



SFRPC

South Florida Regional Planning Council
Proudly serving South Florida since 1974

JULY 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

SFRPC HOSTS REGIONAL CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS HOW TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH A CONTINUUM OF HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

For more information, please contact eagolli@sfrpc.com



On May 31, 2024, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) hosted its annual conference at Nova Southeastern University with the support of Nova Southeastern University, Broward Healthcare, and Memorial Healthcare System. More than 160 guests attended the conference which focused on “Closing the Gaps: Supporting Mental Health through a Continuum of Housing and Supportive Services.”

More than twenty housing and mental health practitioners, elected officials, and community stakeholders shared their knowledge on important issues facing the residents of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties. Four panels discussed various aspects of the mental health crisis in South Florida including the continuum of care, housing and financial considerations, sustainable solutions, and local success with behavioral health implementation.



Mary Mayhew, the President and CEO of the Florida Hospital Association, gave a keynote address on the most important factors in supporting individuals with mental illness. SFRPC Chair Steve Geller (Broward County Commissioner and former Florida State Senator), SFRPC Second Vice Chair René García (Miami-Dade County Commissioner and former Florida State Senator), and Broward County Mayor Nan Rich (former Florida State Senator) gave opening remarks and insightful contributions throughout

the conference. Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Chairman Ronald L. Book facilitated a discussion with the audience on opportunities for action.

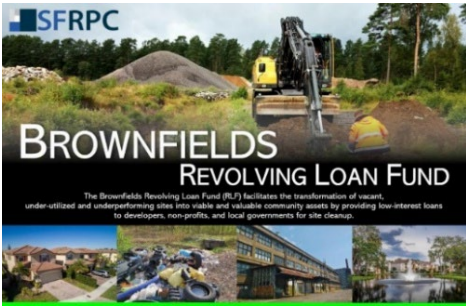
The SFRPC thanks all its attendees, sponsors, Council Members, and supporters for making the conference a success. We look forward to continuing our conversation on mental health/housing in the coming months.



REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROJECT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE UPDATES

For more information, please contact jtart@sfrpc.com

SFRPC SECURES \$3.5 MILLION FOR SOUTH FLORIDA BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND



In addition to the \$3,200,000 in U.S. EPA funds already awarded, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) was selected to receive an additional \$3,500,000 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) because of its high-performing RLF Program to replenish the program's significantly depleted funds. The Council was one of just 31 existing, high-performing Brownfield RLF Programs from throughout the entire country selected as a grant recipient by the Biden Administration.

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SFRPC EXPANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE WITH \$900,000 COMMITMENT TO CONSTRUCT SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES IN WEST PARK, BROWARD COUNTY FLORIDA



The Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI), has committed \$900,000 to the Housing Foundation of America, Inc. to help finance the construction of three affordable, single-family residential homes located in the City of West Park, Florida. Subject lots consist of lot 22 and lot 23 block 66 West Carver Ranches and lot 6 Block 53 West Carver Ranches. The project is a collaborative effort among the SFCDFI,

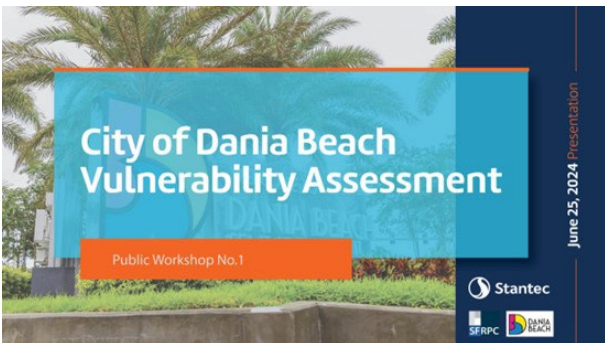
the City of West Park, the Housing Foundation of America, and the Housing Opportunities for Excellence, Inc.

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REGIONAL RESILIENCY UPDATES

For more information, please contact cmiskis@sfrpc.com

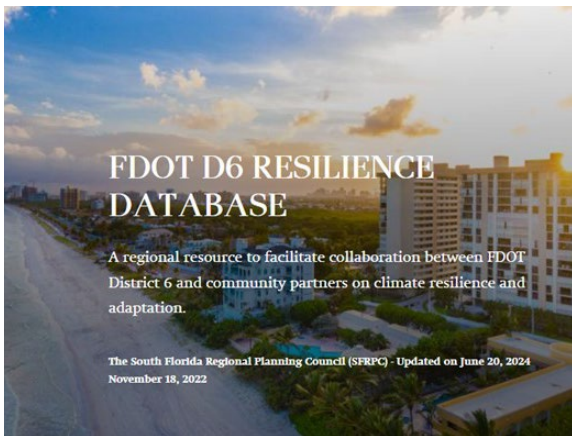
DANIA BEACH VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT UPDATE



The SFRPC is assisting the City of Dania Beach with a vulnerability assessment for the Dania Beach Vulnerability Assessment Project. Key tasks include the collection of background data, exposure analysis, sensitivity analysis, the identification of focus areas, community outreach, development of the final Vulnerability Assessment Report with supporting maps and tables, and Peril of Flood Compliance.

