



Southwest Florida Regional Planning

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BOARD MEETING AGENDA



MEETING NOTICE

Mission Statement:

To work together across neighboring communities to consistently protect and improve the unique and relatively unspoiled character of the physical, economic and social worlds we share...for the benefit of our future generations.

October 20, 2011

9:00am – 11:30am

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Two or more members of the Peace River Basin Management Advisory Committee and Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program may be in attendance and may discuss matters that could come before the Peace River Basin Management Advisory Committee and Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, respectively, for consideration.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact Ms. Deborah Kooi at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling (239) 338-2550 #210; if you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice/(800) 955-8771 TDD. Or email dkooi@swfrpc.org.



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BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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104 West Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301-1713 • 850.224.3427

Regional Planning Council Functions and Programs

March 4, 2011

- **Economic Development Districts:** Regional planning councils are designated as Economic Development Districts by the U. S. Economic Development Administration. From January 2003 to August 2010, the U. S. Economic Development Administration invested \$66 million in 60 projects in the State of Florida to create/retain 13,700 jobs and leverage \$1 billion in private capital investment. Regional planning councils provide technical support to businesses and economic developers to promote regional job creation strategies.
- **Emergency Preparedness and Statewide Regional Evacuation:** Regional planning councils have special expertise in emergency planning and were the first in the nation to prepare a Statewide Regional Evacuation Study using a uniform report format and transportation evacuation modeling program. Regional planning councils have been preparing regional evacuation plans since 1981. Products in addition to evacuation studies include Post Disaster Redevelopment Plans, Hazard Mitigation Plans, Continuity of Operations Plans and Business Disaster Planning Kits.
- **Local Emergency Planning:** Local Emergency Planning Committees are staffed by regional planning councils and provide a direct relationship between the State and local businesses. Regional planning councils provide thousands of hours of training to local first responders annually. Local businesses have developed a trusted working relationship with regional planning council staff.
- **Homeland Security:** Regional planning council staff is a source of low cost, high quality planning and training experts that support counties and State agencies when developing a training course or exercise. Regional planning councils provide cost effective training to first responders, both public and private, in the areas of Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste, Incident Command, Disaster Response, Pre- and Post-Disaster Planning, Continuity of Operations and Governance. Several regional planning councils house Regional Domestic Security Task Force planners.
- **Multipurpose Regional Organizations:** Regional planning councils are Florida's only multipurpose regional entities that plan for and coordinate intergovernmental solutions on multi-jurisdictional issues, support regional economic development and provide assistance to local governments.
- **Problem Solving Forum:** Issues of major importance are often the subject of regional planning council-sponsored workshops. Regional planning councils have convened regional summits and workshops on issues such as workforce housing, response to hurricanes, visioning and job creation.
- **Implementation of Community Planning:** Regional planning councils develop and maintain Strategic Regional Policy Plans to guide growth and development focusing on economic development, emergency preparedness, transportation, affordable housing and resources of regional significance. In addition, regional planning councils provide coordination and review of various programs such as Local Government Comprehensive Plans, Developments of Regional Impact and Power Plant Ten-year Siting Plans. Regional planning council reviewers have the local knowledge to conduct reviews efficiently and provide State agencies reliable local insight.

- **Local Government Assistance:** Regional planning councils are also a significant source of cost effective, high quality planning experts for communities, providing technical assistance in areas such as: grant writing, mapping, community planning, plan review, procurement, dispute resolution, economic development, marketing, statistical analysis, and information technology. Several regional planning councils provide staff for transportation planning organizations, natural resource planning and emergency preparedness planning.
- **Return on Investment:** Every dollar invested by the State through annual appropriation in regional planning councils generates 11 dollars in local, federal and private direct investment to meet regional needs.
- **Quality Communities Generate Economic Development:** Businesses and individuals choose locations based on the quality of life they offer. Regional planning councils help regions compete nationally and globally for investment and skilled personnel.
- **Multidisciplinary Viewpoint:** Regional planning councils provide a comprehensive, multidisciplinary view of issues and a forum to address regional issues cooperatively. Potential impacts on the community from development activities are vetted to achieve win-win solutions as council members represent business, government and citizen interests.
- **Coordinators and Conveners:** Regional planning councils provide a forum for regional collaboration to solve problems and reduce costly inter-jurisdictional disputes.
- **Federal Consistency Review:** Regional planning councils provide required Federal Consistency Review, ensuring access to hundreds of millions of federal infrastructure and economic development investment dollars annually.
- **Economies of Scale:** Regional planning councils provide a cost-effective source of technical assistance to local governments, small businesses and non-profits.
- **Regional Approach:** Cost savings are realized in transportation, land use and infrastructure when addressed regionally. A regional approach promotes vibrant economies while reducing unproductive competition among local communities.
- **Sustainable Communities:** Federal funding is targeted to regions that can demonstrate they have a strong framework for regional cooperation.
- **Economic Data and Analysis:** Regional planning councils are equipped with state of the art econometric software and have the ability to provide objective economic analysis on policy and investment decisions.
- **Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators:** The Small Quantity Generator program ensures the proper handling and disposal of hazardous waste generated at the county level. Often smaller counties cannot afford to maintain a program without imposing large fees on local businesses. Many counties have lowered or eliminated fees, because regional planning council programs realize economies of scale, provide businesses a local contact regarding compliance questions and assistance and provide training and information regarding management of hazardous waste.
- **Regional Visioning and Strategic Planning:** Regional planning councils are conveners of regional visions that link economic development, infrastructure, environment, land use and transportation into long term investment plans. Strategic planning for communities and organizations defines actions critical to successful change and resource investments.
- **Geographic Information Systems and Data Clearinghouse:** Regional planning councils are leaders in geographic information systems mapping and data support systems. Many local governments rely on regional planning councils for these services.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (SWFRPC) ACRONYMS

ABM - Agency for Bay Management - Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management

ADA - Application for Development Approval

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act

AMDA -Application for Master Development Approval

BEER - Bureau of Economic Business and Research at the University of Florida

BLID - Binding Letter of DRI Status

BLIM - Binding Letter of Modification to a DRI with Vested Rights

BLIVR -Binding Letter of Vested Rights Status

BPCC -Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinating Committee

CAC - Citizens Advisory Committee

CAO - City/County Administrator Officers

CDBG - Community Development Block Grant

CDC - Certified Development Corporation (a.k.a. RDC)

CEDS - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (a.k.a. OEDP)

CHNEP - Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

CTC - Community Transportation Coordinator

CTD - Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

CUTR - Center for Urban Transportation Research

DCA - Department of Community Affairs

DEP - Department of Environmental Protection

DO - Development Order

DOPA - Designated Official Planning Agency (i.e. MPO, RPC, County, etc.)

EDA - Economic Development Administration

EDC - Economic Development Coalition

EDD - Economic Development District

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

FAC - Florida Association of Counties

FACTS - Florida Association of CTCs

FAW - Florida Administrative Weekly

FCTS - Florida Coordinated Transportation System

FDC&F -Florida Department of Children and Families (a.k.a. HRS)

FDEA - Florida Department of Elder Affairs

FDLES - Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security

FDOT - Florida Department of Transportation

FHREDI - Florida Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative

FIAM – Fiscal Impact Analysis Model

FLC - Florida League of Cities

FQD - Florida Quality Development

FRCA -Florida Regional Planning Councils Association

FTA - Florida Transit Association

IC&R - Intergovernmental Coordination and Review

IFAS - Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida

JLCB - Joint Local Coordinating Boards of Glades & Hendry Counties

JPA - Joint Participation Agreement

JSA - Joint Service Area of Glades & Hendry Counties

LCB - Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged

LEPC - Local Emergency Planning Committee

MOA - Memorandum of Agreement

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization

MPOAC - Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council

MPOCAC - Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee

MPOTAC - Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee

NARC - National Association of Regional Councils

NOPC - Notice of Proposed Change

OEDP - Overall Economic Development Program

PDA - Preliminary Development Agreement

REMI – Regional Economic Modeling Incorporated

RFB - Request for Bids

RFP - Request for Proposals

RPC - Regional Planning Council

SHIP - State Housing Initiatives Partnership

SRPP – Strategic Regional Policy Plan

TAC - Technical Advisory Committee

TDC - Transportation Disadvantaged Commission (a.k.a. CTD)

TDPN - Transportation Disadvantaged Planners Network

TDSP - Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans

USDA - US Department of Agriculture

WMD - Water Management District (SFWMD and SWFWMD)

_____ Agenda _____ Item

1

Invocation

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1

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

2

Pledge of Allegiance

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_____ Agenda
_____ Item

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Roll Call

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_____ Agenda
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Public Comments

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_____ Agenda
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Agenda

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_____ Agenda
_____ Item

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Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 MEETING**

The meeting of the **Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council** was held on **September 15, 2011** at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council - 1st Floor Conference Room at 1926 Victoria Avenue in Fort Myers, Florida. **Chair Karson Turner** called the meeting to order at **9:01 a.m.** **Commissioner Butch Jones** led an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrative Staff Specialist Nichole Gwinnett conducted the roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Charlotte County: Councilwoman Rachel Keesling, Ms. Andrea Messina, Commissioner Robert Skidmore

Collier County: Commissioner Jim Coletta, Commissioner Donna Fiala, Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann

Glades County: Commissioner Kenneth “Butch” Jones

Hendry County: Commissioner Karson Turner, Mr. Melvin Karau

Lee County: Mayor John Sullivan, Commissioner Brian Bigelow, Councilwoman Martha Simons, Councilman Forrest Banks, Vice Mayor Mick Denham, Commissioner Frank Mann, Councilman Joe Kosinski, Ms. Laura Holquist

Sarasota County: Commissioner Christine Robinson, Commissioner Tom Jones, Commissioner Carolyn Mason, Councilman Kit McKeon, Mr. Felipe Colón

Ex-Officio Members: Mr. Jon Iglehart - FDEP, Ms. Terri Behling - SWFWMD

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charlotte County: Commissioner Tricia Duffy, Mr. Michael Grant

Collier County: Mr. Bob Mulhere, Ms. Pat Carroll

Glades County: Commissioner Paul Beck, Councilwoman Pat Lucas

Hendry County: Commissioner Tristan Chapman, Commissioner Joseph Miller, Commissioner Daniel Akin

Lee County: Mr. Paul Pass

Sarasota County: Mr. George Mazzarantani

Ex-Officio Membership: Mr. Johnny Limbaugh - FDOT, Mr. Phil Flood - SFWMD

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Turner introduced the Council's newest member: Councilman Joe Kosinski from the Town of Fort Myers Beach. He also recognized Mr. Matt Spielman with U.S. Representative Connie Mack's Office and Ms. Diana McGee with U.S. Senator Bill Nelson's Office.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Ms. Donley presented Ms. Deborah Kooi of staff an award for 20 years of being an employee of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were given at this time.

AGENDA

Councilwoman Heitmann pulled Consent Agenda Item #7(b) Financial Statements for July 30, 2011, August 31, 2011 & Grant Activity Status Sheets.

Chair Turner asked Councilwoman Heitmann if she would agree to place that item under Agenda Item #8(a)3 Budget & Finance Committee Report. Councilwoman Heitmann agreed.

AGENDA ITEM #6 MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 2011 MEETING

Vice Mayor Denham moved and Councilman McKeon seconded to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2011 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Heitmann requested that Agenda Item #8(c) Amend FY2012 Budget to Provide for Highest Level of Core Staff Expertise and Efficiency within a Restricted Budget be incorporated under Agenda Item #8(a)3 Budget & Finance Committee Report. Chair Turner agreed.

Councilman Banks moved and Councilman McKeon seconded to approve the balance of the consent agenda as amended: Agenda Item #3(a) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review; Agenda Item #7(c) Lee County Comp Plan Amendments (DCA 11-1) #7(d)

Southwest Florida Hazardous Materials/Emergency Preparedness Training Update; Agenda Item #7(e) Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Planning & Training Grant Contract; Agenda Item #7(f) Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Update; Agenda Item #7(g) Member Appointments and Certification for the Glades and Hendry County Joint Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged; Agenda Item #7(h) Sarasota County Interstate Business Center DRI - Notice of Proposed Change; Agenda Item #7(i) Palmer Ranch DRI - Master DO & Increment 18 NOPCs; Agenda Item #7(j) North Point DRI - NOPC; Agenda Item #7(k) Lee County Gateway DRI - NOPC; Agenda Item #7(l) Pelican Preserve DRI - NOPC; Agenda Item #7(m) Sarasota Gateway DRI - Essentially Built Out Agreement; Agenda Item #7(n) Fountains DRI - Sufficiency Review Extension; and Agenda Item #7(o) Approved FY2011 Budget Amendment The motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(a)1
Regional Visioning Committee**

Ms. Donley gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Holquist explained that the Regional Visioning Committee has scheduled to meet every two weeks and will be putting together a recommendation package to present to the Council at its October meeting. Also, Mr. Dale Brill, President of the Florida Chamber Foundation will be coming and making a presentation at the October SWFRPC meeting.

Councilman Banks moved and Ms. Messina seconded to approve SWFRPC Resolution #2011-04 - A Resolution in Support of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council's U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's FY 2011 Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application. The motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(a)2
Executive Director Search Committee**

Chair Turner indicated that to date staff has received approximately 50 applications and all applications have to be postmarked by midnight today.

Commissioner Bigelow asked how long was the Executive Director position advertised and where was it advertised. Ms. Doyle of staff replied that the ad was published within the following publications: Florida American Planning Association (FAPA), Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW), Florida Planning and Zoning (FPZA), Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI), and National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). She noted that 29 applicants are from within Florida and 21 are from out-of-state and the position ran for three weeks.

Commissioner Bigelow asked how the timeframe for the ad was determined. Ms. Doyle replied that it was determined by the Executive Director Search Committee.

Councilwoman Simons asked with the job description change, have we received applicants with Master Degrees in planning, regional planning, and public administration. She then asked Chair Turner as both he and Mr. Grant are reviewing the applications are they seeing some promising applicants. Chair Turner stated that is pleased with the pool, but he wants to caution the Council that he has never hired a planner before, but he has hired some professionals. When he looks at the applicants there are some professionals and they have a diverse backgrounds.

Councilwoman Simons suggested having a planner from Lee County sit with Chair Turner and Mr. Grant to help with the review of the applications.

Commissioner Mann said to give Lee County a call to see what they can do to assist if the committee feels the needs for the assistance.

Chair Turner stated that it needs to be proposed to the entire Executive Director Search Committee for their input.

Councilwoman Simons moved to obtain assistance from Lee County to help with the review of the Executive Director applications.

Commissioner Mann explained that Lee County can't be forced to do it. He said that he will look into the matter and if it works out he will offer their services.

Councilwoman Simons moved to accept any assistance from Lee County on the Executive Director Search Committee process.

Commissioner Bigelow suggested having staff contact Ms. Chris Brady, Lee County HR Director. Ms. Doyle stated that she had already been in contact with Ms. Brady and she had been very helpful.

Commissioner Bigelow expressed his concerns regarding the three week advertisement period. Chair Turner stated that he understands Commissioner Bigelow's concerns and he is shocked that we didn't receive more applicants. However, the staff can do some research and report back to entire Council to see if placing an ad for hiring an Executive Director for an RPC for a three week period is unacceptable. He then asked for input from the Council.

Commissioner Skidmore stated that he didn't feel that it was unreasonable. He doesn't feel that you can judge the quality of applicants by the number of applications received.

Vice Mayor Denham asked Chair Turner if part of the process is to bring back 3 or 4 of the top applicants to the Council for a final interview.

Commissioner Tom Jones explained that the process is as follows:

- Search Committee Chair & SWFRPC Chair Vetting Applications –October 12th
- Forward Applications to Search Committee –October 14th
- Search Committee Ranking of Selections – October 20th

Commissioner Tom Jones stated that he also doesn't believe in short circuiting the process. He has faith in both Chair Turner and Mr. Grant in handling the process and if we don't have qualified applicants then we will put the position back out to re-advertise.

Councilwoman Simons reconfirmed Commissioner Tom Jones' timeline. She clarified that the final determination will be made by the full Council.

Ms. Donley explained that both Chair Turner and Mr. Grant will be conducting the initial screening of the candidates to ensure that they meet the criteria and that they are eligible to go to the Executive Director Search Committee. All of the information will be released to the Executive Director Search Committee on October 14th and on October 20th the Executive Director Search Committee will be meeting immediately following the SWFRPC Board meeting where they will be compiling their list of semi-finalists. The Executive Director Search Committee have set aside two days of interviews (November 4th and November 5th) and out of that will come their last tier of finalists. Chair Turner was going to inform the Council at their November meeting of the progress and then move forward with the next set of screening which would go before the full Council at their December meeting.

Councilwoman Keesling asked if minutes were taken at the Executive Director Search Committee meeting. Ms. Gwinnett replied yes and that they are available on the Council's website. Ms. Donley noted that staff is aware that there is an issue with Apple/Mac software compatibility and accessing the Council's website items and they are working on fixing the issue.

Councilwoman Keesling requested that the minutes be included within the agenda packets.

Councilman McKeon asked for clarification that both background and reference checks will be performed. Chair Turner replied yes.

Commissioner Tom Jones explained that the Executive Director Search Committee had the same concerns and wanted to make sure that there was the proper vetting of all of the applicants. He explained that any member of the Council can attend the meetings even if they are not on the Committee and give their input and the minutes will be made available to everyone.

Councilwoman Simons stated that she will withdraw her motion since Lee County stated that they would look into offering their assistance.

Commissioner Mann asked if there is a certain number of applicants that the Committee is looking for the Council to interview as a whole. Chair Turner replied that it was not to exceed five applicants.

AGENDA ITEM #8(a)3 Budget & Finance Committee

Chair Turner explained to the membership that Councilwoman Heitmann will begin by addressing the Council's FY2011 Budget and it is not to be confused with the Council's FY2012 Budget which begins on October 1st.

Councilwoman Heitmann began by stating her reason for pulling Consent Agenda Item #7(b) Financial Statements for July 30, 2011, August 31, 2011 & Grant Activity Status Sheets. She explained that she was notified by staff that there is a deficit to the FY2011 Budget, more than originally anticipated. In accordance to various minutes of various committee meetings since June 16th, including the Council, there were recommendations that once we had the former Executive Director's compensation and buyout package and the FY2012 Budget Committee made recommendations that there needed to be positions eliminated in order for us to meet our existing budget.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that there are two separate issues and with the current budget and the loss of DCA's funding, there is a deficit of approximately \$71,000. Those recommendations were made to eliminate four positions and through Council's wisdom, several recommendations were made furloughs, salary reductions, etc. However, Council decided not to move forward with any of those recommendations. Council decided to keep staff in place for the remainder of FY2011 and the Interim Executive Director would be responsible for balancing the budget. She explained that we are now facing the consequences of not eliminating those positions, the lack of funding, and the true predictions of what we would be as far as a deficit. She then asked that Ms. Janice Yell of staff to give an overview of the FY2011 budget.

Ms. Yell gave the reasons behind the FY2011 Budget deficit. She explained that approximately 70% of the Council's revenue is grant driven and they create a zero income. She then explained the Council's fringe and indirect expenses. When the predictions were made in June they were based on historical data. Staff also anticipated the loss of DCA funding, approximately \$60,000 for the last quarter. What happened was staff started charging their time to other revenue streams which was not what was originally predicted. This caused both the fringe and indirect rates to increase and it also impacted all of the grants, because it placed more of a charge onto those grants. Which some of the grants were already completed so we are not going to be able to have those funds get reimbursed back to the Council. She explained that the worst case scenario is that there is going to be a \$160,000 deficit by the end of the Council's fiscal year (September 30th). We are currently over than what was originally predicted:

- 22.94% in indirect
- 13.89% in local
- 34.82% in fringe

Ms. Yell explained that to reach the \$160,000 amount she used the percentages that are currently being charged. She then went through a slide which illustrated some of the grants which had a negative balance.

Commissioner Mann asked if the \$160,000 is a budget deficit or a cash deficit. Ms. Yell responded that it is currently a budget deficit. The money needs to come out of reserves. Commissioner Mann asked how long the Council can keep spending its reserves. Ms. Yell explained that the Council currently has \$680,090 in reserves, so if the Council approves taking the \$160,000 out of reserves that will leave a balance of \$520,090. She explained that for the FY2011 Budget it is already too late to do anything since it ends September 30th, but for the FY2012 Budget something needs to be done because the Council cannot continue at the rate that it has been going.

