florida Board and she received a recommendation from Mayor Danielle Levine Cava to join the Federal Electric Vehicle Working Group. Lastly, Miss Lopez stated that the DOE has requested that the SFRPC host a DOE Clean Cities Regional Meeting in February 2023.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Legal Counsel Sam Goren commented on the Angela Dawson, P.A. case stating there is no further comment pending the upcoming hearing. He commented on the DRI, which will be the last DRI to be reviewed, as it was grandfathered in for review. He congratulated Ms. Miskis, Mr. Cambric, and Mrs. Cosio Carballo on their initiative with great reviews and comments.

C. Council Members Report

Chair Geller moved this Agenda Item to the end of the meeting.

D. Ex-Officio Report

Lorraine Mayers stated that a Governing Board Meeting will be held in Broward County in February 2023. Councilmember Furr asked Ms. Mayers if the Sixteen County Coalition meeting had occurred and if there is anyone representing Broward County or the SFRPC. Ms. Mayers stated that she believes the meeting did take place but does not have any details regarding it and she confirmed that no one from either Broward County or the SFRPC is represented at the Coalition.

Chair Geller provided an update on the CEDS Report. He expressed his gratitude that it is finally completed, as to the many hours put forward to create an amazing document. He thanked the SFRPC staff, especially Ms. Agolli, Program Manager, Community & Economic Development, and Mrs. Cosio Carballo. He stated that he had a press conference on the CEDS report one week ago with a 20-minute summary via Vimeo with certain selected highlights. He thanked the Presidents of Nova Southeastern University, Broward College, Florida Keys College; the Executive Director of the South Florida Hospital Association, the Chief Innovation Officer of the NSU Broward Center of Innovation; the President of BBX Capital, and President & CEO of OIC of South Florida for being present at the Press Conference. He stated that everyone is raving about the report.

Commissioner Furr stated that the report was very well done and recommended it be distributed to the municipalities. Councilmember Lincoln suggested making this a presentation during the county

commission meetings. Chair Geller also mentioned that he will be sending out thank you letters to all those involved.

III. Presentations (Time Certain 10:45 am)

- Gratitude to Councilmember Mayor Ziade for her service on the Council
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Chair Geller stated that Councilmember Ziade has been an outstanding elected official and a great and valued member of the SFRPC, as well as a wonderful friend and colleague. He hopes that he will see her again in public service and presented her with a plant and a plaque engraved with the following: *“The Honorable Ana M. Ziade, SFRPC Councilmember 2020–2022. FRCA Policy Board Member 2022 with the Council’s Gratitude and Sincere Appreciation for Your Public Service, Dedication, and Many Contributions to Regional Collaboration and the South Florida Regional Planning Council, Chairman Steve Geller, November 21, 2022.”* Mrs. Cosio Carballo mentioned that additionally the SFRPC will make a \$100 donation to the Broward County Humane Society in honor of Councilmember Ziade. Councilmember Ziade commented that this will be her last day as Mayor for the City of North Lauderdale. She has enjoyed every meeting and every person she has met. She emphasized the SFRPC staff as amazing support to this organization. She continued to state that Ms. Lerch and Mrs. Cosio Carballo are the superheroes of the SFRPC and thanked and commended her fellow board members. She especially thanked Chair Geller as she learned so much from him and thanked Legal Counsel Sam Goren. Everyone stood and applauded Councilmember Ziade.

- Lucdwin Luck, Southeast Florida Regional Manager
Office of External Affairs, Office of Florida Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis.

Chair Geller introduced Mr. Lucdwin Luck (“Luck”) from the Office of the State of Florida’s Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Jimmy Patronis. Mr. Luck reviewed Mr. Patronis’ roles as the CFO including State Fire Marshall as well as Florida Cabinet Member. He stated that the State Fire Marshall has been intricately involved with Hurricane Ian recovery. Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced there will be a special session before the end of the year to address insurance issues within the State of Florida. Mr. Luck described the list of offices and divisions of the CFO, along with the coordinating websites. He also confirmed that the State of Florida is the number one state with the highest insurance fraud and litigation. Mr. Luck stated he was deployed to Fort Myers where state, federal, and local agencies came together to review the disaster area. He will be meeting with local county officials to review items and his department will discuss issues that have arisen. Mr. Luck’s presentation can be viewed via the following link: <https://sfrationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2.1-DFS-Presentation-SHORT-Presentation-5-minutes-Luck.pptx>

Chair Geller commented on and commended Mr. Luck’s accessibility and his outstanding outreach to the community. Chair Geller continued by stating that the SFRPC has created insurance documents (fliers) and will be sending Mr. Luck a copy of this to share with his constituents.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo asked a question regarding the My Safe Florida Home State Program enacted by the Florida Legislature to help single-family homeowners protect their homes against hurricanes with a matching grant program. Mr. Luck answered that the program is up on their website and running and will send the State Program link to the SFRPC.