On June 25th the SFRPC organized the City of Dania Beach’s Vulnerability Assessment Public Workshop #1 and presented to the City’s Green Advisory Board, with assistance from Stantec Consultants. The team’s presentation consisted of providing a project overview, outlining critical assets relating to transportation, critical infrastructure, cultural resources, etc., sharing preliminary exposure maps, and listing the next steps for the project. Discussion points from the Public Workshop helped identify additional critical services/facilities and vulnerable City hotspots, as well as supplemented existing data with community perspectives. The team is currently reviewing critical asset community maps and preparing to schedule the project’s second steering committee meeting.

FDOT RESILIENCE DOCUMENTS DATABASE UPDATE



The SFRPC FDOT Resilience Database team has worked continuously to identify key resilience documents, assessments, mitigation efforts, adaptation strategies, action plans, and other resilience-related resources to continue building the regional database for use by local governments, regional agencies, and other stakeholders. Over the last few months, database additions have included resiliency plans, greenhouse gas emissions inventories, extreme heat plans, flood mitigation efforts, and transportation planning guidance, among others. The directory of resilience officers and/or contact persons on resilience and

adaptation issues for many municipalities has also been updated. The team will continue its efforts of monitoring and compiling information on adaptation strategies and projects planned, programmed, or implemented by partners in the FDOT D6 Southeast Florida region.

COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FLOOD VULNERABILITY AND SEA LEVEL RISE DATA SET UPDATE



The SFRPC in the process of completing the South Florida Regional Planning Council Resilience Project (Project) to include the review, identification and verification of regionally significant assets to be included in the Comprehensive Statewide Flood Vulnerability and Sea Level Rise Data Set for Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties. Council staff will also hold meetings with 10 municipalities in Broward and Miami-Dade County that have not yet completed a comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment (VA) pursuant to Section 380.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and provide a path forward towards completion, including support on project management and grant request submittals, as needed.

BROWARD COUNTY TRANSIT RECEIVES THE ENERGY FOR EVERYONE NATIONAL HERO AWARD

For more information, please contact alopez@sfrpc.com



On May 29, 2024, Broward County Transit (BCT) received the Energy for Everyone National Hero Award from the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) for their efforts on incorporating near-zero emissions propane paratransit vehicles. This commitment to zero emissions has led to significant innovation and cost savings with their propane-fueled paratransit fleet. Clean Cities Director Alisha Lopez was asked to speak about the benefits of the propane fleet in the region as well as the long-standing partnership of the Coalition and BCT.

SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) RECOGNITIONS

For more information, please contact cburke@sfrpc.com



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RECOGNITION

Charlene Burke, *Senior Planner & LEPC Coordinator*

In recognition of Charlene's dedication and tireless efforts in supporting the four HazMat teams within Broward County (Broward Sheriff's Office Special Operations Command, Hollywood Fire/Rescue, Fort Lauderdale Fire/Rescue Squad, Sunrise Special Operations) with critical equipment and training for enhanced operations, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to you and the South Florida LEPC. Your commitment to emergency preparedness ensures the safety and well-being of our community.



THOMAS YATABE AWARD FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Chief Oscar Rodriguez, *Training Chief, Margate Fire Department
Local Emergency Planning Committee Region 10, State Emergency
Response Commission, Training Task Force Representative*

Chief Rodriguez was nominated by the South Florida LEPC for performance above and beyond duty and responsibility including, an active role with the SERC Training Task Force for Li-ion batteries. In this role, Chief Rodriguez provided critical support in the areas of research and outreach to stakeholders.

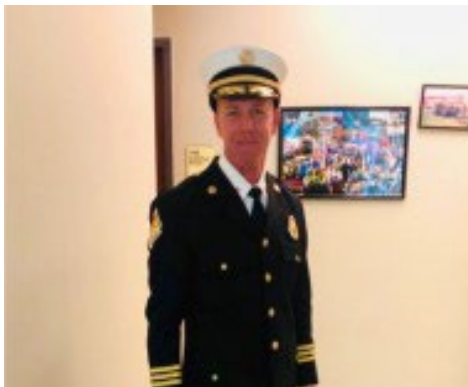
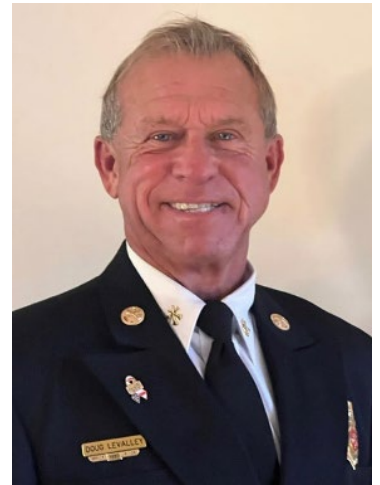
Figure 1: (L) Chief Oscar Rodriguez, South Florida LEPC TTF Rep (R) Director Kevin Guthrie, Florida Division of Emergency Management

Chief Rogriguez was also instrumental in the development and implementation of the hands-on tactics' demonstration at the 2023 Lithium-ion (Li-ion) Symposium and will be a team member at the State Fire College li-ion event on July 12, 2025. In coordination with the Florida Division of Emergency Management's State Emergency Response Commission and the State Fire Marshall's Office, Chief Rodriguez provides support for the implementation of mandatory electric vehicle incident reporting required for the State Watch Office to support critical data collection. In addition, Chief Rodriguez provides support for a lithium-ion research project that is currently being conducted by the State Fire Marshall's Office, University of Miami, and the Florida Firefighters Health & Safety Collaborative.