Chair Turner stated that there was a recommendation given before this Council back in June or July to make changes and the Council chose not to do so and to reassess at a later date. Well, the later date is today and change must occur.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked Ms. Yell to clarify in order to balance the FY2011 Budget, where the funds are coming from and the exact amount. Ms. Yell replied that her prediction for the worst case scenario, the amount is \$160,038.33. She explained in “unassigned reserves” there is \$46,000. Overall, in both “unassigned” and “assigned” reserves the Council has \$680,090. She explained that at the end of the year, if the Council had either a net loss or net gain it always rolled into the reserves. The last time that the Council had a deficit like this was when the building was purchased. Every other year the Council has always had a net gain.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked Ms. Yell that with the FY2012 Budget does the Budget & Finance Committee need to review with staff the possible deficit for that budget. Ms. Yell explained that the FY2012 Budget was already set up with position cuts and hour reductions, so if those are not implemented then there will be a deficit in the budget.

Vice Mayor Denham stated that this issue shouldn't be a surprise any anyone; however, it is more than what was anticipated. The important thing to understand is that we have taken a lot time to make this organization whole and we have recommended changes in the FY2012 Budget. He stated that this Council needs to move forward with its recommendations and not keep putting them off.

Commissioner Coletta stated that he agrees with Vice Mayor Denham. He then asked with the last budget cycle that the local municipalities have gone through, have there been any local municipalities that have withdrawn from the Council. Or have indicated that they are going to be withdrawing from the Council in the near future.

Ms. Donley explained that there is one membership entity discussing whether or not they want to continue their membership on the Council. However, that member is a city and the Interlocal Agreement that was signed by the six counties (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota) in 1973 and amended in 1980 have the responsibility for the local assessments lying with the counties. She has gone back through the Council's history and for reasons that she cannot find documentation for back in 1988, two cities in Lee County came to the Council and asked for permanent seats on the Council and with that started paying their own assessments. Since that time, two additional cities in Lee County have come forward and asked for permanent seats on the Council and are also paying their own assessments. Both the City of North Port and City of Venice are paying their own assessments so that they have permanent seats on the Council. However, if you look back at our minutes, rules and the Interlocal Agreement, should one of those cities that are paying their own assessment determine that they no longer want a permanent seat on the Council and they withdraw, the responsibility for their assessment reverts back to the county. So from a financial standpoint, it is a zero sum for the Council, but for a participation standpoint she feels that it is a great loss.

Commissioner Coletta stated that he feels that if it came to a vote at the Collier County BOCC they would cut the total budget for the Council and withdraw. There were comments made by

some of the Collier County Commissioners, who were previous Council members that they see little to no value of being a member of the Council. He defended the Council and deflected the criticism. He explained that the issue is the creditability of where this Council is at this point in time. He explained that the concern of the Collier County BOCC is that their local assessment was being spent and they haven't seen a payback. He hopes that the Council comes to a decision to stop the bleeding. He hates to see people suffer; Collier County has had to lay off 22% of its employees. The truth to the matter, there hasn't been a revenue stream to sustain it or the workload to justify it and he feels that same thing is true for the Council.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that she appreciated Commissioner Coletta's comments because she feels that they are felt widespread. This is why some of its members have taken on the leadership task to bring this Council back to focus, i.e. Regional Visioning, Executive Director Search, and Budget and Finance Committee. We are in the process of transition.

Councilwoman Heitmann explained that Councilwoman Simons has suggested reviewing the Council's staff job descriptions and salaries and there are also State statutes and grants which we need to abide by.

Commissioner Coletta explained that it is the deficit that has him concerned.

Commissioner Bigelow asked for clarification on DCA's funding and if it affected the current budget. Ms. Yell replied yes, the last quarter. Commissioner Bigelow asked how much was it? Ms. Yell replied approximately \$60,000. Commissioner Bigelow stated that even if the Governor didn't veto the DCA funding, we would still have a deficit. Ms. Yell replied not necessarily. With the loss of DCA funding, you now have staff charging to local and indirect which also raises the fringe costs. So those charges are using up money that we would have at the end of the year.

Commissioner Skidmore stated that even if you cut the \$60,000 from the \$160,000 that still leaves \$100,000. So where does the \$100,000 deficit come from.

Councilwoman Simons stated that the Council paid out the former Executive Director approximately \$100,000.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that with both the departure of the former Executive Director and the loss of DCA funding, then that warrants having to take the money out of reserves. He feels that this is to put us in a corner to make a decision to terminate the four positions, which he requested the names of those staff members at the last Council meeting and was told that there were no names associated with the four positions. He was then presented with an email which predated the July Council meeting which listed four names and positions.

Councilwoman Simons stated that she had a copy of the email in question.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he feels that this is an attempt to go with the execution of those four staff positions. He stated that he feels that we need to stick together and give ourselves some time to breath. Reserves are there when a situation occurs that wasn't predicted when the budget was developed. He feels that it is justified to use the reserves to fix the deficit for the FY2011

Budget and move forward with the FY2012 Budget without any staff layoffs or hours reductions until the new Executive Director is hired.

Councilwoman Simons suggested that she make her presentation because she feels that there is no need to cut staff, but there is a need to cut the “gravy train.”

Councilman Banks asked what does it cost per week to keep everyone on staff. Ms. Yell replied approximately \$48,000 between salaries, fringe and indirect. Ms. Donley explained that some of it is directly attributable to grants that are in-house.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he agrees with Councilwoman Simons to look at keeping everyone onboard and cutting salaries.

Mr. Karau asked Commissioner Bigelow what makes him think that something is going to change. We are procrastinating here and he agrees with Vice Mayor Denham. Do you know that something is going to happen to the economy that the rest of us don't know? Hendry County went through the same thing three years ago and they are still cutting. Commissioner Bigelow stated that he is proposing a different route to fix the same problem.

Ms. Holquist explained the process which the Council had setup through Committees back in July where these issues should have been addressed. It is time now to move forward with what the Council had decided.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that she doesn't feel that no one is in disagreement that we shouldn't move forward it is just in the way that we move forward.

Mayor Sullivan stated that he agrees with Commissioner Bigelow and we need to cut salaries and benefits not positions. He then stated that anyone that comes in from the outside will not know how to cut positions if they are not familiar with the structure of the Council.

Commissioner Robinson explained that Sarasota County BOCC makes budget adjustments every month and feels that everyone should be heard today.

Commissioner Robinson moved to allow Councilwoman Simons to present her options for consideration of all of the options on the table that we know of at this particular point so this issue can be moved forward.

Chair Turner stated that prior to Councilwoman Simons' presentation there needs to be action taken on the FY2011 Budget in regards to reserves.

Vice Mayor Denham moved and Councilman McKeon seconded to approve withdrawing an amount not to exceed \$160,000 from reserves to cover the estimated deficit for FY2011.

Commissioner Coletta asked that this doesn't preclude us from trying to make adjustments to lessen the \$160,000. Ms. Yell replied that is correct.

Ms. Messina stated that not only does it not preclude us, but we should actively do that.

Commissioner Tom Jones stated that he is surprised at the \$160,000 deficit and we do need to move forward.

The motion carried with Commissioner Bigelow opposed.

AGENDA ITEM #8(c)

Amend FY2012 Budget to Provide for Highest Level of Core Staff Expertise and Efficiency within a Restricted Budget

Councilwoman Simons gave a verbal presentation and also distributed handouts. She suggested having an audit conducted of the job descriptions and salaries by an outside agency. Have them interview both the employees and supervisors, reduce the salaries and benefits which will also reduce the retirement costs. She stated that she estimates that it would cost approximately \$7,500 to conduct the audit.

Councilwoman Simons then addressed Commissioner Bigelow's concerns regarding staff's names in relation to the four positions that were to be eliminated. He was told that there were no names associated with the four positions. She then referred to one of her handouts which included an email which listed four names with payouts. She then stated that to tell the Council that they don't know who is going to be cut is not true. She then stated that she would like to know how that list was determined, because it has everything to do with determining how to cut staff with an analysis of packages, fringe benefits, and revenues. If it is done on a staff wide basis you will come up with a fairer determination and a fairer plan to move forward. She stated that she believes in being fair and responsible.

Councilwoman Simons stated that the last Executive Director resigned his position, but she feels that the Council should have fired him and not paid him the \$100,000 that the Council just had to take out of its reserves. If we felt that he was not managing properly then you have to ask yourself is there a legacy of mismanagement being left behind and in her opinion there is.

Councilwoman Simons then asked who compiled the list of the four staff and how was it determined that these four employees, who are public record, were chosen to be laid off.

Councilwoman Heitmann thanked Councilwoman Simons for her presentation and her suggestion. She then stated that she would like to hear from Ms. Donley on how the Council is going to be moving forward.

Councilwoman Simons stated that she would like to hear from both the HR Manager and the Finance Manager and not from the Legal Counsel/Interim Executive Director on how the Council is going to move forward.

Vice Mayor Denham stated that he was personally involved and many of the issues to the cost of the employees were discussed. The decisions were based upon the workload that was perceived.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that we need to address the personnel issues and move forward and not dwell on how we got here.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he supports Councilwoman Simons' suggestion for an HR audit. He stated that he does not support cutting heads.

Ms. Donley explained that the FY2012 Budget includes reclassification of employees. The direction was to eliminate all of the manager and director positions and reclassify those staff. It also includes across the board cut to hours for RPC staff. She explained that when she looks at the organizational chart, which the Council approved, it lists "FTE" which is Full Time Equivalent instead of actual bodies. She explained that no decisions have been made at this time, things continue to be influx. She then announced that Mr. Dave Hutchinson is officially resigning on September 28th, so this is a position that is no longer going to be here. It was slated for reduction, but now it is going to be eliminated. She explained that she continues to look at the revenue streams that the FY2012 Budget Committee reviewed to see what revenue streams will support what level of staffing.

Chair Turner indicated that there is a policy problem where staff has been allowed to over spend on their grants without producing a deliverable. This policy needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Skidmore stated that he agrees with Chair Turner.

Councilman Banks stated that we are very weak on project management and responsibility. There needs to be better cost control.

Councilman McKeon stated that he supports the FY2012 Budget Committee's recommendation.

Councilwoman Simons stated that she hears from staff members and there is a great amount of tension on the staff. There are other things going on also and she feels that it would be helpful, especially for the moral and for the fairness factor that you spend the \$7,500 to have the audit conducted.

Councilwoman Heitmann explained that the Interim Executive Director cannot make any staffing changes without the approval of the Executive Committee. She then said that she will take public comment and come to closure on the item.

Commissioner Mann asked Ms. Donley to give him an overview of her continuing role as it relates to the FY2012 Budget, because he thought that he heard that she will be addressing many of the issues that Councilwoman Simons had addressed. If that is the case, he is totally behind her. He then asked about her role with the FY2011 Budget. Are you supposed to try to shrink that \$160,000 to try to balance the budget and to do it internally without layoffs? Ms. Donley explained that with regards to the FY2011 Budget, which concludes on September 30th, her understanding with the direction from the Council is that they just approved taking up to \$160,000 out of reserves to conclude the current fiscal year. With regards to FY2012, her understanding of the process for implementing the FY2012 Budget is that on September 30th the Council's Executive Committee has asked to meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Council's offices and she will be bringing to them recommendations with regard on how to continue staffing the Council in 2012 in

order to achieve the budget that had been approved. The guidelines which she will be working with are the current revenue streams, expertise of the current staff, and approved organizational chart. She will be bringing her recommendations to the Executive Committee so that they can make the final decision and implement. The reason why the meeting was set for September 30th is because the FY2011 Budget can't take any more hits, so any costs associated with layoffs would be rolled into the FY2012 Budget.

Ms. Donley explained that the FY2012 Budget cannot be balanced without changes to staff (reductions in salaries, changes in fringe benefits, combination of the two and an actual reduction in staff positions).

Commissioner Mann stated that he doesn't believe that no other Interim Executive Director has taken the helm with more awesome challenges and he thanked her for taking on such a task.

Commissioner Bigelow asked if Mr. Hutchinson's position was one of the positions that was going to be laid off. Ms. Donley explained that his position was going to be eliminated and all of the planners were going to be reclassified. Commissioner Bigelow asked if there are going to be additional layoffs along with salary cuts, but the Council will be able to review as Councilwoman Simons suggested the job description of each employee and their salary. Ms. Donley replied if that is the direction that she is receiving from the Council today then that is what she will provide. Commissioner Bigelow stated that he thought that it was already part of the process.

Commissioner Mann asked Commissioner Bigelow to clarify what he was asking. Commissioner Bigelow stated that he wanted to know if Councilwoman Simons' suggestions were going to be included in the recommendations regarding staff to balance the FY2012 Budget. He stated that Vice Mayor Denham had stated that it was already included in the process. Ms. Donley explained that she cannot guarantee that it will be ten bulleted points. The job descriptions will be written for the positions that are here.

Councilwoman Simons stated that it takes an analysis of what that employee is actually doing, reviewing their credentials and writing a job description and also looking at the hierarchy of how the "paper flows" and who is reporting to who in the most efficient manner.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that if it is the will of this Council to establish a subcommittee between today and September 30th to discuss the details of what the Council would like to have looked at in the changes in job descriptions, salaries and the structure. She asked for the members' comments.

Commissioner Skidmore stated that he feels that there are too many committees currently.

Councilwoman Simons stated that this a process where the Council would be able to save thousands of dollars and fact check on what is going on in today's market with people's salaries and job descriptions. The last time when a comparison was done at the Council was back in 2006-2008.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated to Councilwoman Simons that all of the Council members have received the current job descriptions and salaries and if they have concerns or questions they can

be addressed to the Interim Executive Director so that can be taken into consideration. That is the kind of support that is needed by the Council. Then from those comments, the recommendations will be made. She stated if that suggested process is not acceptable, then she would like to have some suggestions put on the table for consideration.

Ms. Holquist stated that she is very much against it and feels that the Council just needs to move forward. Staff needs to move forward with applying for the HUD grant and get funds coming into the Council and feel positive.

Councilman Banks stated that he liked Councilwoman Simons presentation and feels that it is a good idea and feels that it is something that can implemented after the Council gets itself stabilized sometime in October.

Councilwoman Simons stated that the study could be completed by October. When the new Executive Director comes in they would have a snapshot of how they would reorganize it.

Both Mr. Karau and Chair Turner asked what action is needed. Chair Turner stated that FY2012 Budget has not been revisited and will not be reopened for discussion. He explained that the Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on September 30th at 9:00 a.m. to hear the recommendations of the Interim Executive Director and that is where those recommendations will be brought to the full Council. He feels that there will be head count reduction and hour reductions (including indirect and fringe cuts) and reclassifications of job descriptions. So he doesn't believe that there is a need for a motion.

Commissioner Mann stated that from what Chair Turner just stated and as long as the Interim Executive Director feels that she understands the instructions, he doesn't feel that there is a need for a motion.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he feels that the Council should be able to say "yay" or "nay". Chair Turner stated that the Council will have that opportunity; however, for clarification there will be a head count reduction regardless, because the plan we voted on is moving forward. Commissioner Bigelow asked who the "heads" are. Chair Turner replied that he does not know and he doesn't believe that the Interim Executive Director knows who they are at this time.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked if there were any public comment at this time.

Ms. Messina stated that nothing from what she has heard would preclude the Interim Executive Director from asking for such a survey which is being suggested should she feel that might help her in her decision making process.

Councilwoman Heitmann explained that the suggestion of the study has a timeframe and cost commitment and it would not be included within the next two week decision. Ms. Messina said that if Ms. Donley requested additional time in order to conduct the study, she has that option. Councilwoman Heitmann replied no, it would not.

Public Comment

Ms. Geva Selarno with Non Profit Solutions Consulting explained that her consulting firm focuses on helping organizations grow and sometimes move through conflicts and issues similar to what the Council is currently facing. She explained that she has a team of consultants which she works with for a variety of different needs and one of the team members is an HR consultant. She stated that she believes that an HR analysis and audit would be good thing for the Council, but she also believes that it is time for the Council to get stabilized as soon as possible. She then proposed that if there is a way to stabilize the current situation and then also conduct an audit, but give yourself a little bit of time and do it correctly and really think about what positions are needed, what they are suppose to be doing, what the correct pay level for those positions should be would be very beneficial. She stated that she doesn't feel that the study could be completed before October 1st, so if there is any way to move forward, but also consider conducting an audit that is what she would recommend.

Chair Turner stated that we are moving forward with it and will report back to the Council in October.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he is opposed to that.

Commissioner Bigelow moved that the Council review and oversee the plan for staff reductions and salary cuts before it is executed.

Chair Turner explained that the plan for the FY2012 Budget, which was approved at the July SWFRPC Board Meeting and was done through the FY2012 Budget Committee, had headcount reductions along with other items proposed. The Council gave the motion an endorsement and therefore it will be implemented by the Interim Executive Director. The Council did tell the Interim Executive Director that she would not be allowed to make any personnel changes within the current budget. He explained that in accordance to the Council's motion and the endorsement of the FY2012 Budget, there will be reductions made to staff. So come October 1st there will be employees that will no longer be employed with the SWFRPC.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that other then the Executive Committee, other members will not have a voice in who will be laid off. Councilwoman Heitmann stated that all members are invited to attend the September 30th Executive Committee meeting.

Chair Turner stated that at the September 30th Executive Committee meeting he does not anticipate a tremendous change one way or the other because of the will of the Council was heard, we are going to move forward with implementing that plan.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he opposes the Interim Executive Director having the authority to terminate without the full Council having the chance the review her recommendations. Chair Turner explained that the Interim Executive Director does not have the authority to terminate without the Executive Committee interceding. Commissioner Bigelow stated that his concern is that the full Council will not have the opportunity to vote on the decision, which is what the Council had an issue with what the previous Executive Director did.

Chair Turner explained to Commissioner Bigelow that the full Council does not set day-to-day decisions for the Council.

Councilwoman Simons stated that Commissioner Bigelow wanted to give the full Council the opportunity to oversee the recommendations from the Interim Executive Director go before the full Council before they are presented to the Executive Committee on September 30th, before any action is taken.

Councilwoman Simons moved and Commissioner Bigelow seconded to hold off on the staff layoffs until the job descriptions are reclassified and the salary ranges of the current employees and hire a consultant to immediately evaluate the job classifications, salary ranges and present a recommendation to the full Council at its October 20th meeting .

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he doesn't want to see layoffs; he would rather see salary adjustments and have personnel costs come down.

Councilwoman Simons called for a roll call vote.

The motion failed with a 5 to 14 vote.

Councilwoman Heitmann moved and Commissioner Bigelow seconded to have the Executive Committee bring their recommendations regarding the reductions and adjustments of staff before the full Council at the October 20th meeting for a vote.

Mr. Karau asked what would be the purpose of the motion. Councilwoman Heitmann replied to satisfy the union in order for us to move forward and that we know that we have the full support of the Council in the visioning and the direction and the union of the Council.

Ms. Messina asked Ms. Donley if we would expect an organizational chart to accompany any layoffs, because she doesn't see the Council's role approving staff. She sees the Council's role approving an organizational chart. Ms. Donley replied yes.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that she amended the motion to include approving an organizational chart. Commissioner Bigelow agreed to the amendment.

Chair Turner stated that for clarification the Executive Committee will review the Interim Executive Director's recommendations on September 30th, but no action will be taken regardless of what the Executive Committee recommends until the full Council has an opportunity to review their recommendations. If the Committee's recommendations do not pass the full Council then will begin from step one.

Councilman Banks noted that the FY2012 Budget will be expanded by that action and the budget will have to be amended.

Commissioner Tom Jones stated that every member of the Council had the opportunity to vote on the FY2012 Budget. Whether you did or did not agree with it, the budget was approved by this Council. The implementation of that budget is what is currently being discussed and the way that it needs to be implemented. In the timeframe that it needs to be accomplished is Ms. Donley's responsibility and it is unfortunate that it falls upon her shoulders to do it. But for us to stir around

and get into micro-managing on how our Interim Executive Director implements the budget that we approved is wrong. Ms. Donley doesn't even owe us the meeting on September 30th and she also doesn't owe us the outcome of the vote of that meeting. If we had a regular Executive Director at this time we wouldn't even be having this discussion.

Chair Turner stated that if this issue doesn't come to a closure we are going to lose some of the applicants for the Executive Director position.

Ms. Messina stated that she agrees with both Chair Turner and Commissioner Tom Jones. She stated that if this Council continues to try micro-manage, then the most important position in which this agency is trying fill is going to become compromised.

Councilwoman Heitmann withdrew her motion.

Commissioner Bigelow moved and Mayor Sullivan seconded to have the Executive Committee bring their recommendations regarding the reductions and adjustments of staff before the full Council at the October 20th meeting for a vote. The motion failed.

Chair Turner directed Ms. Donley to proceed forward and bring her recommendations to the Executive Committee at their meeting on September 30th.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(a)4
Executive Committee**

Chair Turner announced that the Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on September 30th at 9:00 a.m. in the offices of the SWFRPC - 1st floor conference room to discuss the implementation of the FY2012 Budget.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(a)5
FY2012 Budget Committee**

Chair Turner indicated to Vice Mayor Denham, as Chair of that Committee, that the Council's goal was to dissolve the FY2012 Budget Committee.