- SFRPC Planning Conversation
Chair Geller

Leo Braslavsky-Soldi, Finance / IT Director

Chair Geller stated that he is pleased with the direction the SFRPC has embraced with increased regional convenings and planning following statutory changes to the responsibilities of the state's regional planning councils. Over this past year there has been a significant increase in regional convenings and it should be continued.

Chair Geller commented on the various meetings and conferences the SFRPC hosted. He commended the work that was done on the CEDS Report and annual updates will occur approximately twice a year with a focus on the appropriate issues pertaining to the region. In addition, the SFRPC has been conducting more Joint Meetings/Conferences with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) as well as special topic convenings. The Solid Waste Management Conference was a great success with 200 attendees from the seven-county Southeast Florida region. Dr. George Hanbury, President of NOVA Southeastern University, was virtually present and highlighted the importance of regional issues.

In September 2022 a virtual regional meeting was hosted by the SFRPC with the Mayors of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties regarding affordable housing. Monroe County was not included in this meeting with agreement from Councilmember Lincoln as housing issues in Monroe County are quite different. It was an excellent meeting with follow-up meetings planned for 2023. In March 2023 there will be a First/Last Mile Conference which will be very similar to the October 21, 2022, Solid Waste Conference. The First/Last Mile Conference is a meeting of Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties. In February 2023 and October 2023 Joint SFRPC/TCRPC meetings/conferences are scheduled. He requested thoughts from the Councilmembers on appropriate topics.

Chair Geller discussed the future CEDS meetings, which will entail the CEDS Strategy Committee community leaders and their input among others. Some topics to possibly discuss are the Silver Tsunami (retiring seniors) with the issues surrounding social security, pensions, and retirement savings.

Councilmember Furr suggested a discussion on the Freight FEC Inland Port and up US 27 around the lake. Discussion ensued if all the counties want this rail line. Councilmember Ross suggested the affordable housing topic. Councilmember Caplan is very interested in discussing the transportation topic, as well as topics such as stormwater management, engineering solutions, long-term budgeting, and predictions on sea-level rise. He added that if everyone can try to think alike and utilize the same baseline information, the better the planning. Chair Geller summarized the topics for future conferences/meetings: Affordable Housing, Sea-Level Rise/Water Management.

Councilmember Lincoln suggested discussing CareerSource, which is offering apprenticeship programs for Monroe County. These programs emphasize the importance of providing education for other careers other than those that are solely tourist-driven. Chair Geller stated that he has taken the lead on this topic in Broward County, and he recently spoke to the first graduating class in apprenticeships at Junior Achievement. He agreed with Councilmember Lincoln and added this to the discussion topic list.

Mrs. Cosio Carballo mentioned the 2010-2014 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD) Grant that included the seven counties and was part of the Seven50 Vision. This is potentially a good time to reconvene stakeholders around the Seven50 Vision to mark progress and update the plan. Chair Geller stated this is a long-range goal to be discussed which may involve reconvening a new Seven50 group. Chair Geller asked the Councilmembers to send additional discussion topics to the Council.

Chair Geller motioned to adopt the SFRPC 2023 meeting calendar. Councilmember Lincoln moved the motion and Councilmember Ziade seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

- SFRPC Planning Conversation
 - Chair Geller
 - Leo Braslavsky-Soldi, Finance / IT Director

Mr. Braslavsky Soldi presented the Strategic Planning, its process, next steps, and timeline. He continued by explaining what a Strategic Plan is, which is the organization's process of defining its strategy or direction and making decisions on allocating its resources to attain strategic goals. The decision-making process for the upcoming plan is based on several factors, including the fact that South Florida has emerged from the pandemic and is potentially heading into a recession. Internally, the Council is transitioning this year with key staff retirements.

The Strategic Plan process includes: 1) Gather Facts; 2) SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats); 3) Review Inputs; 4) Define Critical Areas; 5) Define Strategies; 6) Review & Adjust; and 7) Implementation.

