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The Honorable Michelle Lincoln
Chair, SFRPC
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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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South Florida Regional Planning Council Hosts Regional Conference on the Business Case for Transit-Oriented Development with Affordable and Workforce Housing

Hollywood, FL — On Thursday, September 11, 2025, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) will host the region's most influential public officials, business executives, developers, and transit experts at its annual Regional Conference, **"The Business Case for Transit-Oriented Development with Affordable and Workforce Housing."** This Conference will be held at the **Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom** at the **Broward Center for the Performing Arts** from **8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

At this Conference, public and private sector leaders will explore and discuss how transit-oriented communities and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) offer pathways to a more robust regional economy, improved mobility, enhanced access to opportunity, and increased housing affordability across South Florida. With South Florida at a pivotal moment of growth, this event highlights TOD as a catalyst for a stronger regional economy and a more connected future.

This Conference builds upon the SFRPC's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report, "The Business Case for Affordable Housing and Transit-Oriented Development in South Florida," which provides the data-driven foundation for this event. The CEDS report, developed through extensive stakeholder engagement with regional representatives from the business community, economic development officials, elected leaders and agency staff, focuses on the key finding that every 1% increase in jobs within a commutable distance from residents' homes could generate an additional \$1.3 billion annually in household income throughout South Florida by enhancing jobs access for workers, particularly lower income workers, and expanding the labor pool for employers seeking more varied and relevant skills from job-seekers.

The report identifies strategic investment priorities along key corridors like I-95, US-1, and SR-7/US-441, while outlining innovative financing mechanisms including Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts, public-private partnerships, and value capture strategies essential for implementing successful TOD projects that address South Florida's affordable housing crisis.

Conference panelists will explore how TOD can strengthen the regional economy by connecting residents to jobs, services, and opportunities while expanding housing affordability and supporting growth in vital economic sectors. Guest speakers will evaluate how well market forces align with

long-term public goals, share regional planning updates, and assess the public return on investment in TOD through thoughtful land use, zoning, and design.

Additional discussions will highlight innovative financing models, public-private partnerships, and how TOD can most effectively serve the South Florida region and the unique needs of its communities. At the Conference, subject matter experts will address critical issues related to transit infrastructure, accessibility, and funding with decision-makers from the public and private sectors sharing real-world examples, addressing market and policy challenges, and outlining bold solutions for South Florida's future.

“As a Broward County Commissioner and Chair of the SFRPC’s CEDS Committee, I’ve seen firsthand how effective public/private partnerships can transform a conceptual Transit-Oriented Development project into reality,” said **The Honorable Steve Geller, Former State Senator and Immediate Past Chair of the SFRPC**. “As documented in the CEDS Committee Report, 'The Business Case for Transit-Oriented Development with Affordable and Workforce Housing,' Transit-Oriented Development is one of our most powerful tools for addressing South Florida’s growth and mobility challenges while creating economic growth and more livable communities. This Conference brings together the region’s public and private sector leadership, policy expertise, funding mechanisms, and community engagement needed to build transit-connected neighborhoods that serve residents at every income level. Our region’s success depends on our ability to think strategically about where and how we grow. We need more housing to make housing more affordable, and the best place to put it is in Transit-Oriented Development sites, where we add density without increased traffic congestion, and lower the second-largest cost for most families after housing, which is transportation.”

The program features six high-impact panels:

1. Building the Regional Economy: Development Around Transit
2. Is the Market Compatible with Vision?
3. Lunch Panel: Creating TOCs and TODs: Executive Updates from Miami-Dade and Broward Counties
4. Bricks, Mortar, and Design: The Public Return on Investment
5. Innovative Partnerships and Financing Strategies
6. Leadership Roundtable: Aligning Vision, Policy, and Action

Speakers include:

- **Aileen Bouclé**, Executive Director, **Miami-Dade TPO**
- **Kim Briesemeister**, Principal, **RMA**
- **Javier Bustamante**, Assistant Director, **Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works**
- **Coree Cuff Lonergan**, General Manager/Director, **Broward County Transportation Department**