Vice Mayor Denham agreed to dissolve the Committee since it completed its mission.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(a)6
Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management**

Commissioner Bigelow asked that the ABM report be deferred until October.

**AGENDA ITEM #8(b)
Amended SRPP EAR with DCA Corrections**

Mr. David Crawford of staff began giving a verbal presentation of the item.

Commissioner Skidmore suggested that since there wasn't a quorum present that the remainder of the agenda be tabled until the October meeting. He stated that there is no sense having staff give a presentation on an item where no action can be taken.

Chair Turner thanked Commissioner Skidmore for that clarification.

Ms. Donley stated that she would like to address Agenda Item #9(b) next.

AGENDA ITEM #9(b)
City of Cape Coral Proposal to Withdraw from the SWFRPC

Mayor Sullivan read a statement from the City of Cape Coral. "On behalf of the City Council of Cape Coral we would like to extend our appreciation for the past decade of membership. It has been brought to our attention that there has been significant inequity divided between City of Cape Coral, City of Sanibel, City of Marco Island, City of Clewiston, and City of LaBelle. It was further brought to our attention that the six counties participating in the Council all have a representation through their respective county commissions. It would be our recommendation that the future financing of the organization be provided fully through the counties' budget and that the cities that pay separate membership fees be represented through their county commissions. At the current time, in this economy it is unreasonable to expect one city to pay the lion's share of membership while all of the municipalities receive an equal benefit with equal ad valorem cost. We respectfully request that the City of Cape Coral the rotational free seat for the next several years. It is highly unlikely that the City of Cape Coral will continue past September 30, 2011 as a member considering your past practice has less than reputable representation."

Mayor Sullivan announced that the City Council of Cape Coral will be voting on the issue a week from Monday on whether or not this will be ratified.

Ms. Donley gave the background on the issue and the actions which have taken place over the last six weeks.

Ms. Donley explained the SWFRPC was originally formed by an Interlocal Agreement that was signed by the six counties in 1973 and amended in 1980. At that time the Council was established so that each of the six counties received two seats on the Council and there was a third seat for each county where the county would assign to a municipality. In 1988, the Council's rules were changed at which point the provision for who filled municipal seat then resided within the cities of those counties. Originally, the county decided who got the municipal seat but then it changed statutorily that the cities decided who got that seat. In 1988, the City of Fort Myers approached the Council and said that they didn't want to continue sharing the one free seat, but they wanted a permanent seat at the Council. At that time, they were granted a seat at the Council and then the City of Cape Coral approached the Council and requested a permanent seat at the Council. The staff was directed to modify the rules which are codified in the Florida Administrative Code so that cities of 25,000 or more could have a seat at the table on the Council. There was no discussion in

the rule change or in the minutes about the allocation of the assessment that was associated with the population within that city. However, in 1988 when both the City of Fort Myers and the City of Cape Coral came to the table there seems to have been a practice that those cities, since they had permanent seats, paid for their own assessment. This practice continued on and in 1995 the rules were changed to eliminate the requirement for 25,000 or more and then the City of North Port came to the table with a permanent seat in 1996. The Town of Fort Myers Beach came to the table in 1997 and the City of Bonita Spring in 2000 and those cities pay their own assessment.

Ms. Donley explained that there are more than one city within a county that are represented at the table and it appears that there may be internal agreements at the county-city level where the county said that they will pay the city's assessment. However, she has not been able to find any documentation. The City of Cape Coral's concern came to her awareness and she attended their workshop and listened to their concerns and she has also gone to Lee County and spoken with their administrator regarding the situation. It is Lee County Administrator's understanding that that a request was sent to the Lee County BOCC and that the BOCC requested their Attorneys to look into the issue. Ms. Donley believes that a memo has been generated that went back to Lee County's Administrator regarding the issue.

Ms. Donley explained that she has also spoken with the City of Sanibel City Manager about the situation and it is her understanding that the City of Sanibel has voted that they wanted to continue on the Council even if it meant that they would be paying their own assessment.

Vice Mayor Denham stated that the City of County of Sanibel voted unanimously to fully support the Council's endeavors and would like to continue to have a seat at the table.

Mayor Sullivan stated that Ms. Donley did an extraordinary job representing the Council to the City Council of Cape Coral.

Ms. Donley stated that she needs to receive final verification from Lee County regarding the one municipal seat. She believes that seat will be released to the City of Cape Coral and she will be able to inform them formally at their meeting on September 26th.

Mayor Sullivan stated that he believes that the City Council of Cape Coral will be willing to step back in if they were allowed to get the free seat on the Council.

Ms. Donley explained that the City of Cape Coral directed her to contact the City of Sarasota because they were the one city that were at the table and withdrew in 1991. So Mr. Dan Trescott of staff contacted the City of Sarasota to have a discussion with them about why they withdrew and he has opened up communications with them about the possibility of them coming back to the Council.

Commissioner Skidmore noted that the Charlotte County BOCC has requested a statutory change to be able to withdraw from the Council. They have requested the statute to be revisited for counties that don't perceive any value in being a member of an RPC and not to have to pay their assessment.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that he is going to request that the he not be reappointed to the Council, but that he continues being a member of the ABM.

Ms. Donley stated that she has spoken with Charlotte County's Attorney and they would like to look at the Council's Interlocal Agreement which was last written in 1980. There are statutes within the agreement which are cited that no longer exist. So some of things that might be up for consideration for the Council are amending the Interlocal Agreement and/or amending the rules so that they accurately reflect the manner in which the Council functions.

**AGENDA ITEM #10
DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Ms. Donley had no comments at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM #11
STATE AGENCIES COMMENTS/REPORTS**

SWFWMD - Ms. Behling announced that the Southwest Florida Water Management District appointed a new Executive Director, Blake C. Guillory.

FDEP - Mr. Iglehart announced that FDEP is working on outreach strategy to assist local communities to bring in businesses and will be contacting the area's local economic development groups.

**AGENDA ITEM #12
COUNCIL ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS**

Ms. Donley announced that on October 3rd she will be interviewing law students at Ave Maria Law School. They have set aside three work study slots for us and she is looking forward to working with the University.

**AGENDA ITEM #13
COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Skidmore announced that Charlotte County is hosting is third annual Energy Conference on October 5th.

Mr. Colon stated that Mr. Scott from the Lee County MPO had made some comments regarding the high percentage billing to indirect and he didn't see those comments in the minutes. He feels that those comments should be addressed since the budget is being addressed and since he isn't too familiar with the way the budget works.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that the Lee County MPO will be addressing the issue at its board meeting tomorrow.

Commissioner Butch Jones stated that he has been on the Council for 22 years and he has never had to make such hard decisions. He also stated that he will not be able to attend the October 20th SWFRPC Board Meeting.

Ms. Messina stated that she felt that there was a very healthy dialog and that members understand the budget better than what they have in the past.

Ms. Holquist encouraged the members to send the letter of commitment for the HUD Grant.

Chair Turner requested that Ms. Holquist send an email to Ms. Donley with her request regarding the letters of commitment so she then can send it out to the Council members.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that it is vital that every member send in their concerns or comments to the Interim Executive Director regarding the structure for her consideration.

Chair Turner thanked both Councilwoman Heitmann and Ms. Holquist for their leadership in the budget and visioning process. He then noted that there needs to be a policy where if Council members have issues which need to be placed on the SWFRPC agenda that all communication goes through the Executive Director/Interim Executive Director. Council members should not be requesting anything from any staff member of the Council. Another policy needed is a policy for cost control in regards to grants and how they are administered.

Commissioner Bigelow requested any information that has been requested from the State Attorney's Office as a public records request be on the October Agenda. Ms. Gwinnett explained that she is the Council's Records Management Liaison Officer and she has not been notified of any public records request from the State Attorney's Office.

AGENDA ITEM #14 ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Commissioner Tom Jones, Secretary

The meeting was duly advertised in the September 2, 2011 issue of the **FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE WEEKLY**, Volume 37, Number 35.

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7

Consent Agenda

7

7

CONSENT AGENDA SUMMARY

Agenda Item #7(a) – Intergovernmental Coordination and Review

Staff reviewed seven proposals through the clearinghouse review process for the month of September. Staff found all projects to be “Regionally Significant and Consistent” with the SWFRPC’s Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP).

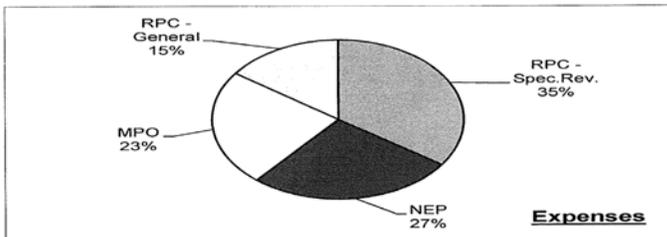
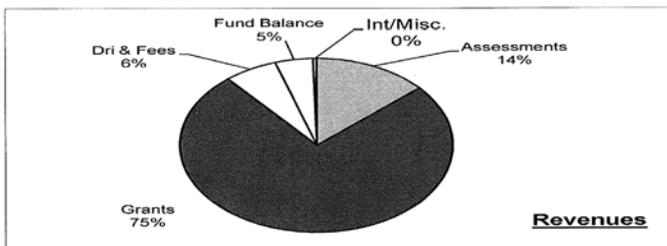
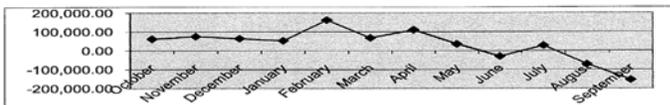
RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Approve the administrative action on the Clearinghouse Review items.

Agenda Item #3(b) – Financial Statement for September 30, 2011 & Grant Activity Sheets

Financial Snapshot

At 100.00% though the fiscal year expenses percentages are as follows:	
The overall percentage of the Budget spent is	95.47%
The overall percentage of the Budget revenue is	91.20%
For the month ending September 30, 2011 -153,854 is our YTD net loss.	
Total revenues to date are:	3,288,388
Total expenses to date are:	3,442,242
166,092 Allowable for y/e '11 use - Per Council 9/22/11	
-153,854 Net loss to date	
12,237 Under Available Unassigned FB	
514,000 Assigned FB	
526,237 Current FB Reserves	



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Approve the financial statement for September 30, 2011 and the grant activity sheets.

Agenda Item #7 (c) – Charlotte County Comp Plan Amendments (DCA 11-2ESR)

The Council staff has reviewed the proposed amendment to the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan (DCA 11-2ESR). The amendment was developed under the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act. A synopsis of the requirements of the Act and Council responsibilities is provided as Attachment I. Comments are provided in Attachment II. Site location maps are found in Attachment III.

Staff review of the proposed amendments was based on whether they were likely to be of regional concern. This was determined through assessment of the following factors:

1. Location--in or near a regional resource or regional activity center, such that it impacts the regional resource or facility; on or within one mile of a county boundary; generally applied to sites of five acres or more; size alone is not necessarily a determinant of regional significance;
2. Magnitude--equal to or greater than the threshold for a Development of Regional Impact of the same type (a DRI-related amendment is considered regionally significant); and
3. Character--of a unique type or use, a use of regional significance, or a change in the local comprehensive plan that could be applied throughout the local jurisdiction; updates, editorial revisions, etc. are not regionally significant.

A summary of the results of the review follows:

<u>Proposed Amendment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>		<u>Consistent</u>
		<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	
PA-11-05-10-LS (Seahorse Marina, Inc. /	no	no	no	(1) not regionally significant;
Palmetto Mobile Home Park)				(2)no significant adverse effects on regional resources (3) consistent with the SRPP

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Approve staff comments. Authorize staff to forward comments to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Planning and Charlotte County.

Agenda Item #7(d) – Broadband Planning project Quarterly Report

The Florida Broadband Planning Project is a two-year project that will develop a structured, comprehensive process for a regional broadband plan, particularly for areas that have been traditionally underserved. The plan will develop and implement regional planning process, toolkits and training materials that can be integrated into the current work of the RPCs to assist regions to develop broadband plans. The project will inventory and document local broadband assets and broadband demand through an inclusive process that draws residents and institutional actors to develop a comprehensive regional plan.

The SWFRPC is tasked with developing a toolkit and training manual focused on Community Organization Development. This task allows for development of framework and process that will identify, include and attract community experts. Develop and executive programs that will create awareness and training as to the benefits of broadband planning, economic development, public safety, education, health care and government effectiveness among others.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Information Item.

Agenda Item #7(e) – Southwest Florida Hazardous Materials/Emergency Preparedness Training Update

Two courses were sponsored and coordinated by the SWFRPC and its hazardous materials committee (Southwest Florida LEPC) during the month of September. A total of 56 individuals received certificates for the training conducted. Additionally, three Homeland Security/WMD courses are planned for the coming months.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Information Item.

Agenda Item #7(f) – Babcock Ranch Master Development Order – Notice of Proposed Change

The applicant for the proposed change is Babcock Property Holdings, LLC. The Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) was submitted to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council on July 26, 2011. The change is to revise the office entitlement from 2,064,175 to 3,500,000 square feet and retail entitlement from 2,925,943 to 1,400,000 square feet and to revise Exhibit "F" to reflect results of the required Master Traffic Study Update. Also, proposed is an extension to buildout from December 31, 2030 to July 5, 2036. This includes a 4 year 364 day extension and a 187 day appeal tolling period from the time the original MDO was adopted on December 13, 2007 to June 17, 2008. This extension is also made to conform to the recently adopted 2035 MPO/County Long-Range Transportation Plan Updates which were relied on for purposes of this Master Traffic Study Update.

The only regional resources and facilities impacted by the changes are to transportation resources. To butt the presumption of a substantial deviation the applicant provided a full Master

transportation reanalysis. As indicated in the Regional Staff Analysis above there will be a 14.6% reduction in the total traffic daily trips and a 13.7% reduction in PM Peak Hour trips from the project. The development order language will be acceptable when pages 3 and 4 of the MDO are changed to the square footages of retail and office. Also, Exhibit "F" must be revised to reflect results of the Master Traffic Study Update, Section 26 Projected Buildout and section 5 Transportation must be amended to reflect new buildout date. DEO issued a final NOPC review letter (see Appendix H) stating the proposed update of the BR Master Traffic Study and the associated conditions of the Development Order are consistent with the requirements of Chapter 380.06, F.S. Finally, staff recommends the MDO be codified to reveal changes made to the MDO.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

- Notify Charlotte County, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the applicant that the proposed DRI changes do not create a reasonable likelihood of additional regional impacts on regional resources or facilities not previously reviewed by the SWFRPC. The NOPC application has provided information to rebut the presumption of a substantial deviation.
- Request that Charlotte County provide a copy of the codified development order amendment that includes the new buildout date, revised Exhibit F and any related materials, to the Council in order to ensure that the development order amendment is consistent with the NOPC and staff's recommendations above. Request the Charlotte County staff to provide the Council a copy of the above information at the same time the information is provided to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Agenda Item #7(g) – Sarasota County Comp Plan Amendments (DCA 11-1ESR)

The Council staff has reviewed proposed amendments to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan (DCA 11-1ESR). These amendments were developed under the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act. A synopsis of the requirements of the Act and Council responsibilities is provided as Attachment I. Comments are provided in Attachment II. Site location maps can be reviewed in Attachment III.

Staff review of the proposed amendments was based on whether they were likely to be of regional concern. This was determined through assessment of the following factors:

1. Location--in or near a regional resource or regional activity center, such that it impacts the regional resource or facility; on or within one mile of a county boundary; generally applied to sites of five acres or more; size alone is not necessarily a determinant of regional significance;
2. Magnitude--equal to or greater than the threshold for a Development of Regional Impact of the same type (a DRI-related amendment is considered regionally significant); and
3. Character--of a unique type or use, a use of regional significance, or a change in the local comprehensive plan that could be applied throughout the local jurisdiction; updates, editorial revisions, etc. are not regionally significant.

A summary of the results of the review follows:

<u>Proposed Amendment</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>			
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Consistent</u>
2011-01-C Reclassify Lockwood	no	no	no	(1) not regionally significant; and
Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road from a Major Collector to Minor Collector				(2) consistent with SRPP

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

- Approve staff comments. Authorize staff to forward comments to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Planning and Sarasota County.

Agenda Item #7(h) – Amended SRPP EAR with DCA Corrections

This item was on the Council’s September agenda and was tabled to the October agenda due to time constraints.

Council submitted the draft Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) on July 22, 2011 to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Division of Community Planning for their review and comments. Council staff received verbal comments from the DEO on August 1, 2011. If the SRPP is adopted by Council, staff will submit the updated SRPP document to the DEO, Division of Community Planning, for their final review and comments.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Council staff is requesting that Council members adopt the updated SRPP document and approve sending the adopted document to the Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Planning for their final review and comments.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve consent agenda as presented.

10/2011

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7a

Intergovernmental
Coordination & Review

7a

7a

Project Review and Coordination Regional Clearinghouse Review

The attached report summarizes the project notifications received from various governmental and non-governmental agencies seeking federal assistance or permits for the period beginning September 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2011.

The staff of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council reviews various proposals, Notifications of Intent, Preapplications, permit applications, and Environmental Impact Statements for compliance with regional goals, objectives, and policies of the Regional Comprehensive Policy Plan. The staff reviews such items in accordance with the Florida Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Process (Chapter 29I-5, F.A.C.) and adopted regional clearinghouse procedures.

Council staff reviews projects under the following four designations:

Less Than Regionally Significant and Consistent - no further review of the project can be expected from Council.

Less Than Regionally Significant and Inconsistent - Council does not find the project to be of regional importance, but notes certain concerns as part of its continued monitoring for cumulative impacts within the noted goal areas.

Regionally Significant and Consistent - Project is of regional importance and appears to be consistent with Regional goals, objectives and policies.

Regionally Significant and Inconsistent - Project is of regional importance and appears not to be consistent with Regional goals, objectives, and policies. Council will oppose the project as submitted, but is willing to participate in any efforts to modify the project to mitigate the concerns.

The report includes the SWFRPC number, the applicant name, project description, location, funding or permitting agency, and the amount of federal funding, when applicable. It also includes the comments provided by staff to the applicant and to the State Clearinghouse (Office of Planning and Budgeting) in Tallahassee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of the administrative action on Clearinghouse Review items.

10/2011

ICR Council - 2011

SWFRPC #	Name1	Name2	Location	Project Description	Funding Agent	Funding Amount	Council Comments
2011-31	Mr. Steven Myers	Lee County Transit	Lee County	Lee County Transit - Discretionary Livability Funding Opportunity - Section 5309 Bus and Bus Livability Initiative Program.	FTA	\$14,920,000.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-32	Mr. Steven Myers	Lee County Transit	Lee County	Lee County Transit - FTA Discretionary Bus & Bus Facilities Program State of Good Repair.	FTA	\$24,120,000.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-34	Ms. Carmen Monroy	Lee County Transit	Lee County	Lee County Transit - Lee County Transit Development of a Public Transit Element for Lee County's Climate Change Resiliency Strategy.	DOT/FTA	\$175,000.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-35	Ms. Carmen Monroy	Lee County Transit	Lee County	Lee County Transit - Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction.	DOT/FTA	\$13,920,000.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-36	Ms. Carmen Monroy	Lee County Transit		Lee County Transit - Clean Fuels Grant Program	DOT/FTA	\$16,920,000.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-38	Dr. Frank Mazzeo, Jr.	Family Health Centers of Southwest	Region	Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida, Inc. - 2012 Application for Federal Assistance under the Bureau of Primary Health Care 330 Program.	Health Resources and Services	\$33,068,143.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent
2011-39	Mrs. Tessa Lesage	Lee Co. Office of Sustainability	Lee County	Lee Co. Office of Sustainability - Lee County's New Horizon 2035 vision Plan - Grant Proposal for a Comprehensive Land-Use Update to The Lee Plan.	HUD	\$4,009,443.00	Regionally Significant and Consistent

Review in Progress

<i>SWFRPC #</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Funding Agent</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Council Comments</i>
2011-14			Collier County	FDEP - Bureau of Mining and Minerals Regulation - Drilling Application for BreitBurn Florida LLC Permit No. 416AHL.			Review in Progress
2011-15			Collier County	RAI #1 for Collier Bay Entrance Channel Maintenance Dredging.			Review in Progress
2011-27			Collier County	Collier County Government & City of Marco Island - JCP File # 0305112-001-JC - Collier Bay Entrance Channel Dredging.			Review in Progress
2011-33			Collier County	FDEP JCP File #: 0305112-001-JC - City of Marco Island and Collier County - Collier Bay Entrance Channel Dredging.			Review in Progress

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7b

Financial Statement for
September 30, 2011 & Grant
Activity Status Sheets

7b

7b

Financial Snapshot

At 100.00% though the fiscal year expenses percentages are as follows:

The overall percentage of the Budget spent is 95.47%
 The overall percentage of the Budget revenue is 91.20%

For the month ending September 30, 2011 -153,854 is our YTD net loss.