There are several components of a Strategic Plan:

- 1) Organizational review (mission statement, history, current programs, etc.)
- 2) Internal Environment (finances, HR, technology)
- 3) External Environment (economy, competition, legal and political environment)
- 4) SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats)
- 5) Critical Areas

Mr. Braslavsky Soldi explained previous efforts from the 2013 Strategic Planning Process included developing and reinforcing ongoing initiatives consistent with strategic opportunity areas and the Board working to shape a new RPC mission and playing a role in the new initiatives and focus areas reflecting on that mission.

The previous efforts in 2017 entailed a Board Strategic Planning Retreat. During the retreat, the Board strengthened the Council's extra-jurisdictional mission, specifically as a platform for regional convenings. They focused on regional economic prosperity, including collaboration, research, and database roles in support of a stronger regional economy. The Board explored opportunities to assist local governments and other regional partners as well as enhanced branding of the Council and its work.

Mr. Braslavsky Soldi explained the next steps for the upcoming Strategic Plan. 1) Stakeholders will receive a survey based on the group they are assigned; 2) Questions will differ for each group and cover important areas where stakeholders' input is crucial; 3) Short surveys (5-8 mins) can be completed online; 4) Results will be a key component for the development of the Strategic Plan.

The presentation may be reviewed via the following link: <https://sfregionalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2.-SFRPC-VISION-2030-Presentation-MC-111422.pdf>

Chair Geller asked about the timing of the Strategic Planning process and hopes that the Strategic Plan can be completed by April so that there is sufficient time for the outgoing Executive Director and the incoming Deputy Director to work on it. Mr. Braslavsky Soldi stated that as of today, February is the current timeline for at least the first draft and then by April a final document can be presented to the

board for approval. It was suggested that the CEDS Report be utilized to gather information for the Strategic Plan. There was discussion on whether the CEDS Report which is focused on the region should be used since the Strategic Plan pertains more to an agency focus.

Chair Geller stated there are four items to discuss: 1) Brightline through the center of the State; 2) Affordable Housing; 3) Sea-level rise and water; and 4) Apprenticeship and jobs. Three of these are in the CEDS Report. He asked that staff review the CEDS Report and come up with other topics that the SFRPC should continue its focus on.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the adoption of the Strategic Plan with a proposed preliminary report due no later than the February 2023 meeting and a final report due no later than the March 2023 meeting. Councilmember Ziade moved the motion and Councilmember Lincoln seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

At 11:45 am, Mr. Drew Martin entered the meeting for his public comment.

Mr. Martin called into the meeting to comment on the following:

- 1) He is disappointed that Miami-Dade County continues to move outside the UDB as there are many other opportunities inside the UDB. He emphasized that it is very important to try to protect the environment and the everglades ecosystem and maintain the UDB.
- 2) He stated that the canal system comments made by Chair Geller are unrealistic and overly optimistic. He continued that if the canals become to be a problem and ultimately fail, the structural changes will not be enough to compensate during storms. Planning needs to begin to move homes away from the areas that would be most impacted. Homes need to begin work on their properties to alleviate the risk of flooding and no one should rely on the Army Corps of Engineers. There were many lessons learned from New Orleans that depending on the Army Corps of Engineers could prove to be fatal.
- 3) Regarding the Homeowners' Insurance, Mr. Martin politely disagreed that Mr. Patronis has done a good job as cities, counties, and the state continue to allow homes to be built where homes are vulnerable. Should these vulnerable homes be lost due to hurricanes, they should not be rebuilt; they should be abandoned. He advocated for continued support for dunes and sea walls.

Chair Geller thanked Mr. Martin for his remarks.

- C. Development of Regional Impact Status Report
- D. Council Highlights

VII. Announcements and Attachments

- A. Attendance Form
- B. Correspondence and Articles
- C. Upcoming Meetings
 1. December – No Meeting (Winter Recess)
 2. January 23, 2023, 10:30 a.m. SFRPC, Hollywood, (TBD)
 3. February 17, 2023, 10:30 a.m. SFRPC / TCRPC Joint Meeting (TBD)
 4. February 27, 2023, 10:30 a.m. SFRPC, Hollywood (TBD)
 5. March 17, 2023, 10:30 a.m. First / Last Mile Connectivity Conference (TBD)
 6. March 20, 2023, 10:30 a.m. SFRPC, Hollywood (TBD)

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Geller adjourned the meeting at 12:04 pm.

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 November 21, 2022 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted on the 23rd day of January 2023.

Michelle Lincoln, Secretary
Monroe County Commissioner, District 2

Date