THOMAS YATABE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Chief Doug LeValley, *Division Chief & Special Projects Coordinator, Seminole Tribe of Florida; Local Emergency Planning Committee Region 10*

Chief LeValley was nominated by the South Florida LEPC for outstanding support to advance Lithium-ion health and safety. Chief LeValley has been a major contributor in the development and implementation of Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) for Lithium-ion management within LEPC Region 10 comprised of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties including the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Chief LeValley also participated in the Lithium-ion Symposium. Chief LeValley has more than 40 years of fire service experience, provided training at the 2024 Hazardous Materials Symposium, and serves as an active member of the South Florida LEPC.



Chief Kenneth Yost, *Division Chief, Training & Professional Standards Broward County Sheriff's Office*

Chief Yost was nominated by the South Florida LEPC for outstanding support to advance Lithium-ion health and safety. Chief Yost has been a major contributor in the development and implementation of Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) for Lithium-ion management within LEPC Region 10. Chief Yost has also participated in the State Emergency Response Commission Lithium-ion Training Task Force. Chief Yost has more than 30 years of fire service experience, and frequently provides support with training and activities of the South Florida LEPC.

SOUTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

For more information, please contact redeshazo@sfrpc.com

U.S. EDA AWARDS SOUTH FLORIDA CLIMATE READY TECH HUB \$19.5 MILLION TO SCALE CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY



On July 2, 2024 the U.S. Economic Development Administration announced its award of \$19.5 million to the South Florida ClimateReady Tech Hub. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Alejandra Castillo met with economic development, academic, and tech partners from around the region at the FIU School of Engineering to celebrate the award in a show of regional support. The ClimateReady Tech Hub is a consortium of local governments, businesses, universities, and organizations, originally convened by the South Florida Regional Planning Council in its role as the Economic Development District for South Florida, and provided technical assistance support from Kenneth C. Griffin, Citadel and the Knight Foundation. These organizations collectively represent the region's four counties and combine a diverse range of expertise, resources, and perspective to build a globally leading climate tech ecosystem.



Assistant Secretary of
Commerce Alejandra Castillo

The South Florida ClimateReady Tech Hub was spearheaded by Miami-Dade County under the leadership of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, to accelerate regional technology and innovation-led growth by boosting the capacity to manufacture, commercialize, and deploy key climate technologies. The ClimateReady Tech Hub is one of the 31 Tech Hubs designated by the EDA in October 2023, chosen from nearly 200 applicants nationwide. Less than half were awarded Phase 2 implementation funding.

SOUTH FLORIDA CEDS STEERING COMMITTEE UNDERTAKES STUDY TO ENHANCE WORKFORCE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



Under the leadership of SFRPC Chair Steve Geller, the South Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Steering Committee comprises a distinguished group of South Florida business leaders dedicated to supporting the South Florida Regional Planning Council’s Economic Development District. This District, designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, includes Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties, provides research and grant development support for economic initiatives across the region.

In January 2024, the Steering Committee decided to develop and publish a business case study addressing the challenges faced by workers and employers in increasing employment opportunities through improvements to the regional transportation system and appropriate land use controls. Expected to be completed by early 2025, this business case will highlight the South Florida business community’s key transportation and land use needs for better access to employment.

[**\[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION\]**](#)

MEETINGS ON SOUTH FLORIDA MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE REVIEW STUDY

For more information, please contact cmiskis@sfrpc.com



The SFRPC has completed the South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) Phase I Assessment and Outreach activities and begun convening installation, county, and municipal partners to further prioritize and develop Phase II implementation projects.

The Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Broward Boards of County Commissioners have been briefed on the South Florida MIRR, its key findings and implementation projects. The South Florida State Legislative Delegation and Congressional Delegation have also received the Executive Summary of the MIRR Report. Initial implementation stakeholder meetings have been held with the South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility, Homestead Air Reserve Base, and U.S. Army Garrison-Miami / SOUTHCOM with additional meetings planned this summer. Similarly, stakeholder meetings with Naval Air Station Key West will follow later this summer.

The SFRPC has applied to the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) for a supplemental funding to support initial Phase II implementation efforts over the next few months to assist the Installations and surrounding communities in creating the working partnerships needed to address resilience threats through collaborative efforts and funding proposals.

[\[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION\]](#)