Total revenues to date are: 3,288,388

Total expenses to date are: 3,442,242

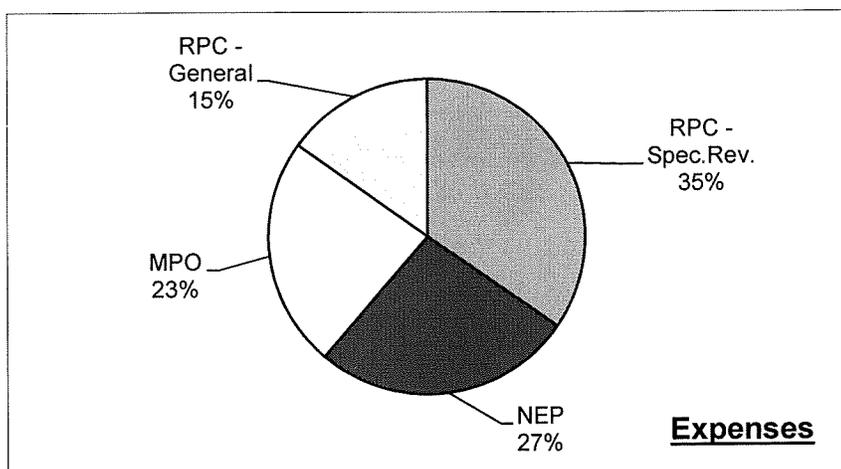
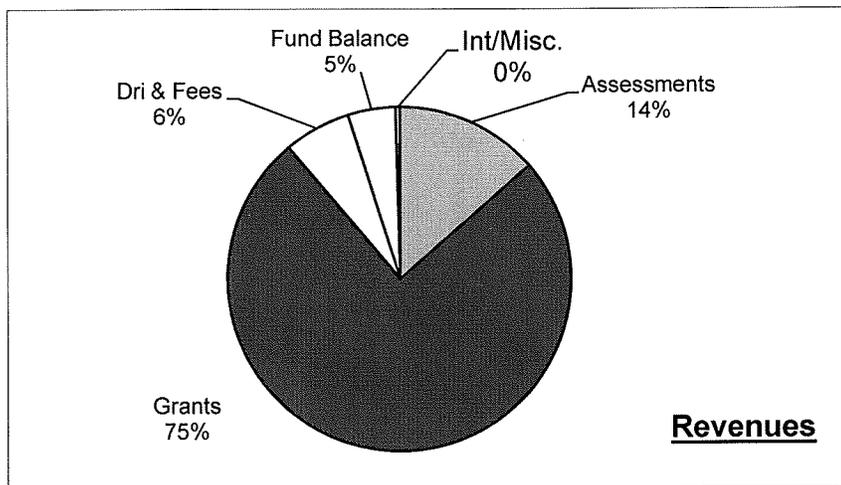
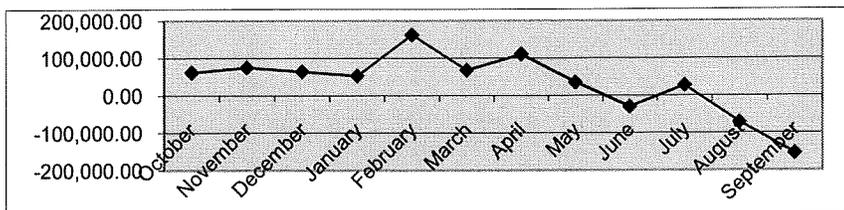
166,092 Allowable for y/e '11 use - Per Council 9/22/11

-153,854 Net loss to date

12,237 Under Available Unassigned FB

514,000 Assigned FB

526,237 Current FB Reserves



MONTHLY FINANCIAL CONTENTS
For the month ending September 30, 2011

	Pages
Financial Reports:	
Balance Sheet - Governmental Types and Account Groups	1
Balance Sheet - Assets, Liabilities and Capital	2
Income Statement - Combined	3
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">This page is a comparison of the budget and actual for the current month as well as the year to date figures. It also includes the net income for both the month and the year to date. The last column of the report reflects the percentage spent of the budget in each expense line as well as the overall total.</p>	
Income statement - Comparison of current year vs. prior year	4
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">This page is a comparison of the actual figures for the current month and year to date to the previous year's figures. It also includes the net income for both years.</p>	
Explanation of Council's Financial at current month end including:	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of Budget Spent for RPC, MPO, and NEP - Net income at current month end - Graphs showing the distribution of revenues and expenses - Any other notes felt needed at this time 	
Breakdown of actual expenses for the RPC, MPO, NEP including	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - percentages and any amendments requested. - Please note that the Budget on the Income Statement will not reflect any amendments until they are actually approved by the Budget Committee. 	
Combined RPC/MPO/NEP	6
Actual Totals	7
RPC by Project	8
Grant Activity	
Net Income Statement with a breakdown of monthly recognized revenue	9

At the request of our auditors, we are also including a bank reconciliation for the most recent month and a general ledger reflecting our other bank balances.

There is one CD through Iberia Bank. It is as follows:

30 months - matures 12/7/12	\$300,000	2.00%
Interest earned to date	\$7,530	

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET -
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
September-11**

	Governmental Fund Types		Account Groups		Totals
	General	Special	General	General	(Memorandum Only)
	Fund	Revenue Fund	Fixed Assets	Long-Term Debt	
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBIT					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 153,692	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 153,692
Investments	360,390	-	-	-	360,390
Receivables - grants and contracts	-	393,131	-	-	393,131
Receivables - other	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Due from other funds	-	(186,275)	-	-	(186,275)
Other assets	609	-	-	-	609
Property and equipment, net	-	-	1,534,499	-	1,534,499
Amount to be provided for retirement of general long-term debt	-	-	-	1,266,562	1,266,562
TOTAL ASSETS AND OTHER DEBIT	\$ 517,191	\$ 206,855	\$ 1,534,499	\$ 1,266,562	\$ 3,525,107
LIABILITIES, FUND EQUITY AND OTHER CREDIT					
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 112,511	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112,511
Retainage payable	64,717	-	-	-	64,717
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	(186,275)	-	-	-	(186,275)
Deferred revenue - grants and contracts	-	206,855	-	-	206,855
Accrued compensated absences	-	-	-	104,328	104,328
Notes payable	-	-	-	1,162,234	1,162,234
TOTAL LIABILITIES	(9,047)	206,855	-	1,266,562	1,464,370
FUND EQUITY AND OTHER CREDIT					
Investment in general fixed assets	-	-	1,534,499	-	1,534,499
Fund balance					
Reserved, designated	633,400	-	-	-	633,400
Unreserved, undesignated	(107,162)	-	-	-	(107,162)
TOTAL FUND EQUITY AND OTHER CREDIT	526,238	-	1,534,499	-	2,060,737
TOTAL LIABILITIES, FUND EQUITY AND OTHER CREDIT	\$ 517,191	\$ 206,855	\$ 1,534,499	\$ 1,266,562	\$ 3,525,107

SWFRPC
Balance Sheet
September 30, 2011

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Cash - Bank of America Oper.	\$	153,492.18
Cash - Iberia CDs		307,529.95
Cash - FL Local Gov't Pool		43,516.39
Cash - FL Gov't Pool-Fund B		9,343.28
Petty Cash		200.00
Accounts Receivable		234,585.71
Accounts Receivable-MPO		158,545.01
Bulk Mail Prepaid Postage		609.03
Amount t.b.p. for L.T.L.-Leave		79,125.53
FSA Deposit		2,500.00
Amt t.b.p. for L.T.Debt-OPEP		25,202.00
Amount t.b.p. for L.T.Debt		1,162,234.29
		<hr/>
Total Current Assets		2,176,883.37
Property and Equipment		
Property, Furniture & Equip		2,037,040.18
Accumulated Depreciation		(502,540.69)
		<hr/>
Total Property and Equipment		1,534,499.49
		<hr/>
Total Assets	\$	<u><u>3,711,382.86</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	(500.00)
Retainage Payable		64,717.24
Deferred Income		206,855.32
Accrued Salary		48,697.86
Accrued Expenses		63,808.01
Accrued Annual Leave		79,125.53
Long Term Debt - OPEB		25,202.00
Long Term Debt - Bank of Am.		1,162,234.29
ABM Cela Tega Event		200.00
LEPC Contingency Fund		305.25
		<hr/>
Total Current Liabilities		1,650,645.50
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities		1,650,645.50
Capital		
Fund Balance-Unassigned		46,691.62
Fund Balance-Assigned		633,400.00
FB-Non-Spendable/Fixed Assets		1,534,499.49
Net Income		(153,853.75)
		<hr/>
Total Capital		2,060,737.36
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	<u><u>3,711,382.86</u></u>

SWFRPC
Income Statement
Compared with Budget
For the Twelve Months Ending September 30, 2011

	Current Month Actual	Current Month	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Current Balance	% Spent Variance
Revenues						
Total Revenues	236,298.35	357,141	3,288,388.56	4,285,690	997,301.44	76.73
Expenses						
Salaries Expense	170,296.84	142,167	1,718,747.60	1,706,000	(12,747.60)	100.75
FICA Expense	9,093.27	10,833	123,704.85	130,000	6,295.15	95.16
Retirement Expense	20,316.44	15,108	167,940.91	181,300	13,359.09	92.63
Health Insurance Expense	(1,879.12)	15,000	176,024.36	180,000	3,975.64	97.79
Unemployment Comp. Expense	0.00	417	4,067.51	5,000	932.49	81.35
Workers Comp. Expense	375.00	417	4,135.00	5,000	865.00	82.70
Severance	0.00	0	66,648.78	0	(66,648.78)	0.00
Grant/Consulting Expense	11,421.00	5,833	64,094.30	70,000	5,905.70	91.56
NEP-Contractual	44,650.72	14,500	233,995.31	174,000	(59,995.31)	134.48
MPO-Contractual	48,485.86	37,375	246,698.94	448,500	201,801.06	55.01
Audit Services Expense	1,000.00	3,917	46,220.00	47,000	780.00	98.34
Travel Expense	2,549.11	5,583	39,442.06	67,000	27,557.94	58.87
Telephone Expense	1,286.19	1,021	12,092.95	12,250	157.05	98.72
Postage / Shipping Expense	1,622.74	2,333	23,767.35	28,000	4,232.65	84.88
Equipment Rental Expense	4,205.25	2,683	29,252.60	32,200	2,947.40	90.85
Insurance Expense	285.39	2,368	19,820.06	28,420	8,599.94	69.74
Repair/Maint. Expense	1,140.04	2,083	18,937.28	25,000	6,062.72	75.75
Printing/Reproduction Expense	10,407.52	7,792	93,224.34	93,500	275.66	99.71
Utilities (Elec, Water, Gar)	2,324.75	2,333	24,411.14	28,000	3,588.86	87.18
Advertising/Legal Notices Exp	1,831.24	1,444	16,558.05	17,330	771.95	95.55
Other Misc. Expense	0.00	375	4,491.27	4,500	8.73	99.81
Office Supplies Expense	1,088.79	1,542	17,636.55	18,500	863.45	95.33
Computer Related Expense	25.00	4,750	56,993.15	57,000	6.85	99.99
Publication Expense	96.50	317	2,475.78	3,800	1,324.22	65.15
Prof. Develop./Dues Expense	1,334.00	3,208	38,108.50	38,500	391.50	98.98
Meetings/Events Expense	947.18	4,650	54,965.72	55,800	834.28	98.50
Capital Outlay Expense	0.00	917	8,036.99	11,000	2,963.01	73.06
Capital Outlay - Building	0.00	833	1,999.92	10,000	8,000.08	20.00
Long Term Debt	10,645.92	10,667	127,751.04	128,000	248.96	99.81
Reserve for Operations Expense	0.00	56,674	0.00	680,090	680,090.00	0.00
Total Expenses	343,549.63	357,141	3,442,242.31	4,285,690	843,447.69	80.32
Net Income	\$ (107,251.28)	0	\$ (153,853.75)	\$ 0	153,853.75	0.00

As stated when submitting Annual Budget:
Both CHNEP and MPO are multi-year budgets - Therefore total budget may appear high

SWFRPC
Income Statement - Two Years
For the Twelve Months Ending September 30, 2011

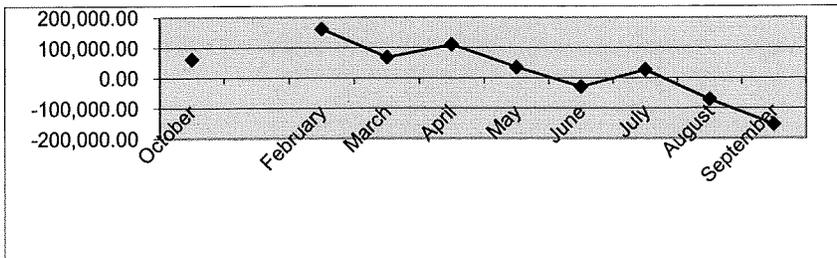
	Current Month This Year	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Last Year
Revenues				
Total Revenues	236,298.35	443,821.00	3,288,388.56	3,633,852.95
Expenses				
Salaries Expense	170,296.84	232,473.43	1,718,747.60	1,720,848.38
FICA Expense	9,093.27	17,444.19	123,704.85	127,140.17
Retirement Expense	20,316.44	42,176.19	167,940.91	184,466.06
Health Insurance Expense	(1,879.12)	11,650.66	176,024.36	165,873.75
Unemployment Comp. Expe	0.00	0.00	4,067.51	3,850.00
Workers Comp. Expense	375.00	446.00	4,135.00	4,509.00
Severance	0.00	0.00	66,648.78	0.00
Grant/Consulting Expense	11,421.00	11,315.00	64,094.30	33,118.00
NEP-Contractual	44,650.72	94,134.10	233,995.31	368,033.65
MPO-Contractual	48,485.86	96,403.13	246,698.94	415,705.88
Audit Services Expense	1,000.00	0.00	46,220.00	43,116.00
Travel Expense	2,549.11	4,245.80	39,442.06	45,699.68
Telephone Expense	1,286.19	2,474.90	12,092.95	11,953.23
Postage / Shipping Expense	1,622.74	1,414.03	23,767.35	27,939.73
Storage Unit Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	224.00
Equipment Rental Expense	4,205.25	3,657.48	29,252.60	33,340.73
Insurance Expense	285.39	0.00	19,820.06	25,491.96
Repair/Maint. Expense	1,140.04	2,009.00	18,937.28	18,180.46
Printing/Reproduction Expen	10,407.52	3,596.94	93,224.34	52,205.05
Utilities (Elec, Water, Gar)	2,324.75	3,089.04	24,411.14	22,955.44
Advertising/Legal Notices Ex	1,831.24	4,824.17	16,558.05	20,322.39
Other Misc. Expense	0.00	0.00	4,491.27	2,381.61
Office Supplies Expense	1,088.79	1,566.74	17,636.55	18,373.66
Computer Related Expense	25.00	7,167.95	56,993.15	44,787.53
Publication Expense	96.50	216.84	2,475.78	1,656.44
Prof. Develop./Dues Expens	1,334.00	1,440.00	38,108.50	36,504.23
Meetings/Events Expense	947.18	647.23	54,965.72	22,298.48
Capital Outlay Expense	0.00	15,924.89	8,036.99	21,994.91
Capital Outlay - Building	0.00	7,068.54	1,999.92	8,758.54
Long Term Debt	10,645.92	10,645.92	127,751.04	127,751.04
Total Expenses	343,549.63	576,032.17	3,442,242.31	3,609,480.00
Net Income	\$ (107,251.28)	\$ (132,211.17)	\$ (153,853.75)	\$ 24,372.95

The next few pages are a breakdown of actual expenses for each project in Special Revenues as well as in general operations. Included in these pages, as requested, are percentages for each line item and an overall percentage spent by the RPC, NEP, and MPO.

At 100.00% though the fiscal year expenses percentages are as follows:

The overall percentage of the Budget spent is 95.47%
 The overall percentage of the Budget revenue is 91.20%

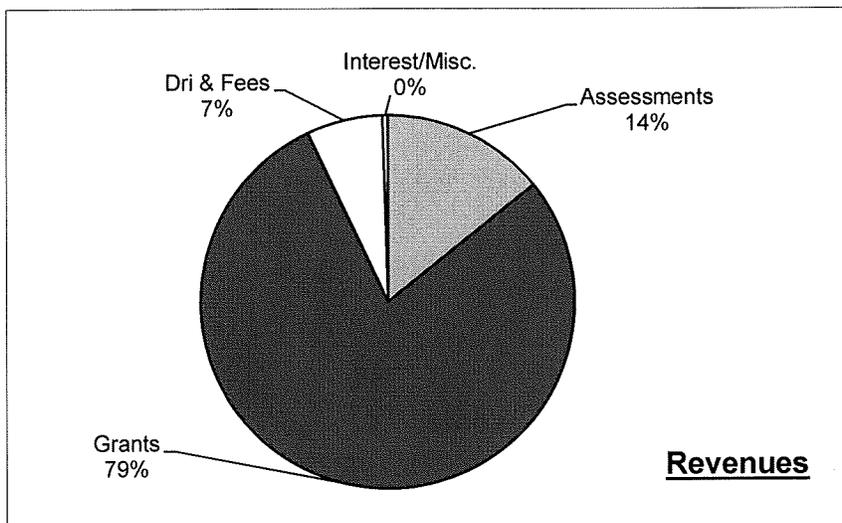
For the month ending September 30, 2011 **-\$153,854** is our net income.



Net Income (unaudited)

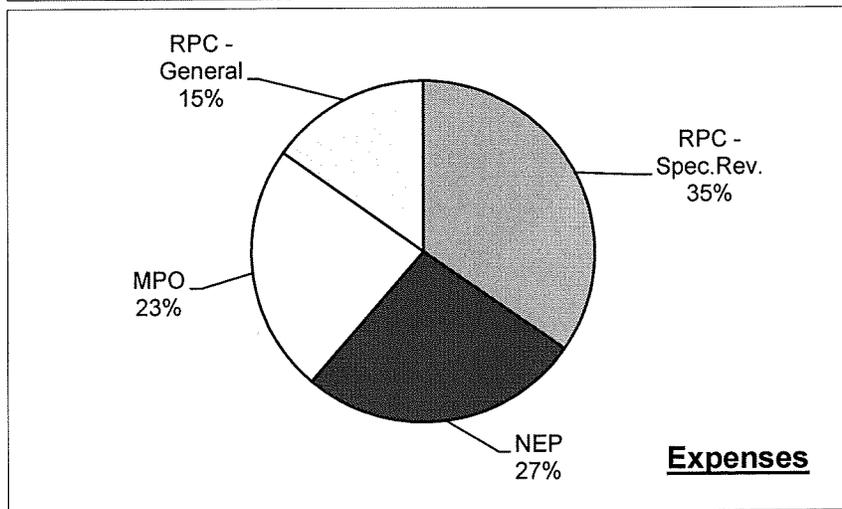
As can be seen in this graph, the net income moves in quarterly cycles. For the month ending September 30, 2011

Total Revenues	3,288,388
Total Expenses	3,442,242
Net Income	<u><u>-153,854</u></u>



Revenues

Assessments	466,669
Grants	2,591,297
Dri & Fees	215,357
Interest/Misc.	15,066
	<u>3,288,388</u>



Expenses

RPC - Spec.Rev.	1,192,555
NEP	917,154
MPO	811,425
RPC - General	521,108
	<u>3,442,242</u>

