



# MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.D

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DATE: JULY 21, 2025

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: SFRPC REGIONAL CONFERENCE UPDATE – “THE BUSINESS CASE FOR TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT WITH AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING”

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The SFRPC's upcoming Regional Conference is confirmed for Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom, 201 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Fort Lauderdale. The working title of the Conference is “The Business Case for Transit-Oriented Development with Workforce and Affordable Housing in South Florida.” This Conference flows out of the work spearheaded by the SFRPC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee, chaired by Senator Steve Geller, and the work of Council staff in related program areas.

Registration is complementary and open now: [The Business Case for TOD with Affordable & Workforce Housing Tickets, Thu, Sep 11, 2025 at 8:30 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-business-case-for-tod-with-affordable-workforce-housing-tickets-tickets-320220111111)

## PANEL SUMMARIES:

### **SESSION 1: Building the Regional Economy: Development Around Transit**

**Description:** This session will invite major employers and business leaders to explore the economic benefits of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) that connect people to jobs, services, and activities. Benefits will be evaluated such as opportunities to enhance housing affordability, labor market accessibility, growth in vital economic sectors, and job creation. Speakers will also be invited to discuss how the business community can advocate for policies that support TOD.

### **SESSION 2: Is the Market Compatible with Vision?**

**Description:** This panel will invite speakers to evaluate how the market responds to the vision of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) and communities. Where is the demand and how can it best be met? How



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have TODs successfully created economic growth in the region, and what challenges have developers faced? Why is TOD valuable to developers?

**Lunch Panel: Creating TOCs and TODs: Executive Updates from Miami-Dade and Broward**

**Description:** Why are Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) important to the long-range planning of the regional transportation system?

**SESSION 3: Bricks, Mortar, and Design: The Public Return on Investment**

**Description:** This session will focus on how zoning and land use can support Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) in the region, and on successful public policy initiatives. Topics will include addressing integration of higher densities in low density neighborhoods with context sensitive design. How has the Live Local Act affected how local governments regulate? Panelists will be invited to address the public return on investments in TOD and transit-oriented communities. How successful have policy reforms been at streamlining approvals and incentives for TOD and affordable and workforce housing near transit corridors?

**SESSION 4: Innovative Partnerships and Financing Strategies**

**Description:** This session will explore innovative partnerships and financing, including public-private partnerships and joint development agreements, that are currently being used for transit-oriented development projects. Experienced public and private sector practitioners will share real-world examples.

**SESSION 5: Leadership Roundtable: Aligning Vision, Policy, and Action**

**Description:** This session will feature a candid "Leadership Roundtable" where distinguished public leaders will reflect on the day's proceedings and share their individual perspectives on Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). The discussion will focus on how TOD can most effectively serve the South Florida region and unique needs of their constituents, specifically addressing critical issues related to transit infrastructure, accessibility, and funding.

Council staff will continue to work with Chair Lincoln, Immediate-Past Chair Geller, and Council Members as the agenda and conference development process moves forward. Thank you in advance for your input and suggestions.

**Recommendation**

Information Only.