

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met virtually and in person on this date at the South Florida Regional Planning Council, 1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, FL 33020. Chair Geller welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m., and asked Councilmember Caplan to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. The recording of this meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzGAK23ze2Q>

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 Denise Horland
Councilmember Samuel Kaufman*
Councilmember Michelle Lincoln**
Councilmember Kionne McGhee**
Councilmember Greg Ross**
Councilmember Michael Udine*

* Virtually Present

** Absent

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

The following Ex-Officio Members were virtually present:

- Sirena Davila, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Dat Huynh, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District 6
- Victoria Peters and Kent Walia representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District 4
- Armando Vilaboy, representing the South Florida Water Management District

There was a lack of quorum, so Chair Geller appointed Councilmembers Caplan and Furr as temporary acting members of the Executive Committee.

Recognition of Councilmember Bailey and Councilmember Mayor Ross upon their retirement from the SFRPC to be acknowledged later in the meeting.

II. Welcome and Approval of Council Agenda

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

III. Presentations

Broward County Vice Mayor, SFRPC Councilmember Beam Furr updated the Councilmembers on the recent Southeast Florida Transportation Committee (SEFTC) meeting where an updated study (from 2008) for freight rail along US 27 was approved. He identified the reasons for the updated study. Passenger rail will be part of the study and be included in the Miami-Dade County Transportation Planning Organization and Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization 2050 Plans. Mr. Huynh, FDOT, District 6, stated the study will contain a multi-model study and operator responsibilities. Discussion ensued on FEC's position, trash transport, passenger rail on US 27, environmental impacts, biodiesel trucks to help move trash, etc. The conversation continued about waste management on education, landfills, landfill/compost smell, greenhouse gases, separating organic waste, food waste, recycling, and composting in schools, hospitals, etc. Chair Geller stated that Councilmember Furr is one of the strongest environmental advocates on solid waste.

Chair Geller introduced Lucdwin Luck, Regional Manager for Florida CFO Jimmy Patronis, and commended him on attending various meetings regularly, including the Joint Conference and today's meeting. Mr. Luck inquired about details of waste management and Chair Geller suggested Mr. Luck visit Broward County staff for more information to answer his questions.

IV. Action Items

- A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - 1. September 30, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting
 - 2. September 30, 2024 Council Meeting
 - 3. October 21, 2024 Council Meeting

Chair Geller motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes for September's Executive Committee Meeting, September's Council Meeting, and October's Council Meeting. Councilmember Horland moved the motion and Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

- B. Financial Report

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

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

C. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews (*Property Rights)

Legal Counsel, Sam Goren, read the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews, Proposed.

Proposed:

- Broward County 24-04ESR
- Monroe County 24-04ACSC
- City of Lighthouse Point 24-01ER
- City of Marathon 24-01ACSC

Public Hearing

Chair Geller opened the Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments or questions.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from the public in person or virtually.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Councilmember Bailey moved the motion and Councilmember Furr seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Legal Counsel, Sam Goren, read the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews Adopted.

Adopted:

- City of Margate 24-01ESR
- City of Plantation 24-01ESR
- Town of Southwest Ranches 24-02ESR

Public Hearing

Chair Geller opened the Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments or questions.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from the public in person or virtually.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the adopted Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Councilmember Caplan moved the motion and Councilmember Horland seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Regional Issues: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review

None

E. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report

Randy Deshazo, SFRPC Deputy Director, presented the CEDS Annual Update required by the Economic Development Administration at October's Council Meeting. The purpose of bringing the CEDS Annual Update this month is for the Councilmembers to authorize Council staff to transmit the document to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for final approval. He noted that no comments have been received during the comment period to date. Discussion ensued regarding the process if comments are received before the public comment period concludes.

Chair Geller stated that if no comments are received, Council staff would transmit the CEDS Annual Update. If there are Public comments, he authorized Council staff to modify the Report with his approval.

Chair Geller motioned to authorize Council staff to transmit the CEDS Annual Report if there are no comments; if there are comments Council staff is authorized to modify the document and send it to Chair Geller for final approval for transmittal to EDA. Councilmember Bailey moved the motion and Councilmember Furr seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

F. SFRPC 2025 Meeting Schedule

Chair Geller summarized the Silver Tsunami Joint Conference. Mr. Luck stated the Joint Conference was very informative and spoke about senior fraud issues and other concerns relating to senior citizens. Chair Geller recognized the top experts who spoke and the many accolades he received regarding the Conference that day and over the weekend. He also thanked Council staff for their hard work. He summarized the highlights of the Joint Conference and the concerns for the elderly, Social Security, and various retirement plans. Executive Director Mrs. Isabel Cosio Carballo thanked Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, SFRPC Council staff, Councilmembers, and Ex-Officio Members who attended including Councilmember Cates who traveled the furthest. She acknowledged the Sponsors, AICP accreditation, and other notable attendees. The Joint Conference recording is located: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b-gDb6ypySQ&list=PLd90bmBga1Wyvnn6doJJokx-LqpD4ECiW&index=3>

Mrs. Cosio Carballo presented the 2025 SFRPC Meeting Schedule. Chair Geller and Mrs. Cosio Carballo asked if the Councilmembers have any ideas for the next Joint Meeting to contact them. Chair Geller summarized the previous Joint Meetings/Conferences that have been conducted. The January 27th Meeting will be in Monroe County at the Nelson E. Murray Government Center.