RPC-MPO-NEP Combined
Budget vs. Actual
For the month ending September 30, 2011

	Combined Actual	Combined Adopted Budget	Combined Total YTD Amendments	Combined Amended Budget	Combined VARIABLE	100.00%
Revenues						
Membership Dues	466,669	466,669	0	466,669	0	100.00%
Federal/State/Local Grants	2,591,297	2,878,931	30,000	2,908,931	317,634	89.08%
Dri/Monitoring Fees	215,357	200,000	0	200,000	-15,357	107.68%
Interest And Miscellaneous	15,066	30,000	0	30,000	14,934	50.22%
Carry Over Fund Balance		655,716	24,374	680,090		
Total Income	3,288,388	4,231,316	54,374	4,285,690	317,212	91.20%
Expenditures						
<u>Direct:</u>						
Salaries	1,718,748	1,706,000	0	1,706,000	-12,748	100.75%
FICA	123,705	130,000	0	130,000	6,295	95.16%
Retirement	167,941	181,300	0	181,300	13,359	92.63%
Health Insurance	176,024	180,000	0	180,000	3,976	97.79%
Workers Compensation	30,043	10,000	0	10,000	-20,043	300.43%
Total Personnel	2,216,461	2,207,300	0	2,207,300	-9,161	100.42%
Consultant Fees	64,094	40,000	30,000	70,000	5,906	91.56%
NEP Contractual	233,995	174,000	0	174,000	-59,995	134.48%
MPO Contractual	246,699	452,000	-3,500	448,500	201,801	55.01%
Audit Fees	46,220	47,000	0	47,000	780	98.34%
Travel	39,442	75,000	-8,000	67,000	27,558	58.87%
Telephone	12,093	8,750	3,500	12,250	157	98.72%
Postage	23,767	28,000	0	28,000	4,233	84.88%
Equipment Rental	29,253	32,200	0	32,200	2,947	90.85%
Insurance	19,820	33,200	-4,780	28,420	8,600	69.74%
Repair/Maintenance	18,937	25,000	0	25,000	6,063	75.75%
Printing/Reproduction	93,224	93,500	0	93,500	276	99.71%
Utilities (Elec, Gas, Water)	24,411	28,000	0	28,000	3,589	87.18%
Advertising	16,558	13,050	4,280	17,330	772	95.55%
Other Miscellaneous	4,491	4,500	0	4,500	9	99.81%
Office Supplies	17,637	18,500	0	18,500	863	95.33%
Computer Related Expenses	56,993	39,000	18,000	57,000	7	99.99%
Publications	2,476	3,800	0	3,800	1,324	65.15%
Professional Development	38,109	34,000	4,500	38,500	392	98.98%
Meetings/Events	54,966	55,800	0	55,800	834	98.50%
Capital Outlay-Operations	8,037	25,000	-14,000	11,000	2,963	73.06%
Capital Outlay-Building	2,000	10,000	0	10,000	8,000	20.00%
Long Term Debt	127,751	128,000	0	128,000	249	99.81%
Allocation of Fringe/Indirect	0	0	0	0	0	
Reserve for Operation Expense	44,808	655,716	24,374	680,090	635,282	
Total Cash Outlays	3,442,242	4,231,316	54,374	4,285,690	843,448	95.47%
Net Income/(Loss)	-153,854	0	0	0		

Regional Planning Council
Budget vs. Actual
For the month ending September 30, 2011

	Total RPC Special Rev.	RPC General	Total RPC Actual	MPO Actual	CHNEP Actual	Total Combined Actual
Revenues						
Membership Dues	0	466,669	466,669	0	0	466,669
Federal/State/Local Grants	862,718		862,718	811,425	917,154	2,591,297
Dri/Monitoring Fees	215,357		215,357	0	0	215,357
Interest And Miscellaneous	0	15,066	15,066	0	0	15,066
Carry Over Fund Balance	0		0	0	0	0
Total Income	1,078,074	481,734	1,559,809	811,425	917,154	3,288,388
Expenditures						
<u>Direct:</u>						
Salaries						1,718,748
FICA						123,705
Retirement						167,941
Health Insurance						176,024
Workers Compensation						74,851
Total Personnel						2,261,269
Consultant Fees	52,287	11,808	64,094	0	0	64,094
NEP Contractual	0	0	0	0	233,995	233,995
MPO Contractual	0	0	0	246,699	0	246,699
Audit Fees	0	46,220	46,220	0	0	46,220
Travel	12,955	8,949	21,905	4,081	13,456	39,442
Telephone	0	10,143	10,143	1,294	657	12,093
Postage	749	6,227	6,976	2,904	13,888	23,767
Equipment Rental	0	29,128	29,128	125	0	29,253
Insurance	0	19,820	19,820	0	0	19,820
Repair/Maintenance	0	18,937	18,937	0	0	18,937
Printing/Reproduction	12,551	1,759	14,310	1,030	77,884	93,224
Utilities (Elec, Gas, Water)	0	24,411	24,411	0	0	24,411
Advertising	1,706	2,285	3,991	12,518	48	16,558
Other Miscellaneous	0	3,386	3,386	360	745	4,491
Office Supplies	1,899	13,211	15,110	1,289	1,237	17,637
Computer Related Expenses	0	48,890	48,890	1,279	6,825	56,993
Publications	649	1,730	2,379	0	97	2,476
Professional Development	4,710	24,620	29,330	1,972	6,807	38,109
Meetings/Events	11,957	2,681	14,638	1,831	38,497	54,966
Capital Outlay-Operations	0	6,274	6,274	0	1,763	8,037
Capital Outlay-Building	0	2,000	2,000	0	0	2,000
Long Term Debt	0	127,751	127,751	0	0	127,751
Allocation of Fringe/Indirect	624,483	-1,223,672	-599,189	303,785	295,404	0
Reserve for Operation Expense						
Total Cash Outlays	1,192,555	521,108	1,713,663	811,425	917,154	3,442,242
Net Income/(Loss)			-153,854			-153,854

Regional Planning Council
Budget vs. Actual
For the month ending September 30, 2011

	DCA	HMEP/SQG EMERG	Economic Developmt.	Hurricane Evac/Coastal Depth Analysis	TDs	DRIs/ NOPCs	Other Contracts	Total RPC Special Rev.
Revenues								
Membership Dues								0
Federal/State/Local Grants	204,392	61,646	77,348	22,500	65,170		431,662	862,718
Dri/Monitoring Fees						215,357		215,357
Interest And Miscellaneous								0
Carry Over Fund Balance								0
Total Income	204,392	61,646	77,348	22,500	65,170	215,357	431,662	1,078,074
Expenditures								
Direct:								
Salaries								
FICA								
Retirement								
Health Insurance								
Workers Compensation								
Total Personnel								
Consultant Fees	0	20,106	0	0	0	0	32,181	52,287
NEP Contractual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MPO Contractual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Audit Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Travel	1,873	4,900	262	0	27	36	5,857	12,955
Telephone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Postage	50	80	125	43	290	50	111	749
Equipment Rental	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Repair/Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Printing/Reproduction	2	63	2	5,498	0	5	6,981	12,551
Utilities (Elec, Gas, Water)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Advertising	69	0	0	0	1,638	0	0	1,706
Other Miscelleaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office Supplies	0	0	0	373	0	0	1,526	1,899
Computer Related Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Publications	0	0	0	0	0	0	649	649
Professional Development	335	0	2,950	0	0	0	1,425	4,710
Meetings/Events	0	500	26	0	0	0	11,431	11,957
Capital Outlay-Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay-Building	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Long Term Debt							0	
Allocation of Fringe/Indirect	120,256	21,457	85,499	17,327	37,044	124,927	217,972	624,483
Reserve for Operation Expense								
Total Cash Outlays	214,526	63,511	154,233	36,488	67,321	220,532	435,944	1,192,555
Net Income/(Loss)								

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
For the month ending September 30, 2011

Net Income/Loss Statement

	Prior Period	Amended Budget	Current Period	Current Period as % of Rev/Exp	% Change from Prior Period	% of Budget
Revenue						
DCA - GENERAL	165,603		165,603			
DCA - TITLE III	30,672		38,789			
SALT MARSH LANDS	130,861		151,117			
WETLANDS	82,818		82,818			
ECONOMIC DEVELOP.	58,056		77,348			
HMEP-PLANNING and TRAINING	52,546		52,546			
SQG	9,100		9,100			
TD GLADES/HENDRY	33,242		34,869			
TD LEE	27,896		30,300			
COASTAL DEPTH ANALYSIS	22,500		22,500			
NEFRC POS: FIN-MARC / I/O / WKSP / RTIC / TEP	157,289		156,789			
CLIMATE RESILIENCY	13,921		13,921			
PG EAR	20,229		20,229			
TOTAL FEDERAL/STATE/LOCAL GRANTS (RPC)	804,733	758,193	855,929	26.0%	6.4%	112.9%
DRI/NOPCS - DRI MON.	198,557	200,000	215,357	6.5%	8.5%	107.7%
ASSESSMENTS & MISC INC. (Includes ABM)	486,165	496,669	488,523	14.9%	0.5%	98.4%
CHNEP	838,880	1,036,700	917,154	27.9%	9.3%	88.5%
MPO	723,961	1,114,038	811,425	24.7%	12.1%	72.8%
Total Revenue	3,052,296	3,605,600	3,288,388	100.0%	7.7%	91.2%
Operating Expenses (all 3 entities-RPC,MPO,NEP)						
Salaries and Fringe (all personnel)	2,082,920	2,207,300	2,261,269	65.7%	8.6%	102.4%
Consultant Fees	52,674	70,000	64,094	1.9%	21.7%	91.6%
NEP Contractual	189,345	174,000	233,995	6.8%	23.6%	134.5%
MPO Contractual	198,213	448,500	246,699	7.2%	24.5%	55.0%
Audit Fees	45,220	47,000	46,220	1.3%	2.2%	98.3%
Travel	36,893	67,000	39,442	1.1%	6.9%	58.9%
Telephone	10,807	12,250	12,093	0.4%	11.9%	98.7%
Postage	22,145	28,000	23,767	0.7%	7.3%	84.9%
Equipment Rental	25,047	32,200	29,253	0.8%	16.8%	90.8%
Insurance	19,535	28,420	19,820	0.6%	1.5%	69.7%
Repair/Maintenance	17,797	25,000	18,937	0.6%	6.4%	75.7%
Printing/Reproduction	87,817	93,500	93,224	2.7%	6.2%	99.7%
Utilities (Gas,Water, Garb.)	22,086	28,000	24,411	0.7%	10.5%	87.2%
Advertising	14,727	17,330	16,558	0.5%	12.4%	95.5%
Other Miscellaneous	4,491	4,500	4,491	0.1%	0.0%	99.8%
Office Supplies	16,548	18,500	17,637	0.5%	6.6%	95.3%
Computer Related Exps.	56,968	57,000	56,993	1.7%	0.0%	100.0%
Publications	2,379	3,800	2,476	0.1%	4.1%	65.2%
Professional Development	36,775	38,500	38,109	1.1%	3.6%	99.0%
Meetings/Events	54,019	55,800	54,966	1.6%	1.8%	98.5%
Capital Outlay-Operations	8,037	11,000	8,037	0.2%	0.0%	73.1%
Capital Outlay-Building	2,000	10,000	2,000	0.1%	0.0%	20.0%
Long Term Debt	117,105	128,000	127,751	3.7%	9.1%	99.8%
Total Operating Expenses	3,123,548	3,605,600	3,442,242	100.0%	10.2%	95.5%
Net Income or (loss)	-71,252	0	-153,854			

SWFRPC Upcoming Opportunities

Name of Project	Funding Source	Due Date, Total Requested & In-kind or Match	Details & Date Grant Submitted	Lead
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	USFWS		Technical Assistance	CHNEP
Coastal Partners Initiative	FDEP	October 2011, requires match, but in-kind volunteer hours are eligible, up to \$50,000	Grassroots restoration, education	Liz
Gulf of Mexico Program	US EPA	June 2011,		Liz
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration grants	unknown	unknown	restoration of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystems	CHNEP
Sustainable Communities	HUD/EPA/DOT	sometime this summer	2nd funding of the FY2010 Sustainable Communities Initiative	Nikki and Jennifer
Climate Ready Estuaries	EPA HQ	April/May, 50% to 100% match can use in-kind	Possible request for funding of economic impacts to environment of	Liz
EPA Brownfields	EPA	Oct-11	TBA	John Gibbons
Interoperable Communications Exercise Planning	Homeland Security/DEM via NEFRC	P.O. expected in August, 2011; approx. \$65k; no match	anticipated plan due in November 2011	?
Interoperable Communications Exercise Implementation	Homeland Security/DEM via NEFRC	P.O. pending	anticipated implementation in early 2012	?
Tactical Interoperable	Homeland Security/DEM via	P.O. pending		?, Nichole Gwinett

SWFRPC GRANTS SUBMITTED									
Name of Project	SWFRPC Mission Implemented	Funding Source	\$\$ requested for RPC staff	Total Request	Inkind or Match	Total value of project	Date Grant Submitted	Project Award	Lead
Charlotte Harbor: Peer to Peer Experiential Learning through Social Media and Technology	CHNEP	NOAA	\$9,310	\$91,810	\$233,000	\$324,810	10/14/2010	3 yrs.	Maran
EPA 5 STAR	CHNEP	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation		up to \$40,000	100%		2/14/2011		Lee County/Liz
Pine Island Commercial Marina Seagrass Restoration	CHNEP	USFWS	0	94591	44509	139100	4/8/2011	1 year	TNC
Understanding Valued Ocean Resources and Their Protection through E-Learning	CHNEP	Nartional Geographic	\$2,000	\$2,000	0	\$2,000	5/20/2011	3 months	Maran
NSF ITEST Grant	FGCU/SWFRPC/CHNEP	National Science Foundation	\$51,509	??	0		5/10/2011	3 years	Liz
HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant	SWFRPC	HUD/EPA/DOT	3,000,000	3,600,000	600,000	3,600,000	Application submitted on 10/6/2011	3 years	Jennifer
DEM 5 Additional Storm Tide Atlases	SWFRPC	State Division of Emergency Management	\$72,760	\$72,760	\$0	\$72,760	7/12/2011	TBD	Dan T. and Dan C.

SWFRPC GRANTS SUBMITTED									
Name of Project	SWFRPC Mission Implemented	Funding Source	\$\$ requested for RPC staff	Total Request	Inkind or Match	Total value of project	Date Grant Submitted	Project Award	Lead
Measuring and Forecasting Ecosystem Services from Habitat Condition Analyses	CHNEP	EPA/Gulf of Mexico Regional Program	\$497,418	\$561,418	\$64,000	\$561,418	9/30/2011	3 years	Jim/Liz/Whitne

Name of Project	SWFRPC Mission Implemented	Funding Source	\$\$ requested for RPC staff	Total Request	Inkind or Match	Total value of project	Date Grant Submitted	Project Award	Lead
Measuring and Forecasting Ecosystem Services from Habitat Condition Analyses	CHNEP	EPA/Gulf of Mexico Regional Program	\$497,418	\$561,418	\$64,000	\$561,418	9/30/2011	3 years	Jim/Liz/Whitne

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7c

Charlotte County Comp Plan
Amendments (DCA 11-
2ESR)

7c

7c

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS
CHARLOTTE COUNTY**

The Council staff has reviewed the proposed amendment to the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan (DCA 11-2ESR). The amendment was developed under the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act. A synopsis of the requirements of the Act and Council responsibilities is provided as Attachment I. Comments are provided in Attachment II. Site location maps are found in Attachment III.

Staff review of the proposed amendments was based on whether they were likely to be of regional concern. This was determined through assessment of the following factors:

1. Location--in or near a regional resource or regional activity center, such that it impacts the regional resource or facility; on or within one mile of a county boundary; generally applied to sites of five acres or more; size alone is not necessarily a determinant of regional significance;
2. Magnitude--equal to or greater than the threshold for a Development of Regional Impact of the same type (a DRI-related amendment is considered regionally significant); and
3. Character--of a unique type or use, a use of regional significance, or a change in the local comprehensive plan that could be applied throughout the local jurisdiction; updates, editorial revisions, etc. are not regionally significant.

A summary of the results of the review follows:

<u>Proposed Amendment</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>			<u>Consistent</u>
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	
PA-11-05-10-LS (Seahorse Marina, Inc. / Palmetto Mobile Home Park)	no	no	no	(1) not regionally significant; (2) no significant adverse effects on regional resources (3) consistent with the SRPP

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve staff comments. Authorize staff to forward comments to the Department of Economic Opportunity and Charlotte County.

10/11

Attachment I**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND
DEVELOPMENT REGULATION ACT****Local Government Comprehensive Plans**

The Act requires each municipal and county government to prepare a comprehensive plan that must include at least the following nine elements:

1. Future Land Use Element;
2. Traffic Circulation Element;
A local government with all or part of its jurisdiction within the urbanized area of a Metropolitan Planning Organization shall prepare and adopt a transportation element to replace the traffic circulation; mass transit; and ports, aviation, and related facilities elements. [9J-5.019(1), FAC]
3. General Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, and Potable Water and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element;
4. Conservation Element;
5. Recreation and Open Space Element;
6. Housing Element;
7. Coastal Management Element for coastal jurisdictions;
8. Intergovernmental Coordination Element; and
9. Capital Improvements Element.

The local government may add optional elements (e. g., community design, redevelopment, safety, historical and scenic preservation, and economic).

All local governments in Southwest Florida have adopted revised plans:

Charlotte County, Punta Gorda
 Collier County, Everglades City, Marco Island, Naples
 Glades County, Moore Haven
 Hendry County, Clewiston, LaBelle
 Lee County, Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel
 Sarasota County, Longboat Key, North Port, Sarasota, Venice

Attachment I

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

A local government may amend its plan twice a year. (Amendments related to developments of regional impact, certain small developments, compliance agreements, and the Job Siting Act are not restricted by this limitation.) Six copies of the amendment are sent to the Department of Community Affairs for review. A copy is also sent to the regional planning council, the water management district, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

[s. 163.3184(3)(a)]

The proposed amendment will be reviewed by DCA in two situations. In the first, there must be a written request to DCA. The request for review must be received within forty-five days after transmittal of the proposed amendment. [s. 163.3184(6)(a)] Review can be requested by one of the following:

- the local government that transmits the amendment,
- the regional planning council, or
- an affected person.

In the second situation, DCA can decide to review the proposed amendment without a request. In that case, DCA must give notice within thirty days of transmittal.

[(s. 163.3184(6)(b)]

Within five working days after deciding to conduct a review, DCA must forward copies to various reviewing agencies, including the regional planning council. [s. 163.3184(4)]

Regional Planning Council Review

The regional planning council must submit its comments in writing within thirty days of receipt of the proposed amendment from DCA. It must specify any objections and may make recommendations for changes. The review of the proposed amendment by the regional planning council must be limited to "effects on regional resources or facilities identified in the strategic regional policy plan and extra-jurisdictional impacts which would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of the affected local government."

[s. 163.3184(5)]

After receipt of comments from the regional planning council and other reviewing agencies, DCA has thirty days to conduct its own review and determine compliance with state law. Within that thirty-day period, DCA transmits its written comments to the local government.

NOTE: THE ABOVE IS A SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF THE LAW. REFER TO THE STATUTE (CH. 163, FS) AND THE RULE (9J-11, FAC) FOR DETAILS.

Attachment II

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW
FORM 01**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Charlotte County

DATE AMENDMENT RECEIVED:

September 1, 2011

DATE AMENDMENT MAILED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE:

September 23, 2011

Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, Council review of proposed amendments to local government Comprehensive Plans is limited to adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan and extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of any affected local government within the region. A written report containing the evaluation of these impacts, pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, is to be provided to the local government and the State land planning agency within 30 calendar days of receipt of the amendment.

1. AMENDMENT NAME

DCA 11-2ESR
PA-11-05-10-LS
Seahorse Marina, Inc. / Palmetto Mobile Home Park

2. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT(S):

The petitioner, Seahorse Marina, Inc., is requesting a large-scale amendment to the Charlotte County Future Land Use Map (FLUM), Series Map #1, 2030 FLUM, to change the existing land use designation from Low Density Residential (LDR) to allow for a new land use designation of Commercial (COM). The petitioner is also applying for a rezoning with the County for the subject site to change the existing zoning category from Mobile Home Park (MHP) to a new zoning category of Commercial General (CG).

The subject property contains 13.07 acres and is located at the intersection of Kings Highway and Westchester Blvd., in the Port Charlotte area. According to the County's staff report, the stated purpose of the requested amendment is to allow for development of commercial and office uses on land that was previously a mobile home park (Palmetto Mobile Home Park) that was built in the late 1960s. The mobile home park contained 117 mobile homes; many of which were destroyed by Hurricane Charlie in 2004. The remaining mobile homes have been vacated and removed over the past seven years, leaving the site vacant for approximately two years.

The development site is located on the southwest corner of two significant roadways, Kings Highway and Westchester Blvd. Kings Highway is classified as a minor arterial. The South Port Square development, which contains multi-story retirement homes, is located directly to the west of the site. To the north, across Westchester Blvd., there are single-family homes and vacant platted lots for additional single-family homes in the future. Kings Highway lies directly to the east, and the Charlotte Harbor Health Care Center is located on the east side of the roadway. To the south, there are properties located within the Charlotte Harbor Community Development Area that have been designated as Charlotte Harbor Industrial with Light Industrial zoning. Based on the County's staff report, given the location of the subject property, which is situated between properties designated as High Density Residential and abutting industrial land uses, the existing permitted low-density residential land uses is not the best use development option for the property. Council staff agrees that the commercial development proposed for the subject site will establish a transitional land use between the existing and future single- and multi-family homes and the light industrial land uses.

Additionally, Council staff agrees and supports the County staff's assertion that the proposed commercial development will provide opportunities for the daily shopping needs (food, medicines, and sundries) and professional services needs of existing and future residents located directly to the west and north as well as in the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the proposed commercial area will serve the needs of the working population in the light industrial area. The development of the subject site as a commercial center will lessen the vehicle trips on the overall transportation network and will provide much needed employment opportunities for the surrounding population.