- **David Dech**, Executive Director, **SFRTA**
- **Darby Delsalle**, Director of Planning and Development Management, **Broward County**
- **Randy Deshazo**, Deputy Director & Director of Economic Development, **South Florida Regional Planning Council**
- **Anthony Fajardo**, Director of Development Services, **City of Fort Lauderdale**
- **The Honorable Lamar Fisher**, **Broward County Commissioner**, District 4; Member, **South Florida Regional Transportation Authority**
- **The Honorable Steve Geller**, **Broward County Commissioner**, District 5; Former State Senator; Immediate Past Chair, **SFRPC**; Chair, **SFRPC CEDS Strategy Committee**
- **The Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert, III**, **Miami-Dade County Commissioner**, District 1; Council Member, **South Florida Regional Planning Council**
- **Sandra Veszi Einhorn**, Chair, Florida Housing Finance Corporation; Executive Director, **The Coordinating Council of Broward**
- **Nathan Kogon**, Director of Housing and Community Development, **Miami-Dade County**
- **Lindsay Lecour**, Executive Vice President, Development, **Atlantic|Pacific Companies**
- **Teddy Lhoutellier**, Director of Sustainability, **University of Miami**
- **Juan Carlos Liscano**, Vice President, Miami, **American Airlines**
- **Michelle Lincoln**, Chair, **South Florida Regional Planning Council**; Mayor Pro Tem and **Monroe County Commissioner**, District 2; President, **Florida Association of Counties**; Member, 2055 **Florida Transportation Plan Steering Committee**
- **Michael Marshall**, Partner, **Nelson Mullins**
- **Chad Maxey**, Vice President, **Diversified Companies**
- **Rodrick T. Miller**, President and CEO, **Miami-Dade Beacon Council**
- **Albert Milo, Jr.**, President, **Related Urban**
- **Nathan Perlmutter**, Market Leader, South Florida, **TD Bank**
- **Brandon Schaad**, Director of Planning, **City of Boca Raton**
- **Bob Swindell**, President and CEO, **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**
- **Aaron Stolear**, President of Development, **13th Floor Investments**
- **Ralph Stone**, Director, **Housing Finance Division**, Executive Director, **Housing Finance Authority**, Broward County
- **Greg Stuart**, Executive Director, **Broward MPO**
- **Tim Wheat**, Partner, **Pinnacle Communities**
- **The Honorable Marci Woodward**, **Palm Beach County Commissioner**, District 4; Chair, **South Florida Regional Transportation Authority**; Council Member, **Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council**
- **Joseph M. Yesbeck**, PE, Senior Vice President Practice Leader, Advisory + Planning, **TYLin**.

Together, they will address the pressing challenges and opportunities facing South Florida as it experiences rapid growth and evolving transportation needs.

“The South Florida Regional Planning Council is pleased to create a much-needed region-wide conversation between the region’s public and private sector leaders regarding what is needed to advance the creation of transit-oriented communities and Transit-Oriented Development that can provide affordable and workforce housing, and enhanced regional mobility, economic development, and workforce opportunities. We are grateful to South Florida’s public and private leaders who are coming together today to discuss how to meet the needs of South Florida’s existing and future residents while planning responsibly for the region’s future,” said **The Honorable Michelle Lincoln, Chair of the South Florida Regional Planning Council; Monroe County Mayor Pro Tem; and President of the Florida Association of Counties.**

Registration for the Conference is open. Space is limited. [Reserve free tickets here.](#)

Special thanks to our **Silver Sponsors, Atlantic|Pacific Companies** and **Freebee**, and our **Bronze Sponsors, Pinnacle** and **TYLin**, whose support helps make this Regional Conference possible. Sponsorship opportunities are available at the platinum, gold, silver, and bronze levels. For details on how to support the event or for any inquiries, please contact: Eralda Agolli, Program Manager – Community and Economic Development eagolli@sfrpc.com

About the South Florida Regional Planning Council

The South Florida Regional Planning Council supports the region’s elected leaders and public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders through regional, collaborative planning and the development and implementation of programs and strategies which create a better future for Southeast Florida. The Council serves three counties—Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward—70 municipalities and an estimated 4.9 million residents. Council membership consists of county and municipal elected officials, gubernatorial appointees, and ex-officio members from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the South Florida Water Management District.

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