



AGENDA ITEM # VI.C

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Attached are brief descriptions of some ongoing programs and activities of the Council.

Recommendation

Information only

APRIL 2023

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLEAN CITIES COALITION ON REDESIGNATION

For more information, please contact alopez@sfrpc.com

The South Florida Regional Planning Council's Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition (SEFLCCC) was recently approved for re-designation through the U.S. Department of Energy. Through technical assistance, networking and sharing transportation and fuel options, SEFLCCC's mission is to reduce petroleum use in transportation in a four-county region. SEFLCCC was commended for its technical expertise, responsiveness and communication, and educational outreach. SEFLCCC has continued to meet with stakeholders and stress the importance of alternative fuels, fuel-saving technologies and practices, and new mobility choices.



This redesignation from the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office means that the South Florida region will continue to have access to Clean Cities tools, resources, and support network to help convert fleets to non-petroleum fuels that can help decrease harmful vehicle emissions, achieve suitability goals, and reduce long-term transportation costs. This redesignation signals national recognition of the continued efforts by local fleets and government entities to build a more sustainable transportation system in South Florida that supports local economy and quality of life.

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SFRPC HOSTED SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES CLEAN CITIES ANNUAL MEETING

For more information, please contact alopez@sfrpc.com

The Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition hosted the U.S. Department of Energy and Clean Cities Coalition Directors from the Southeastern United States for a two-day information sharing and planning meeting on February 27-28 in Hollywood. At this meeting, the U.S. DOE announced the recertification of the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition and lauded our Coalition as one of the best in the United States. The U.S. DOE has asked the Council and Coalition if we would be willing to host a National Conference later this year or early next year. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



SFRPC COMMITS \$1,000,000 TO REMEDIATE FORMER CONTAMINATED SITE INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR MIAMI HEALTH DISTRICT

For more information, please contact jtart@sfrpc.com

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) has committed \$1,000,000 from its [EPA Brownfields Clean-Up Revolving Loan Fund](#) to help remediate and redevelop a 2.08-acre property located at 1960 and 1970 NW 27th Avenue in Miami, Florida. This regional project is a collaborative effort between the SFRPC, Goldstein Kite Environmental (GKE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

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SFRPC EXPANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE WITH \$1,000,000 COMMITMENT TO CONSTRUCT SINGLE FAMILY HOMES IN HOMESTEAD, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

For more information, please contact jtart@sfrpc.com

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) continues to expand its affordable housing initiative with a \$1,000,000 commitment from its [Revolving Loan Fund \(RLF\)](#), to help construct four (4) new single-family homes for first time homebuyers in the City of Homestead, FL. The project is a collaborative effort between the SFRPC, Homestead Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), and the Minority Builders Coalition. The homes will be located at 705 SW 6th Street, 813 SW 6th Street, 829 SW 6th Street, and 704 SW 7th Street and reside in the Homestead CRA.

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OPERATION HEATSHIELD IV

For more information, please contact cburke@sfrpc.com

On Tuesday, March 7, 2023, the Southeast Regional Domestic Security Task Force (SERDSTF) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) hosted Operation Heat Shield IV [\[get a glimpse\]](#), which focused on advancing whole community and regional partnerships. The SERDSTF is one of seven such task forces around the state, all dedicated to keeping Florida prepared for an attack.



With unrest across the globe, terrorist attacks can occur anywhere including, South Florida. Coordination among first responders to prepare for worse case scenarios is critically important to public safety. Planning exercises like Heat Shield IV provide an opportunity to conduct interagency risk assessments. The exercise is designed and conducted to test and demonstrate critical skills in multidisciplinary areas of expertise and to advance lessons learned during previous exercises. Training to test new capabilities in a controlled

environment helps to plan, prepare, prevent, respond, mitigate, and recover from potential terrorist incidents. In addition, the Heat Shield series provides the region’s partners with the opportunity to identify gaps for inclusion in future training exercises.

FIRST & LAST MILE INNOVATION IN THE REGION

For more information, please contact eagolli@sfrpc.com

On March 17, 2022, the SFRPC hosted the “Striding Forward: First & Last Mile Innovation in the Region” event where more than 100 participants registered to learn about the economic and community benefits of improved first and last mile connectivity. Topics of discussion included what types of densities and land use policies support first last mile connectivity, the interrelationship of affordable housing and mobility, and an overview of South Florida’s regional vision for mobility. With transportation being the second highest expense in a high cost of living environment, there was a consensus amongst speakers that transit is key to a thriving economy with opportunity for all, and Transit Oriented Development and Transit Oriented Communities create “Live – Work –Play” communities that increase access to affordable housing, education, employment, and recreational opportunities.



Jonathan Hopkins, Principal & Founder of the Smart Mobility Associates, LLC stated in his presentation that: “[a] thriving city needs continuous progress towards integrated, highly utilized world- class mobility options. When traffic grinds to a halt, so does economic opportunity. The bottom line depends on getting people to their destinations — whether it’s to live, to work, to spend.”. Commissioner Oliver Gilbert III stated that there should be a concerted effort and collaboration between the public sector and the business community to achieve the desired public transit results. Our elected officials are calling for strong partnerships towards creating an accessible regional mobility network with safe and easy first/last mile connections.

WE ARE HIRING!

For more information, please contact sfadmin@sfrpc.com.

The SFRPC currently has one career opportunity available. We can use your assistance in promoting the vacancies through your municipal or County newsletter or website. Please [click here](#) to see the available positions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH MANAGER

This is a mid- to high-level position requiring advanced professional work in a wide range of business and economic development tasks. The ideal candidate will possess an understanding of activities related to community development, economic development, and economic diversification and resiliency, with the ability to conduct research and analyze data working independently.