Council staff has reviewed the Smart Charlotte 2050 Comprehensive Plan (Smart Charlotte) and concurs with the County staff report that states that the subject property is located within the Urban Service Area and is designated a Revitalizing Neighborhood on the 2050 Framework. FLU Objective 4.2: Revitalizing Neighborhoods of Smart Charlotte proposes to promote the renewal and redevelopment of areas in order to create more sustainable development patterns, densities, intensities, and mixes of uses through development and implementing specific Neighborhood Revitalization Plans. Although the revitalization plan has not been created for this neighborhood, the intent of identifying it as a Revitalizing Neighborhood is to provide opportunities to create more sustainable development patterns and mixed uses. The proposed development will diversify land uses in that neighborhood, providing commercial uses and retail services to the existing residential neighborhood. Council staff agrees and supports the County finding that the various goals, objectives and

policies set forth in Smart Charlotte are consistent with the proposed comprehensive plan amendment.

3. ADVERSE EFFECTS TO SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL RESOURCES AND FACILITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN:

Council staff finds that the proposed amendment does not produce significant adverse effects on any regional resources or regional facilities that are identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan; nor does the requested amendment produce any extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of any other affected local government within the region. Council staff also finds that the proposed amendment to the Smart Charlotte 2050 Comprehensive Plan (Smart Charlotte) consistent with the Goals, Strategies and Actions found in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Request a copy of the adopted version of the amendment? Yes No

Attachment III

Maps

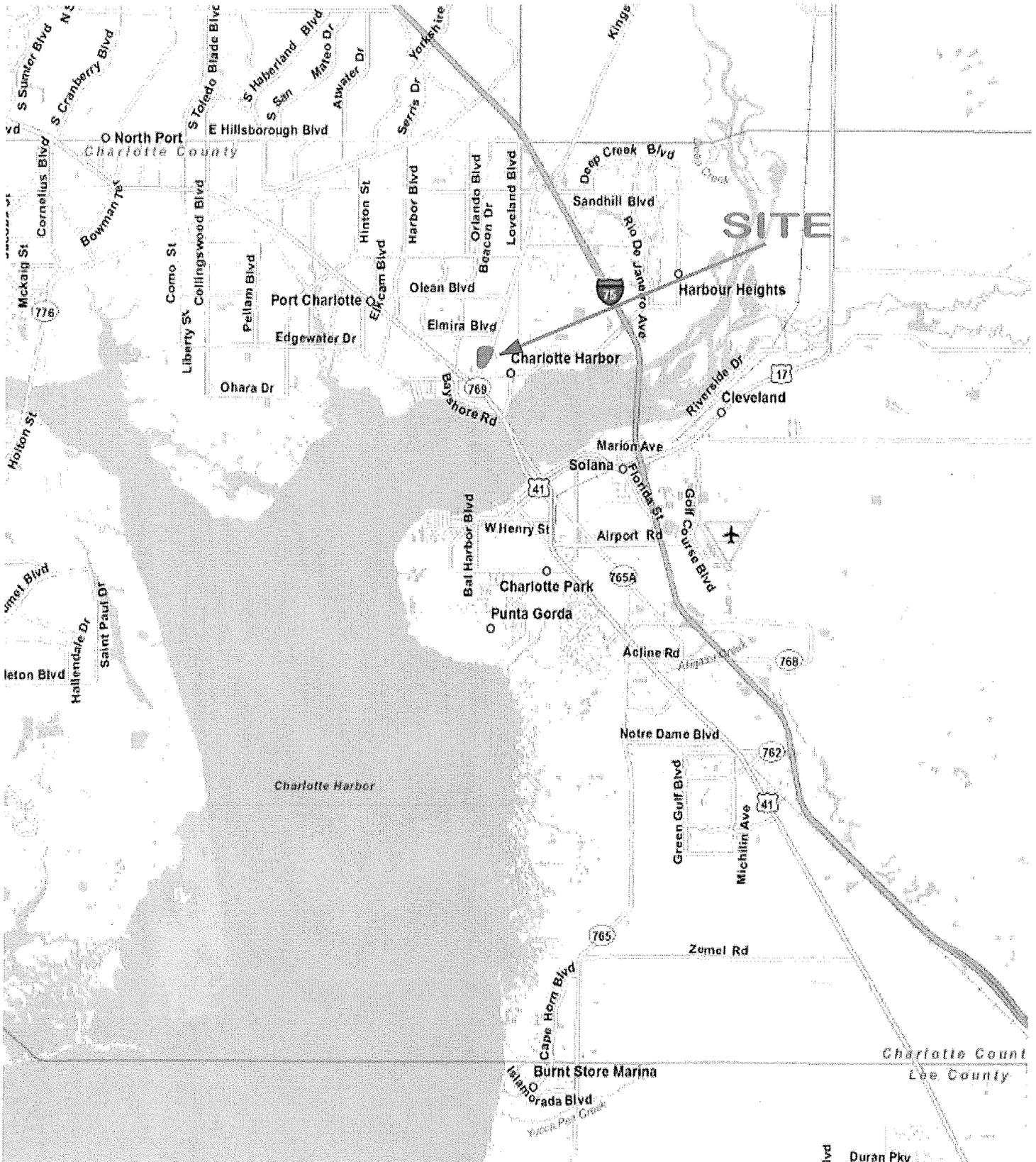
**Charlotte County
DCA 11-2ESR**



Open for Business

PA-11-05-10-LS & Z-11-05-11 SEAHORSE MARINA General Area Map

Map Prepared By
Charlotte County
Building and
Growth Management



24 & 25/40/22 Mid County

This map is a representation of compiled public information. It is believed to be an accurate and true depiction for the stated purpose, but Charlotte County and its employees make no guaranties, implied or otherwise as to its use. This is not a survey, nor is it to be used for design. Created 05-02-2011 Updated 06.28.11

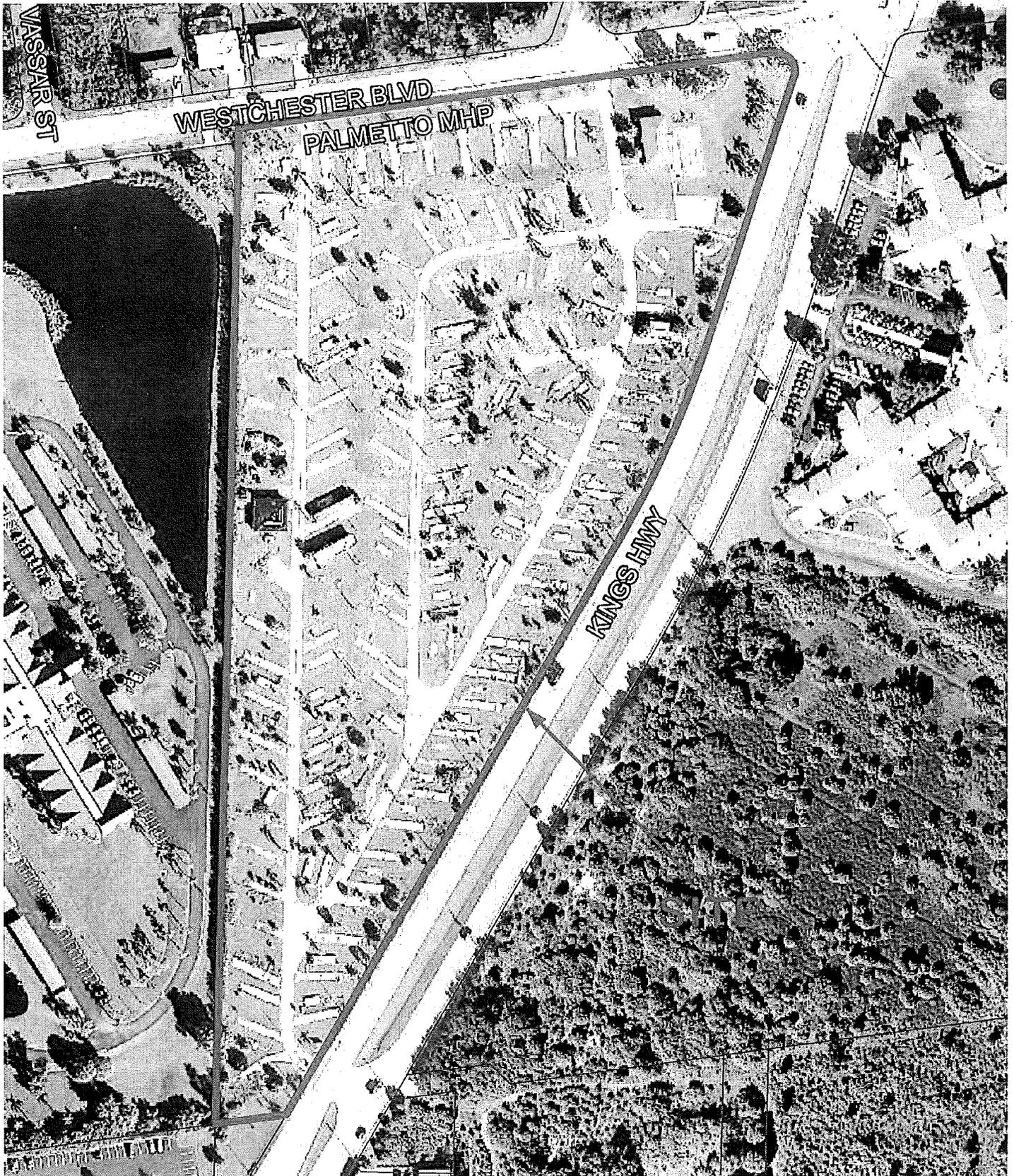




Open
for Business

PA-11-05-10-LS & Z-11-05-11
SEAHORSE MARINA
Aerial Map

Map prepared by
Charlotte County
Building and
Growth Management



24 & 25/40/22 Mid County

This map is a representation of compiled public information. It is believed to be an accurate and true depiction for the stated purpose, but Charlotte County and its employees make no guaranties, implied or otherwise as to its use. This is not a survey, nor is it to be used for design. Created 05-02-2011 Updated 05.28.11



NOT TO SCALE

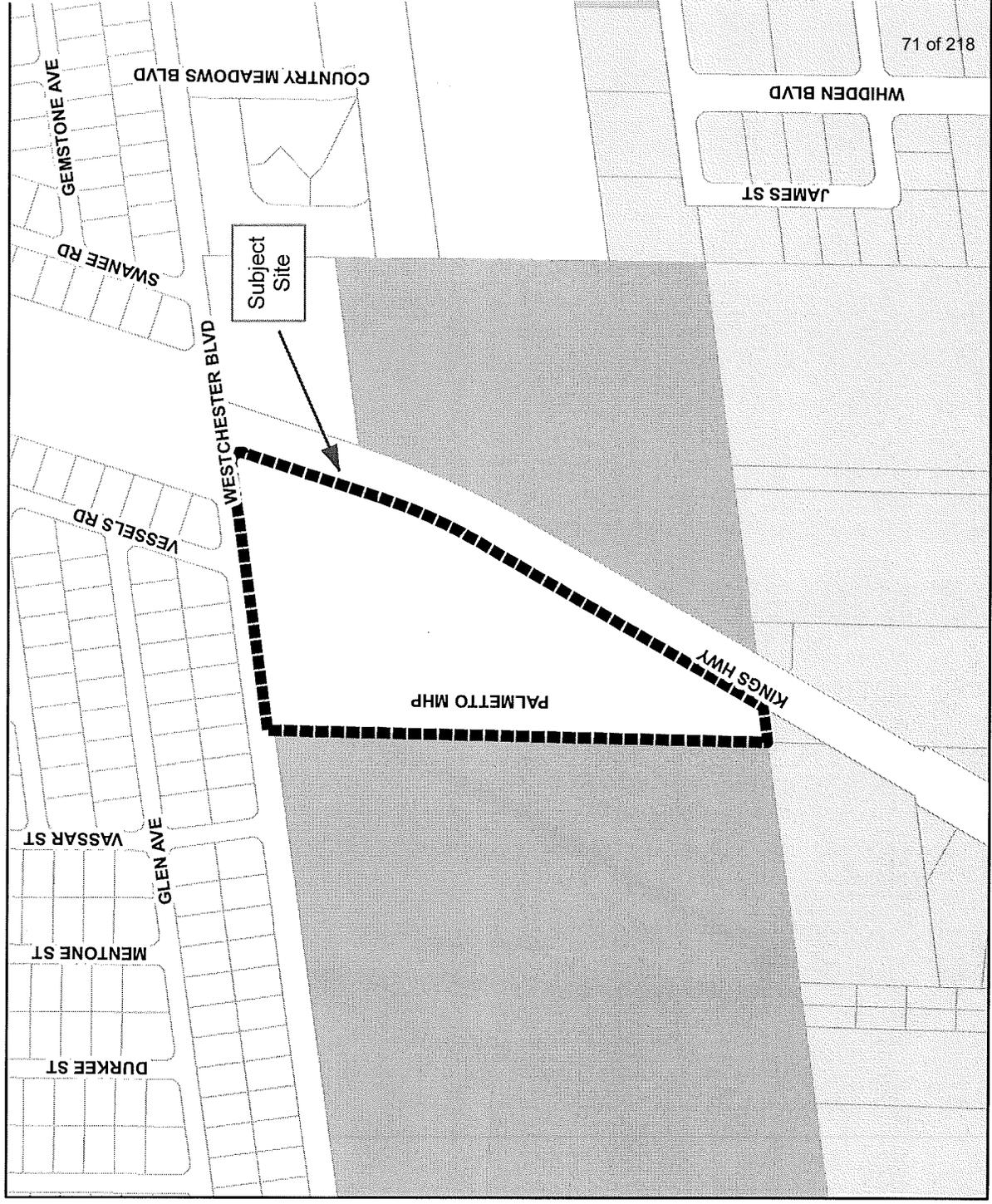


PA-11-05-10-LS Existing 2030 FLUM



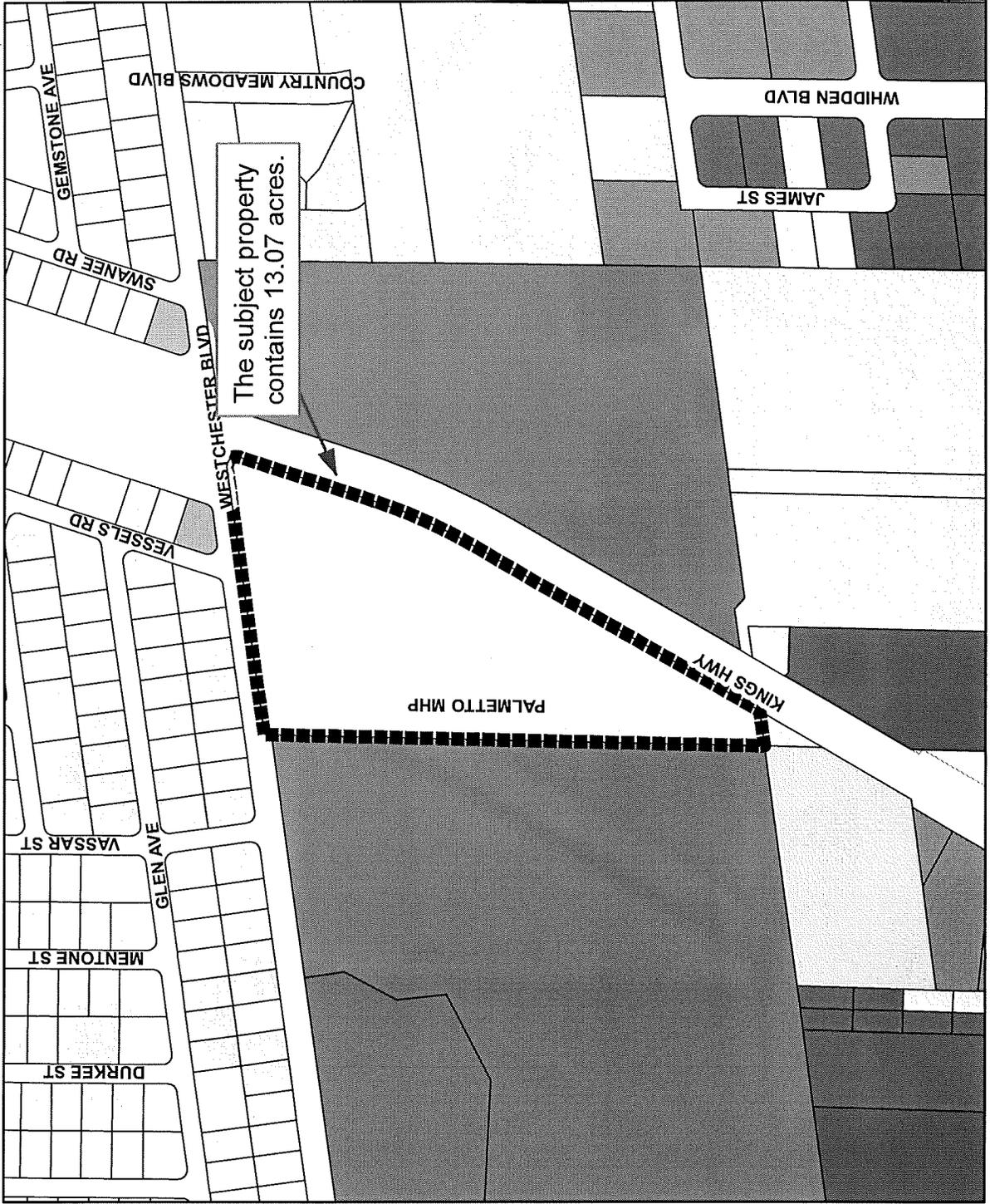
Legend

- Agriculture
- Babcock Mixed Use
- Burnt Store Limited Development
- Burnt Store Village Residential
- City
- Commercial
- Office & Institutional
- Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park
- Mineral Resource Extraction
- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Low Intensity Industrial
- High Intensity Industrial
- Murdock Village Mixed Use
- DRI Mixed Use
- Compact Growth Mixed Use
- Parks & Recreation
- Preservation
- Public Lands & Facilities
- Resource Conservation
- Rural Community Mixed Use
- US 41 Mixed Use
- Charlotte Harbor Coastal Residential
- Charlotte Harbor Tourist
- Charlotte Harbor Mixed Use
- Charlotte Harbor Commercial
- Charlotte Harbor Neighborhood Business/Residential
- Charlotte Harbor Industrial (inactivated)
- Recreational Vehicle Park (inactivated)
- Coastal Residential (Inactivated)
- Rural Estate Residential (inactivated)

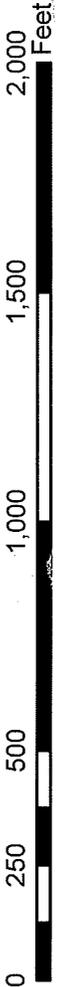




PA-11-05-10-LS Existing Land Use Map



- legend**
- Residential
 - Commercial
 - Industrial
 - Agricultural
 - Recreational
 - Conservation
 - Educational
 - Medical
 - Public Buildings & Grounds
 - Mining Sites
 - Burial Grounds
 - Marina
 - Institutional
 - Water
 - Miscellaneous
 - Vacant



