

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

COUNCIL MEETING IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION



DENISE APPLEBY HORLAND

SFRPC Councilmember, 2023 – 2026
SFRPC Executive Committee 2024 - 2026



QUENTIN "BEAM" FURR

SFRPC Councilmember, 2016 – 2026
SFRPC Executive Committee 2019-2023, 2026

The Council extends its sincere appreciation and gratitude to former Councilmember Denise Horland and Councilmember Beam Furr for their dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to advancing the region's shared goals. Throughout their tenure, they contributed valuable perspectives, fostered collaboration among local governments, and helped guide initiatives that have strengthened our communities. Their time, expertise, and public service have left a lasting impact on the Council and the residents we serve. We thank them for their many contributions and wish them the very best in retirement and in the years ahead.



DENISE APPLEBY HORLAND

Councilmember

Denise has served on the Plantation City Council since 2018. She and her husband of 38 years, Bob, have lived in the City of Plantation since 1993, where they have raised their three children and three rescue dogs.

She has served on the board of Plantation's Relay for Life and has volunteered with charitable groups such as LifeNet4Families to address food insecurity and homelessness in the community.

Prior to serving as a Councilmember, Denise served on the City of Plantation's Education Advisory Board, and has remained an active presence in our public schools, focusing on reading competency and civic engagement.

One of Denise's proudest moments as a council member was bringing forth a policy providing 12 week paid family leave for employees upon the adoption or birth of a child. As the daughter of a U.S. Marine, she is also proud of initiating the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, honoring current and former service members with banners along Broward Blvd. She has been instrumental in the expansion of public art offerings through collaborations with artists Cey Adams and Magda Love, who designed a community-driven tapestry comprised of discarded textiles to highlight the impact of "fast fashion" on our natural resources.

Denise is the immediate past President of the Broward League of Cities, where she put forth the initiative of Leading ONE Broward, encouraging elected officials to develop strong, thoughtful public policies, making decisions that uplift residents, and holding themselves to a higher standard as they collaborate with one another in a spirit of respect, trust, and unity.

Denise serves on the Broward County Planning Council, Broward County Water Advisory Board, Solid Waste Disposal and Recyclable Materials Processing Authority of Broward County, Broward Reads Coalition, Florida League of Cities Board of Directors, is the current Chair of the FLC's Advocacy Committee, and formerly served on the South Florida Regional Planning Council addressing regional needs in the tri-county area. Denise is proud to have been named by the Florida League of Cities as a Home Rule Hero for the past seven years, championing the local decision-making abilities of municipalities. She has also been honored as a 2021 Woman of Distinction by the Broward County Commission on the Status of Women. Additionally, Denise currently serves as Secretary on the Plantation Police Pension Board and earned her Certified Public Pension Trustee (CPPT) designation in 2021.

As a graduate of the Broward County Leaders Water and Climate Academy and past participant of two Broward Resiliency Roundtables, Denise hopes to further improve Plantation's resiliency and sustainability for future generations. As for the next generation of leaders, through her work with various organizations and her high school internship program, she mentors and supports those who may seek a career in public service.



QUENTIN "BEAM" FURR

Commissioner

Beam Furr is a Broward County Commissioner representing District Six, the southeast part of the county. He served as Mayor of Broward County in 2018 and 2025. He was first elected to the Broward County Commission in 2014. Prior to that, he was a Hollywood City Commissioner for 12 years.

As an elected official, he has focused on environmental issues, early childhood education, transportation, housing, economic opportunity, and the arts.

Mayor Furr serves as chair of the Southeast Florida Transportation Council, the co-chair of the Broward Climate Change Task Force, Broward County Solid Waste Authority and Broward Reads, as well as a board member of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), CareerSource Broward, the Broward County Tourist Development Council (TDC), and South Florida Regional Planning Council. Beam also served as a board member of the Broward County Children's Services Council for 9 years.

Commissioner Furr was a teacher in the Broward County School system for 25 years. During that time, he taught social studies, before becoming a librarian for Flanagan High School. Beam grew up in South Florida and now lives in Hollywood with his wife, Shelli Edwards, and is the proud dad of his daughter, Eliza.

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

COUNCIL MEETING

MEET OUR NEW SFRPC TEAM MEMBERS



SERGE DENIS

Director of Finance



REBEKAH SILVA

Executive Coordinator



QINGYU ZHOU

Regional Planner

The Council is pleased to welcome three new members to its team: Serge Denis, Director of Finance; Rebekah Silva, Executive Coordinator; and Qingyu Zhou, Regional Planner. Each brings a unique blend of experience, expertise, and enthusiasm that will help advance the Council's mission and support the communities we serve. Their diverse backgrounds and professional contributions strengthen our organization and position us for continued success. We are excited to have them on board and look forward to the valuable perspectives and talents they will bring to the Council's work throughout the region.



SERGE DENIS

Director of Finance

Serge Denis serves as Finance Director for the South Florida Regional Planning Council, bringing more than a decade of public-sector finance experience across municipal, county, and state government. His expertise includes governmental accounting, budgeting, financial reporting, regulatory compliance, and strategic fiscal management. Serge holds a Master's degree in Forensic Accounting, is a Certified Fraud Examiner, and has held financial leadership positions with Miami-Dade County, the City of Deerfield Beach, and the City of Oakland Park.



REBEKAH SILVA

Executive Coordinator

Rebekah A. Silva joined the South Florida Regional Planning Council in June 2026 as Executive Coordinator, providing high-level administrative support to the Director of Administration, Executive Director, and the Council's finance and planning staff.

Her background includes payment processing and merchant services, banking, financial technology, and executive-level administrative support in both the public and private sectors, including with the Broward Sheriff's Office. She holds a Professional Administrative Certification of Excellence (PACE) and is a Notary Public.



QINGYU ZHOU

Regional Planner

Qingyu joined the South Florida Regional Planning Council as Regional Planner in August 2026, supporting the Council's work on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), regional blue technology initiatives, and economic and transportation planning. His background includes GIS, site visiting, graphic design, and coastal erosion preparedness planning. Qingyu holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science/Geography from the University of Texas at Austin. Originally from China, he is fluent in Mandarin.