Chair Geller motioned to renew the contract. Councilmember Horland moved the motion and Councilmember Bailey seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

G. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Chair Geller explained the process for the Nominating Committee and there will be an opening for Secretary. He asked if anyone would like to take on the responsibilities of Secretary and notify Mrs. Cosio Carballo or Legal Counsel Mr. Sam Goren. That person should be from Miami-Dade or Monroe County. The Nominating Committee will be chosen and meet at a future date.

Public Hearing

Chair Geller opened the Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments or questions.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from the public in person or virtually.

V. Program Reports and Activities

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

Mr. Jeff Tart, Senior Loan Officer and Manager of the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Programs stated that the CARES ACT RLF Program has provided \$7.78 million to 36 businesses to date, and all borrowers are current and in good standing. The Loan Administration is processing the closing of a previously approved \$500,000 loan to Renaissance Riviera Beach and Community Partners of South Florida for affordable housing services. The program has approximately \$465,000 in available funds due to successful loan repayments.

The traditional RLF Program has provided \$5.68 million to 28 businesses. Loan administration is processing the closing of a previously approved loan to the Housing Foundation of America, Inc. and Tayan Alliances of \$470,000 for affordable housing residential services. Currently, the program has approximately \$675,000 available to lend and continues to actively network and reach out to prospective small businesses in the region. The SFRPC's Revolving Loan Fund Program was honored with a Legacy Award by the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Programs administered by M. Gill and Associates as a leader in providing capital and technical resources to small and medium-sized minority-owned businesses in South Florida. Marie Gill is also an RLF board member and a true partner to the SFRPC.

Mr. Tart summarized the ongoing collection efforts related to Angela Dawson, PA by Legal Counsel, Goren Cherof with the Johnson Anselmo Law Firm. Full details can be found in the attached RLF Status Report.

The RLF administration team along with the Clean Cities Director will host a webinar on providing financial and technical resources to small businesses supporting the Clean Cities Initiative in South Florida. The keynote speaker will be Daniel Siksay, Chief of Staff of the East Tennessee Clean Fuels program. The discussion will be about available federal grant opportunities and grant writing techniques to help small businesses win clean cities grants and awards.

Mr. Tart stated in June of 2024, the SFRPC secured an additional \$3,500,000 in supplemental funding from the Environmental Protection Agency to help with the cleanup of the former public works site (former incinerator and ash dump) in Hollywood, FL., (Commissioner Furr's District) into affordable housing and commercial space as well as address the contamination and cleanup of Claude Pepper Park in North Miami (Commissioner Bastien District). In today's Council Packet Habitat for Humanity of Key West and the Lower Keys project are highlighted. He mentioned the SFRPC will be pursuing an additional \$1,200,000 for a new EPA Coalition Assessment Grant in 2025 focusing on assisting The Allapattah Collaborative, the South Florida Community Land Trust, and the City of Miami (Commissioners Hardemon and Regalado's District). He proudly announced that the SFRPC's Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund was honored by the National Association of Development Organizations with the Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award for 2024.

Recognition of Councilmember Bailey and Councilmember Mayor Ross upon their retirement from the SFRPC to be acknowledged later in the meeting.

Chair Geller stated that Past Chair Bailey has been on the Council from 2013 to 2024, was Chair in 2021, and was on the Florida Associates of Regional Council's Policy Board. He read the inscription on the Florida plaque and presented it to Councilmember Bailey. Councilmember Bailey thanked Chair Geller. Councilmember Bailey mentioned the office move, serving multiple Executive Directors, etc. He stated that he has been traveling more and did not feel it appropriate to stay on the Council Board if he could not be present. He stated it was a pleasure to work with the Council and Council staff.

Councilmember Ross was not present due to an unexpected engagement.

Chair Geller mentioned the January 2025 Council meeting will be in Monroe County because the incoming Chair is Monroe County Commissioner Michelle Lincoln.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Cosio Carballo announced that the SFRPC has received three Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Awards from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for its Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund, Clean Cities and Communities Initiative, and South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR). She went into detail for each program and noted the continuing work with the MIRR. She welcomed Ms. Victoria Peters, FDOT, District 4 as the new SFRPC Ex-Officio Member. Mrs. Cosio Carballo announced that Alex Santana, Administrative Coordinator, left the Council to work for the Miami Foundation. We are all sad to see him leave.

B. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, updated the Council on the Dawson litigation and will answer any

questions offline.

C. Council Members Report

Councilmember Caplan thanked Councilmember Bailey for showing him around Tallahassee.

Councilmember Horland mentioned the affordable housing program at the City of Plantation.

D. Ex-Officio Report

Dat Huynh, FDOT, District 6 mentioned the 5-Year Work Program Public Hearing on December 4th, will be at the FDOT, District 6 Auditorium. He stated the Conference was great!

Victoria Peters, FDOT, District 4 Transportation Planning Manager, loved the Conference and is happy to be part of the SFRPC. District 4 will hold a Public Hearing on December 10th at the Commercial Boulevard Office. She will be sending more information.

Serena Davila, FDEP, enjoyed the conference and stated it was a very relevant topic for the area and the state.

Armando Vilaboy, SFWMD, mentioned the Everglades Strategy Restoration Project.

Chair Geller requested that Mr. Tart send a paragraph on the criteria for the loan funds to be distributed to the Councilmembers so they can forward it to their constituents.

VII. Announcements and Attachments

A. Attendance Form

B. Correspondence and Articles

C. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) December 2024, No meeting
- 2) Monday, January 27, 2025, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC)
- 3) Monday, February 24, 2025, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC)
- 4) Monday, March 17, 2025, 10:30 a.m. (SFRPC)

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Geller adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

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 18, 2024, executive committee meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted on the 27th day of January 2025.

Denise Horland, Secretary
Councilmember, City of Plantation

Date