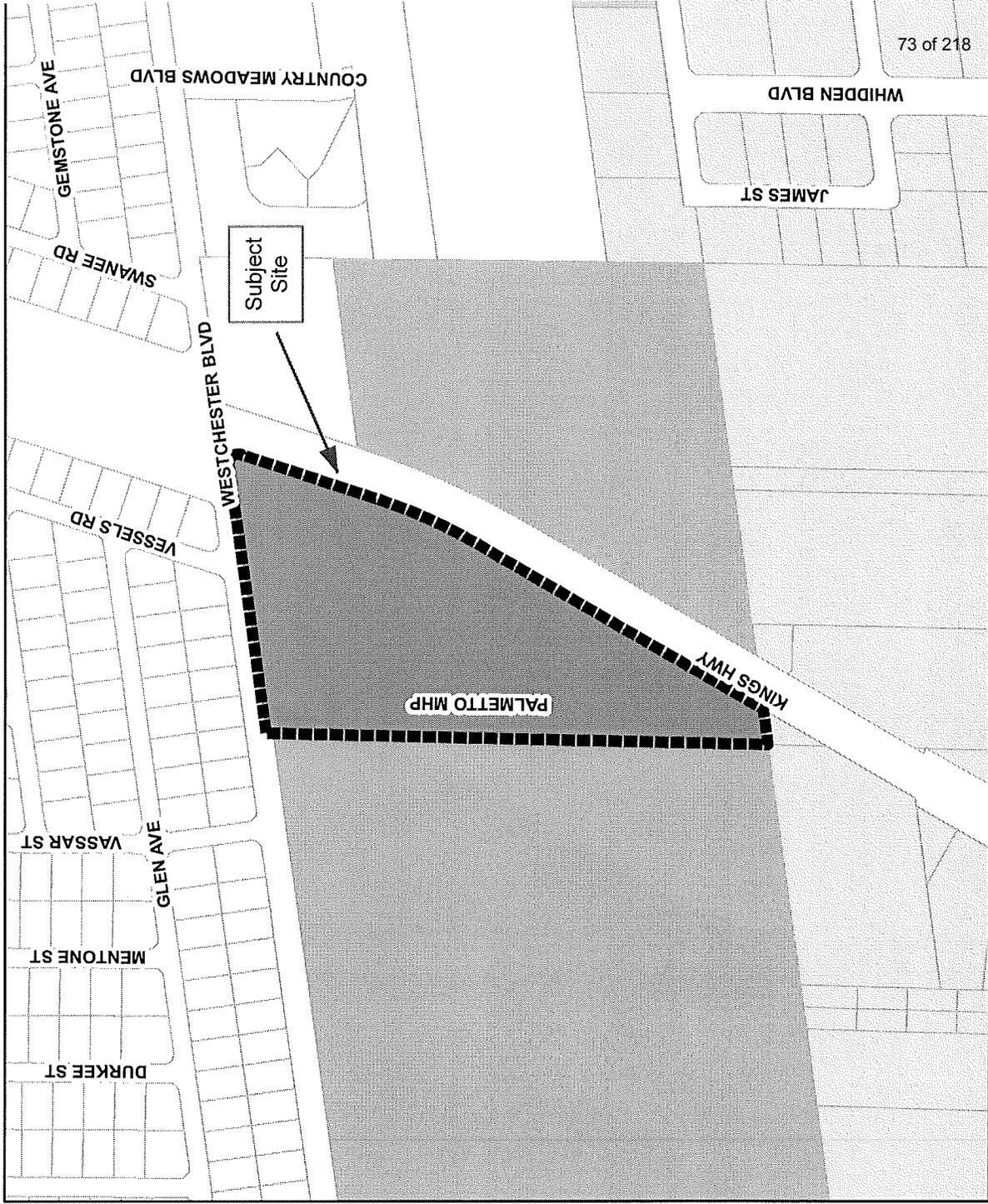


PA-11-05-10-LS Proposed 2030 FLUM



Legend

-  Agriculture
-  Babcock Mixed Use
-  Burnt Store Limited Development
-  Burnt Store Village Residential
-  City
-  Commercial
-  Office & Institutional
-  Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park
-  Mineral Resource Extraction
-  Low Density Residential
-  Medium Density Residential
-  High Density Residential
-  Low Intensity Industrial
-  High Intensity Industrial
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-  DRI Mixed Use
-  Compact Growth Mixed Use
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-  Preservation
-  Public Lands & Facilities
-  Resource Conservation
-  Rural Community Mixed Use
-  US 41 Mixed Use
-  Charlotte Harbor Coastal Residential
-  Charlotte Harbor Tourist
-  Charlotte Harbor Mixed Use
-  Charlotte Harbor Commercial
-  Charlotte Harbor Neighborhood Business/Residential
-  Charlotte Harbor Industrial (inactivated)
-  Recreational Vehicle Park (inactivated)
-  Coastal Residential (Inactivated)
- Rural Estate Residential (inactivated)

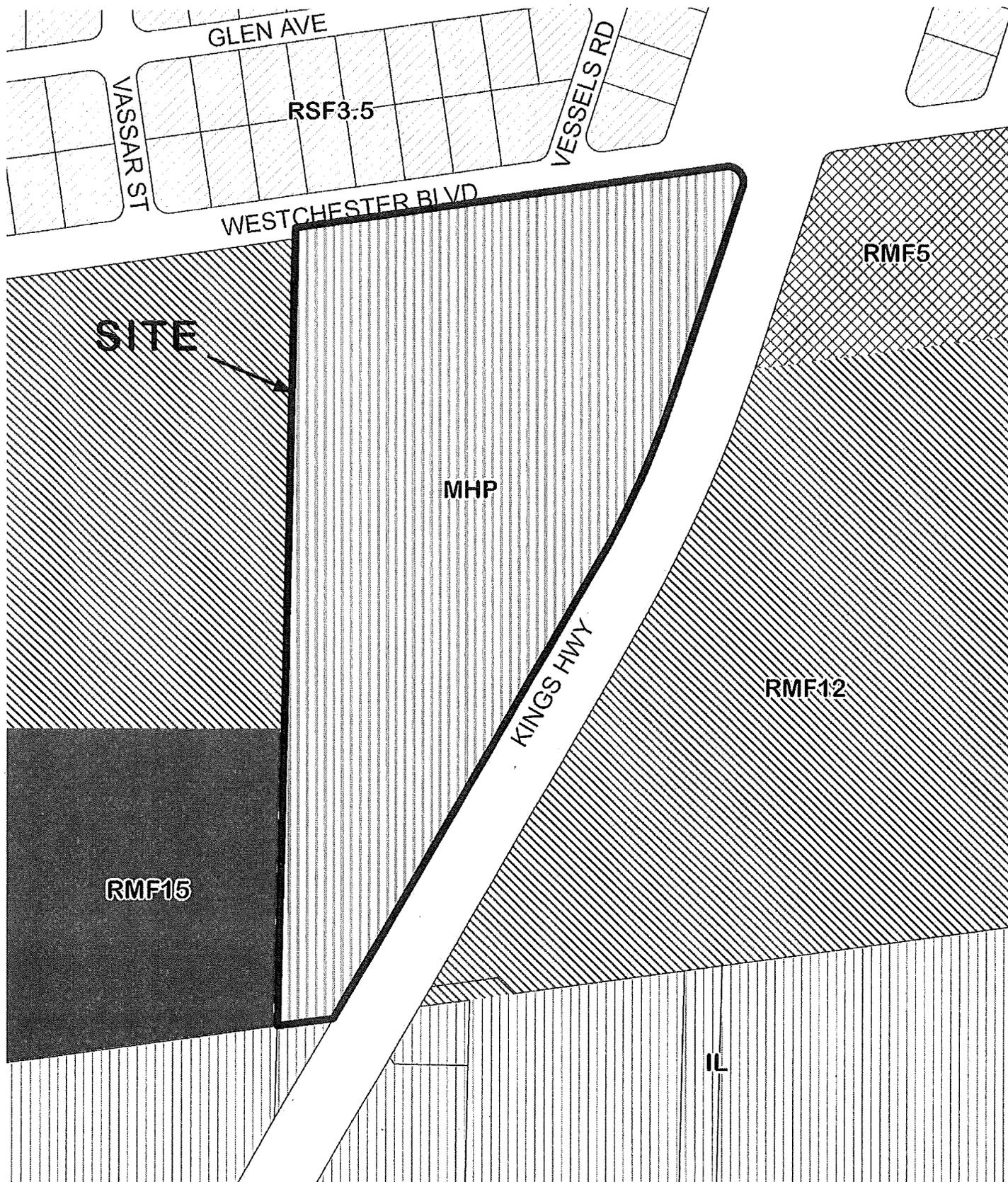




Open for Business

PA-11-05-10-LS & Z-11-05-11 SEAHORSE MARINA Zoning Districts

74 of 218
Map Prepared By
Charlotte County
Building and
Growth Management



24 & 25/40/22 Mid County

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NOT TO SCALE

Agenda

Item

7d

Broadband Planning Project
Quarterly Report

7d

7d

BROADBAND FLORIDA PLANNING GRANT

The Florida Broadband Planning Project is a two-year project that will develop a structured, comprehensive process for a regional broadband plan, particularly for areas that have been traditionally underserved. The plan will develop and implement regional planning process, toolkits and training materials that can be integrated into the current work of the RPCs to assist regions to develop broadband plans. The project will inventory and document local broadband assets and broadband demand through an inclusive process that draws residents and institutional actors to develop a comprehensive regional plan.

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) has entered into a collaborative effort with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC), and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC). The SWFRPC contract agreement provides funding for this two-year Florida Broadband Planning Project. The amount funded to the SWFRPC is \$308,800 with SWFRPC and its partners providing an additional \$79,200 in matching in-kind funds. The project began on July 1, 2011 and ends on June 30, 2013.

The SWFRPC is tasked with developing a toolkit and training manual focused on Community Organization Development. This task allows for development of framework and process that will identify, include and attract community experts. Develop and executive programs that will create awareness and training as to the benefits of broadband planning, economic development, public safety, education, health care and government effectiveness among others.

Broadband Florida's goal is to provide Florida with a unified vision and planning framework to stimulate sustainable investment in broadband infrastructure, adoption, literacy, computer ownership, access and participation in the digital economy.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None: Information Item/Quarter 1 Report

10/2011

**Local/Regional Broadband Planning Project
Quarterly Report
For the Quarter Ending September 30, 2011 (Project Quarter 1 of 8)**

Part 1 – Project Staff and Matching Funds

Project Staff

Provide the total number of jobs (FTEs) created or retained by the Local/Regional Broadband Planning Project: **0.3**

Provide the position title, % of time spent working on the project, and start dates for each person working on the project in this quarter:

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>% of Time</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Planning Director	1.92%	4/4/2008
Senior Planner/Network Administrator	12.16%	5/3/1999
Information Specialist/Webmaster	13.94%	4/5/2006
GIS Manager	0.77%	3/1/1993
GIS Analyst	0.77%	2/26/2007
Senior Administrative Specialist	0.38%	8/19/1991
Account Clerk	0.19%	3/9/2006

Matching Funds

What is the amount of matching funds expended in this quarter? \$ **6,505.00**

**Local/Regional Broadband Planning Project
Quarterly Report
For the Quarter Ending September 30, 2011 (Project Quarter 1 of 8)**

Part 2 - Narrative

1. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved project plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity/milestone that you plan to complete and your current status. (Answer below.)

The following describes the progress made against each project task, goals and milestones:

- 2.1. A draft version of a unified database for community organization contacts:
The draft version of a unified database for community organization contacts was created using Microsoft Access database. 2007. This task is on schedule with the first draft submitted this quarter. A database template was created for review and comment period amongst the team. The template was also populated with data from the Southwest Florida Regional to accurately test the functionality. This template database provides the framework for citizen participation and all future community organization contact tasks.
Status: 100% complete
- 2.1.1. Documentation/reporting of development of an initial contact list for citizen participation process:
The reporting of the development of an initial contact list for citizen participation process was challenging with the unidentified pilot areas. The SWFRPC quickly made the determination to use the discussed coastal counties in our region. This task was completed in draft format with the possibility of revisiting to narrow down contact list per identified areas. The database template will allow queries for the pilot areas to be determined as needed.
Status: 100% complete
- 2.1.2. Documentation/reporting of development of an initial contact list with media:
Once the contact list was determined, data gathering began to identify and input media contacts into the database for the identified coastal communities. This task is in draft format with the possibility of revisiting to narrow down contact list with media contacts per identified areas.
Status: 100% complete
- 2.1.3. Documentation/reporting of development of an initial contact list with economic development, education, and community anchor institutions:

Once the contact list was determined, data gathering began to identify contacts associated with economic development, education and community anchor institutions. This task is complete in draft format with the possibility of revisiting to narrow down contact list per identified areas.

Status: 100% complete

2.2 A draft list of potential participants for Local Broadband Advisory Committee in each pilot planning region and establish initial contact:

Once the community anchor institutions were identified, staff worked with local partners to identify a list of potential participants for the Local Broadband Advisory Committee. This task is underway, however with the pilot test regions changing, the initial list represents a large area of the coastal Southwest Florida areas.

Status: 100% complete

2.3 Documentation/reporting of meeting logistics planning (dates, times, locations, venues) for Local Broadband Advisory Committee Meetings:

This task is ongoing. The first meeting has been determined with tentative subsequent meetings. As we determine the pilot areas, we can then focus on meeting logistics for each meeting. The goal is to identify pilot areas in the second quarter.

Status: 100% complete

2.4 Documentation/reporting of advertising and publishing of Local Broadband Advisory:

This task is ongoing. As meetings are scheduled, the advertising will be implemented.

Status: 100% complete

2.5 Committee meetings on regional planning websites, social media sites and email Distributions:

This task is ongoing. As meetings are scheduled, the posting of meetings on websites and social media will be implemented.

Status: 100% complete

2. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing. (Answer below.)

The challenges the SWFRPC has encountered during quarter one is the unresolved issue regarding identifying the pilot testing areas. As we move forward accomplishing our

tasks assigned, we struggle with providing specific contact data for targeted areas. With the discussion still on the table, the SWFRPC quickly made the determination to use our region's coastal counties (Charlotte, Collier, Lee and Sarasota). Once the final determination is made of the specific pilot areas, we can then pull out or query the focused areas for each task assigned for quarter one and the upcoming quarters.

3. Does the project team anticipate any changes to the current project plan for broadband planning? If so, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the project plan before they can be implemented. (Answer below.)

The project team does not anticipate any changes to the current project plan.

4. For any funds expended for a subcontract, please identify the name of the subcontractor and the amount expended in this quarter. (Answer below.)

N/A

5. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your broadband planning project. (Answer below.)

During this quarter, the SWFRPC worked diligently to produce a Broadband logo that would be approved by the entire team as the identified project logo. Numerous draft versions were submitted, which lead to several team discussions regarding font color, font style and the Florida globe graphic. After a group discussion, the team agreed and selected a logo to be used as the final version.

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7e

Southwest Florida Hazardous
Materials/Emergency
Preparedness Training
Update

7e

7e

SWFRPC/SWF LEPC Sponsored Hazardous Materials Awareness Training

Introduction

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) and the Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee for Hazardous Materials (LEPC) continues to provide outstanding hazardous materials training and assistance to emergency responders and government officials of the region. As in previous periods, the Southwest Florida LEPC/SWFRPC is providing free training to government employees of the region. Continuing education and training are essential parts of our mission to provide comprehensive emergency preparedness systems throughout Southwest Florida. Training opportunities can take many forms, from informal “in-house” sessions to major full-scale exercises. Listed below are highlights of recent course conducted in Southwest Florida during the month of September and future courses the LEPC and SWRPC are sponsoring:

Course	Name	Date	Location	# of Attendees
Hazmat Chemistry IQ Course		9/27/2011	Cape Coral Fire Department	28 (Class limited to 30 students)
Hazmat Chemistry IQ Course		9/28/2011	Bonita Springs Fire Department	28 (Class limited to 30 students)
Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Training (HSEEP)		11/9/2011	Florida Department of Law Enforcement (Fort Myers)	TBD (Class limited to 35 students)
Operational Level Response to Hazmat/WMD Incidents FEMA Course		1/18/2012-1/20/2012	Florida Department of Law Enforcement (Fort Myers)	TBD (Class limited to 40 students)
Operational Level Response to Hazmat/WMD Incidents FEMA Course		1/23/2012-1/25/2012	Doctor’s Hospital (Sarasota)	TBD (Class limited to 40 students)
				56 (Attendees)

Course Overview

Hazmat Chemistry IQ

Course Description: The training is primarily geared to first responders (Fire, Law Enforcement, and EMS). Hazmat IQ is a patented Hazmat/WMD Response System incorporating a set of SMART CHARTS formulated from years of Hazmat emergency response experience.

Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Training (HSEEP)

Course Description: Topic will include HSEEP principles, types of Exercises, and using HSEEP to provide structure for preparing an exercise plan.

Operational Level Response to Hazmat/WMD Incidents

Course Description: This course focuses on the unique personal protection challenges that responders face during a weapon of mass destruction (WMD)/terrorist incident or a hazardous materials incident. Per-212 is based on NFPA 472 (2008) consensus standard operations-level core competencies and PPE Mission specific competency; OSHA (29 CFR 1910.120) and EPA (40 CFR PART 311) response regulations. PER 212 provides the knowledge and skills needed to obtain certification through the National Professional Qualifications System (NPQS/Pro Broad) as an Operations-level responder.

Major course topics include:

- Assessing WMD Hazards
- Predicting the likely behavior of WMD materials
- Identifying Hazmat strategies for a WMD incident
- Effectively operating and communicating in the command structure of the Incident Command System (ICS)
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needs
- Donning PPE
- Performing emergency decontamination

RECOMMENDATION:

None (Information Item)

10/2011

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7f

Babcock Ranch Master
Development Order – Notice
of Proposed Change

7f

7f

BABCOCK RANCH MASTER DEVELOPMENT ORDER
DRI # 03-0607-177
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Background:

The Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners (the Board) originally approved the Babcock Ranch Master Development Order (MDO) on December 13, 2007 (DRI # 03-0607-177). The Florida Department of Community Affairs (FDCA) filed an appeal of Development Order Resolution 2007-196 on January 28, 2008. On June 17, 2008 the Board adopted Resolution 2008-063 which incorporated settlement language into the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) approval conditions requiring the analysis of cumulative project traffic impacts during each incremental traffic study

The Babcock Ranch Master DRI consists of 13,630 ± acres and is located in southeastern Charlotte County, north of Lee County Road (CR) 78, south of Charlotte County Road (CR) 74 and immediately east of Florida State Road 31 (see Attachment I: Location Map). As currently approved conceptually, the Babcock Ranch MDO allows for the construction of 17,870 residential units (11,616 single family and 6,254 multi-family), 2,925,943 square feet of commercial retail/service space, 1,400,000 square feet of office, 500,000 square feet of medical office, 664,057 square feet of industrial uses, 600 hotel rooms, 177 hospital beds, 418 adult living facility units, 120,000 square feet of church uses, six school sites, 275 acres of parks, 150,000 square feet of government/civic uses and 54 holes of golf. Original buildout of the Babcock Ranch Community was anticipated to occur over 22 years until 2030 with a development order termination date of 2037.

Previous Changes

As listed in the next paragraph, there has been one previous change to the Babcock Ranch MDO that went through a state law required notice of proposed change process. However, two non NOPC changes have occurred. The first was a staff memorandum dated June 10, 2009 to the Board that allowed for a one year delay in the traffic reanalysis required by the MDO in condition 5.B.(2)(a)(1). A second was in Resolution 2010-112 adopted on December 14, 2010 which was an amendment to replace a letter from developer with FDOT Agreement regarding transportation improvements as Exhibit L to MDO

On December 15, 2009 a propose change was approved by the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners revising MDO transportation reanalysis timing conditions and revisions to the MDO Map H to indicate Increment 1 boundary areas including the optional Florida Power and Light 75 MW solar photovoltaic electrical generating facility

Proposed Changes:

The applicant for the proposed change is Babcock Property Holdings, LLC. The Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) was submitted to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council on July 26, 2011. The change is to revise the office entitlement from 2,064,175 to 3,500,000 square feet and retail entitlement from 2,925,943 to 1,400,000 square feet and to revise Exhibit "F" to reflect results of the required Master Traffic Study Update. Also, proposed is an extension to buildout from December 31, 2030 to July 5, 2036. This includes a 4 year 364 day extension and a 187 day appeal tolling period from the time the original

MDO was adopted on December 13, 2007 to June 17, 2008. This extension is also made to conform to the recently adopted 2035 MPO/County Long-Range Transportation Plan Updates which were relied on for purposes of this Master Traffic Study Update.

Regional Staff Analysis:

The proposed change to extend the buildout from December 31, 2030 to July 5, 2036 are considered 380.06(19)(c)1 and 2. Florida Statutes (F.S.) type changes. This includes a 4 year 364 day extension and a 187 day appeal tolling period from the time the original MDO was adopted on December 13, 2007 to June 17, 2008. These extensions are not a substantial deviation. The statutory language that applies to these changes is as follows.

380.06(19)(c)1.F.S. An extension of the date of buildout, or any phase thereof, of more than 5 years but not more than 7 years is presumed not to create a substantial deviation. The extension of the date of buildout of an areawide development of regional impact by more than 5 years but less than 10 years is presumed not to create a substantial deviation. These presumptions may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence at the public hearing held by the local government. An extension of 5 years or less is not a substantial deviation.

2. For the purpose of calculating when a buildout or phase date has been exceeded, the time shall be tolled during the pendency of administrative or judicial proceedings relating to development permits. Any extension of the buildout date of a project or a phase thereof shall automatically extend the commencement date of the project, the termination date of the development order, the expiration date of the development of regional impact, and the phases thereof if applicable by a like period of time.

The proposed changes to increase office and decrease retail is defined as a Chapter 380.06(19)(e)5.b.F. S. type change. The statutory language for this section is as follows

5. The following changes to an approved development of regional impact shall be presumed to create a substantial deviation. Such presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.
 - b. Notwithstanding any provision of paragraph (b) to the contrary, a proposed change consisting of simultaneous increases and decreases of at least two of the uses within an authorized multiuse development of regional impact which was originally approved with three or more uses specified in F.S. s. 380.0651(3)(c), (d), and (e) and residential use.

To butt the presumption of a substantial deviation the applicant provided a full Master transportation reanalysis.

Summary of key resolution for the traffic analysis:

- The conditions of the Master Development Order were met.
- The sub-area model validation of the FDOT D1 model was performed.

- The NOPC did not create a substantial deviation.
- Provisions of Sections 380.06, and 163.3180 F.S., were satisfied.
- Provisions of Rule 9J-2.045, F.A.C. were satisfied.

Methodology

An initial methodology meeting to discuss the Master Traffic Study Update was held on September 13, 2010. The discussions at the meeting included a summary outline of the transportation methodology presented by the applicant's consultant, David Plummer and Associates. A draft of the FDOT District One Question 21 Transportation DRI Methodology Guidelines dated September 9, 2010 and Project Funding & Backlog dated February 9, 2010 were also distributed FDOT and discussed at the meeting.

The applicant submitted a formal methodology statement dated October 21, 2010. Reflective of comments and recommendations provided by the public agencies, a revised transportation methodology statement was resubmitted on December 3, 2010. With concurrence of the proposed transportation methodology by the state and local agencies, a notification of approval of the proposed transportation methodology was issued by the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council on January 11, 2011 (Appendix A).

BRC Sub-Area Model Validation

The BRC MDO specifies that the initial Master Traffic Study Update shall utilize the FDOT District 1 District-wide travel model. A BRC sub-area model validation was performed to establish the reliability of the District-wide model to produce reasonable traffic volume forecasts within the BRC study area.

The Florida Department of Transportation District 1 District-Wide Sub-Area Model Validation Report was prepared by the applicant's consultant, David Plummer and Associates and submitted to the public agencies on September 16, 2010 for review. Notification of acceptance of the BRC sub-area model validation was issued by FDOT on October 19, 2010 (Appendix B).

To rebut the presumption of a substantial deviation, the NOPC application included a traffic reanalysis which consists of the following:

- Master Traffic Study Update based on the sub-area validated District-Wide travel model.
- The buildout horizon year was established at 2035, consistent with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO and the Lee County MPO Long-Range Transportation Plan horizon year.
- A reduction of the retail use from 2,925,943 square feet to 1,400,000 square feet. The general office use was increased from 1,400,000 square feet to 3,000,000 square feet.
- Re-assessment of the internal capture and external trips.

The proposed BRC development at buildout is shown in the applicant's table below.

Development Parameters

<u>Land Use</u>	<u>Total</u>
Single-Family	11,616 d.u.
Multifamily	<u>6,254 d.u.</u>
Total Residential	17,870 d.u.
Hotel	600 rooms
Industrial	650,000 sq. ft.
Retail	1,400,000 sq. ft.
Service	
Office/Service/Medical	3,500,000 sq. ft.
Golf Course	54 holes
Hospital	177 beds
ALF	418 units
Church	120,000 sq. ft.
Schools	5 schools
Parks	275 acres
Government/Civic	120,000 sq. ft.

Trip Generation and Internal Capture

The appropriate method to estimate internal capture for BRC has been debated since the inception of the project. The internal capture rate (ICR) has been estimated anywhere from 22% to 70%. The condition of the MDO specifies that the true internal capture will be established through the monitoring of the external trips throughout the life of the development. Nonetheless, consensus was reached between the review agencies and the applicant's consultant on an acceptable methodology in the estimation of internal capture for this Master Traffic Study Update.

Trip Generation Summary
Buildout (2035)

	<u>PM Peak Hour</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily</u>
	<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>		
Total	12,404	13,157	25,561	258,238
Internal/ Community Capture	7,654	7,681	15,335	179,534
Internal Pass-By	600	603	1,203	0
External	4,150	4,873	9,023	78,704+

Substantial Deviation Presumption Rebuttal

Per the MDO, the initial Master Traffic Study Update is to be reviewed and processed as an NOPC and as a non-substantial deviation. Furthermore, the proposed emphasis towards the development of more office space and less retail space has resulted in a reduction of the overall trip generation impact on average of approximately 14 percent.

ITE Trip Generation Comparison

	(1) <u>AMDA</u>	(2) <u>NOPC</u>	<u>Trip Diff.</u>	<u>% Diff.</u>
Daily	302,258	258,238	-44,020	-14.6%
PM Peak Hour	29,627	25,561	-4,066	-13.7%

Footnote:

(1) The Babcock Ranch Community Application for Master Development Approval, Sufficiency Response #2.

(2) Master Traffic Study Update.

Therefore, the NOPC application for the requested changes has rebutted the presumption of a substantial deviation by clear and convincing evidence.

Future Roadway Conditions without BRC

In response to HB 7207 (2011), the applicant prepared an analysis of Future Roadway Conditions at Buildout without BRC at year 2035. Since a transportation proportionate share is not performed as part of the Master DRI, the traffic analysis without BRC was provided for information purposes.

Future Roadway Conditions with BRC

The applicant's analysis of Future Roadway Conditions with BRC at year 2035 is provided in separate tables covering Charlotte/Glades/DeSoto counties and Lee/Hendry counties.

Significant and Adverse Impacts

The applicant's transportation analysis identified the following significant and adverse impacts attributed to the buildout of the Master DRI at year 2035.

Significantly and Adversely Impacted Roadways

<u>Roadway</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Charlotte County:		
SR 31	Lee County Line	Project Entrance/

		Cook Brown Road CR 74
I-75	Project Entrance/ Cook Brown Road Lee County Line Tuckers Grade N. Jones Loop Road	Tuckers Grade N. Jones Loop Road US 17
US 41	Lee County Line Zemel Road Oil Well Road	Zemel Road Oil Well Road Notre Dame Boulevard
Taylor Road	Burnt Store Road Airport Road	Airport Road US 41
CR 74	US 17	SR 31
Lee County:		
Bayshore Road	US 41 Business 41 Slater Road I-75 Nalle Road	Business 41 Hart Road I-75 Nalle Road SR 31
Buckingham Road	Orange River Boulevard	SR 80
Business 41	US 41	Littleton Road
Colonial Boulevard	V.S. Shoemaker Boulevard Winkler Avenue Ortiz Boulevard	Winkler Avenue Ortiz Boulevard I-75
Del Prado Boulevard	Slater Road US 41	Hart Road Kismet Parkway
I-75	Daniels Parkway Colonial Boulevard SR 82 Lockett Road SR 80 SR 78	Colonial Boulevard SR 82 Lockett Road SR 80 SR 78
Ortiz Avenue	SR 80 Lockett Road SR 82 Hanson Street	Charlotte County Line Lockett Road SR 82 Hanson Street Colonial Boulevard
Orange River Boulevard	Staley Road	Buckingham Road
Pine Island Road	NE 24 th Avenue	US 41
SR 31	SR 80 Bayshore Road North River Road	Bayshore Road North River Road N. of North River Road
SR 80	N. of North River Road Seaboard Street V. S. Shoemaker Blvd. Ortiz Avenue	Charlotte County Line V. S. Shoemaker Blvd. Ortiz Avenue I-75

	I-75	SR 31
	SR 31	Tropic Avenue
	Tropic Avenue	Buckingham Road
	Buckingham Road	Hickey Creek
US 41	Pine Island Road	Littleton Road
	Del Prado Extension	Charlotte County Line

Recommended Improvements with BRC

Based on the transportation analysis and the above significantly and adversely impacted roadway segments by BRC, the applicant identified a list of recommended improvements to address the anticipated roadway deficiencies identified in the Master Traffic Study Update. The recommended improvements were reviewed by local and state agencies containing written comments and recommendations from the following.

- Lee County DOT
- Charlotte County
- Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

The applicant responded in writing to the comments and recommendations on September 2, 2011 ((1) Response to Review Comments; (2) Q21 - Amended Pages; (3) Exhibit F-MDO-Pg3-Amended and was not included as Appendix C as suggested by the consultant). A follow-up teleconference was then arranged by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) (formerly DCA) on September 6, 2011 that successfully resolved all outstanding issues in regards to the NOPC application and the Master Traffic Study Update (Appendix D). In addition, Lee County DOT provided final comments on October 6, 2011 and the response from David Plummer and Associates of October 7, 2011 (Appendix E) concluded that the BRC recommended improvements for Lee County maintained roads were consistent with the Lee County MPO LRTP or the Lee Comprehensive Plan (see Appendix F). Finally, DEO provided an email (see Appendix G) 30 day review letter stating review questions were adequately addressed.

2035 Recommended Improvements⁽³⁾

<u>Roadway</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>E+C Lanes (1)</u>	<u>Recommended # of Lanes (2)</u>
Charlotte County:				
SR 31	Lee County	Project Entrance	2	4
	Project Entrance	CR 74	2	2
I-75	Lee County Line	Tuckers Grade	4	6
	Tuckers Grade	N. Jones Loop Road	4	6
	N. Jones Loop Road	US 17	4	6
US 41	Lee County Line	Zemel Road	4	6
	Zemel Road	Oil Well Road	4	6
	Oil Well Road	Notre Dame Blvd.	4	6

Taylor Road	Burnt Store Road	Airport Road	2	2
	Acline Road	US 41	2	2
CR 74	US 17	SR 31	2	2
New East-West Corridor	SR 31	Lee County Line	0	4
Lee County:				
Bayshore Road	US 41	Business 41	4	4 w/ Littleton Rd. Ext.
	Business 41	Hart Road	4	4 w/ Littleton Rd. Ext.
	Slater Road	I-75	4	6
	I-75	Nalle Road	2	4
	Nalle Road	SR 31	2	4
Buckingham Road	Orange River Blvd.	SR 80	2	4
Business 41	US 41	Littleton Road	2	4
Colonial Boulevard	V. Shoemaker Blvd.	Winkler Avenue	6	Hanson St. Ext. & BRT
	Winkler Avenue	Ortiz Avenue	6	Hanson St. Ext. & BRT
	Ortiz Avenue	I-75	6	Hanson St. Ext. & BRT
Del Prado Blvd.	Slater Road	Hart Road	2	2
	US 41	Kismit Parkway	4	6
I-75	Daniels Parkway	Colonial Boulevard	6	8
	Colonial Boulevard	SR 82	6	8
	SR 82	Luckett Road	6	8
	Luckett Road	SR 80	6	8
	SR 80	SR 78	4	8
	SR 78	Charlotte Co. Line	4	6
Ortiz Avenue	SR 80	Luckett Road	2	4
	Luckett Road	SR 82	2	4
	SR 82	Hanson Street	2	4
	Hanson Street	Colonial Blvd.	2	4
Orange River Blvd.	Staley Road	Buckingham Road	2	2
Pine Island Road	NE 24 th Avenue	US 41	4	6
SR 31	SR 80	SR 78	2	4
	SR 78	North River Road	2	6
	North River Road	N. of North River Rd.	2	6
	N. of North River Rd.	County Line	2	4
SR 80	V. Shoemaker Blvd.	Ortiz Avenue	4	4
	Ortiz Avenue	I-75	6	6
	I-75	SR 31	4	6
	SR 31	Tropic Avenue	4	6
	Tropic Avenue	Buckingham Road	4	6
	Buckingham Road	Hickey Creek	4	6
	Hickey Cressk	Alva Bridge	4	4
US 41	Pine Island Road	Littleton Road	4	6
	Del Prado Extension	Charlotte Co. Line	4	6
New East-West Corridor	Charlotte Co. Line	I-75	0	4
Del Prado Ext. N	I-75	Del Prado Ext. E.	0	4

I-75 Interchange	Del Prado Ext. N.	New E-W Corridor	No	Yes
Hanson Street	V. Shoemaker Blvd.	Ortiz Ave.	0	4
Extension	Ortiz Ave.	Forum Blvd.	0	4
Littleton Road	US 41	Business 41	2 ⁽⁴⁾	4
Littleton Rd. Ext.	Business 41	SR 78/Slater Rd.	0	2

Footnote:

- (1) Beyond E+C network. Number of lanes needed for capacity purposes. These are not necessarily the recommended improvements. Improvements may be widening of existing roadways and/or new roadways.
- (2) Recommendation only. Does not represent actual mitigation, proportionate share calculation or pipelining of improvements.
- (3) Reflects improvements to roadways that are significantly and adversely impacted by BRC.
- (4) Typographic correction by SWFRPC on October 10, 2011 to reflect the E+C Network.

The notable recommended improvement is a new East-West Corridor that connects SR 31 in Charlotte County with the future Del Prado Boulevard Extension/I-75 interchange in Lee County. The East-West Corridor is identified in the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO LRTP as a potential but unfunded facility. The Del Prado Boulevard Extension/I-75 interchange is identified in the I-75 Master Plan and in the Lee County MPO LRTP as a needed and partially funded improvement.

The recommended improvements for the Master DRI are for planning purposes only. The identified list of recommended improvements should not be misconstrued as commitments by Charlotte County, Lee County, FDOT or BRC. The identified list of master improvements does not represent BRC's DRI proportionate share or mitigation plan. In accordance with the BRC MDO, the DRI transportation mitigation is established at the time of Incremental DRI assessments.

Character, Magnitude, Location:

The proposed changes do not significantly change the magnitude or location of the DRI. The character will change in that there is now more office and less commercial. This change could be positive in that higher paying jobs will occur with office than retail uses. Furthermore, there will be a 14.6% reduction in the total traffic daily trips and a 13.7% reduction in PM Peak Hour trips from the project.

Regional Goals, Resources, and Facilities:

The only regional resources and facilities impacted by the changes are to transportation resources. As indicated in the Regional Staff Analysis above there will be a 14.6% reduction in the total traffic daily trips and a 13.7% reduction in PM Peak Hour trips from the project.

Multi-Jurisdictional Issues:

Regional staff has identified traffic as a multi-jurisdictional issue creating impacts that must continue to be reviewed by Charlotte and Lee Counties, FDOT, FDEO and SWFRPC.

Need For Reassessment of The DRI:

Due to the increase in office and decrease in retail, the only part of the DRI that needed reassessment was to the traffic impact reduction. The NOPC included the Master Traffic Study Update which rebutted the presumption of a substantial deviation by showing a reduction in project traffic.

Acceptance of Proposed D.O. Language:

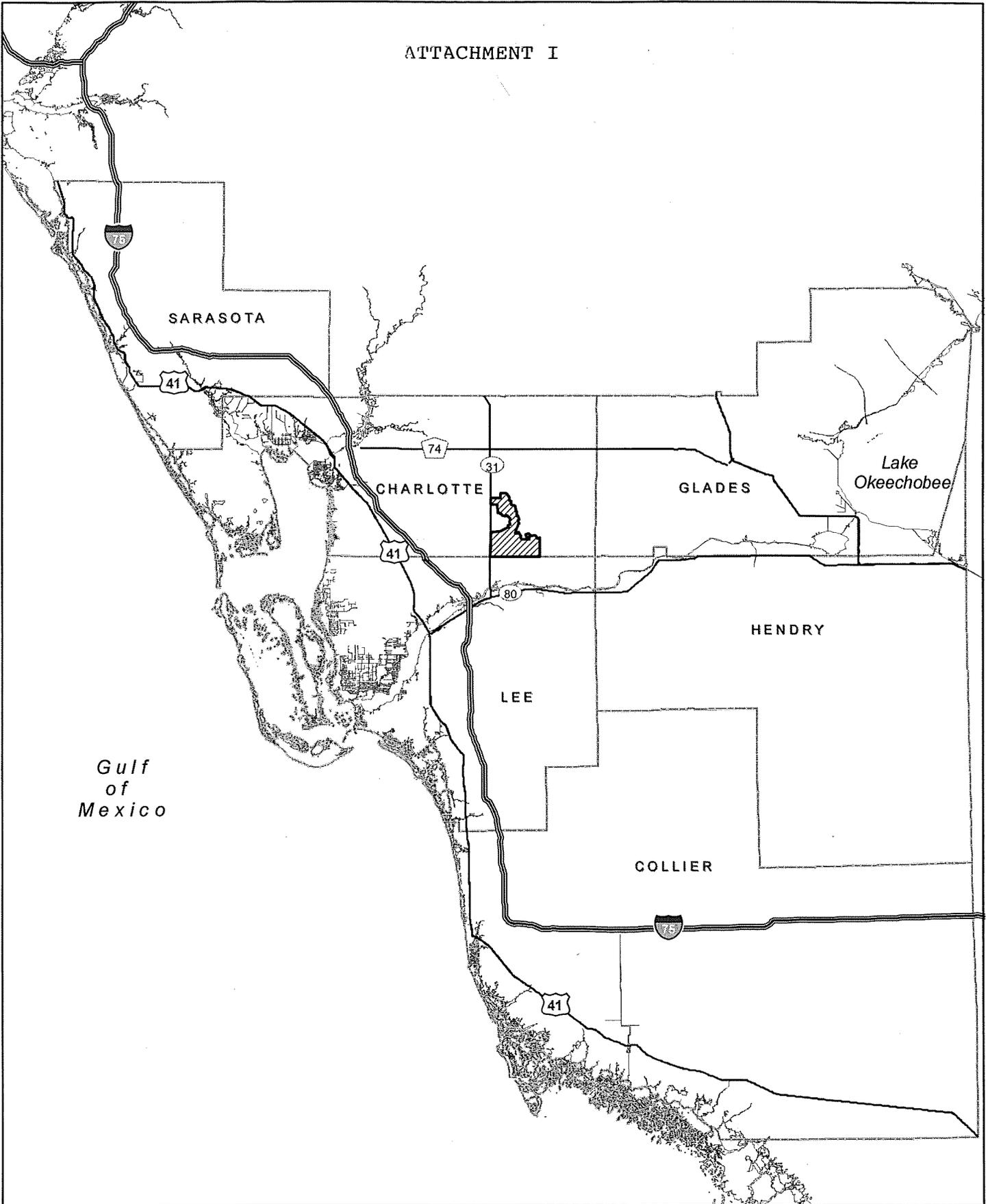
The development order language will be acceptable when pages 3 and 4 of the MDO are changed to the square footages of retail and office. Also, Exhibit "F" must be revised to reflect results of the Master Traffic Study Update, Section 26 Projected Buildout and section 5 Transportation must be amended to reflect new buildout date. DEO issued a final NOPC review letter (see Appendix H) stating the proposed update of the BR Master Traffic Study and the associated conditions of the Development Order are consistent with the requirements of Chapter 380.06, F.S. Finally, staff recommends the MDO be codified to reveal changes made to the MDO.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

- 1) Notify Charlotte County, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the applicant that the proposed DRI changes do not create a reasonable likelihood of additional regional impacts on regional resources or facilities not previously reviewed by the SWFRPC. The NOPC application has provided information to rebut the presumption of a substantial deviation.
- 2) Request that Charlotte County provide a copy of the codified development order amendment that includes the new buildout date, revised Exhibit F and any related materials, to the Council in order to ensure that the development order amendment is consistent with the NOPC and staff's recommendations above. Request the Charlotte County staff to provide the Council a copy of the above information at the same time the information is provided to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

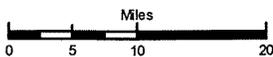
10/2011

ATTACHMENT I



Legend

 Babcock Ranch DRI



Babcock Ranch DRI Regional Location Map



APPENDIX A

Stephen Leung

From: David Hutchinson [dhutchinson@swfrc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 5:32 PM
To: Stephen Leung; Dan Trescott; Massey, Lawrence
Cc: Limbaugh, Johnny; Cahill, Maria; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; Perez, Amarilys; Jung, Rax; Babuji Ambikapathy; Jason Utley; Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; Smith, Timothy; Taylor, John; Corkery, Terrence; Gary Nelson; Erica Chutkan; Jim.Fendrick@charlottefl.com; Vattikuti, Venkat; Getch, Andrew; Don Scott; Tom Danahy; Lili Wu; Ken Heatherington; Scott, Trinity; Robert Berntsson; Jim Paulmann
Subject: RE: BRC DRI Master Traffic Study Update Methodology - FDOT Recommendations and Comments

Dear Stephen,

With the addition of Venkat's e-mail from Charlotte County added to the record (included below), and noting the concurrence of Lawrence Massey to Dan Trescott and me by telephone on January 11, 2011, please accept this notification that we believe there is agreement among all reviewing agencies that the methodology as proposed in your latest transmittal (January 10, 2011) is acceptable for the update of the Babcock Ranch Development of Regional Impact Master Traffic Study, consistent with the Master Development Order for the DRI. This includes the understanding that the latest available TAZ data from the most recently approved Long Range Transportation Plans for the Charlotte County and Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organizations will be used for the study if it is available to you by January 28, 2011.

This methodology was developed in a manner consistent with the process described in the Master Development Order for the Babcock Ranch Community DRI.

--

David L. Hutchinson
Planning Director
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
1926 Victoria Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33990
(239) 338-2550 ext. 221



Think Green & please print this e-mail only if necessary.

e-mail of 1/7/2011 5:02 pm

From: Vattikuti, Venkat [Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.com]
To: Dan Trescott; Vattikuti, Venkat
Cc: David Hutchinson; Limbaugh, Johnny; Cahill, Maria; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; Massey, Lawrence; Perez, Amarilys; Jung, Rax; Babuji Ambikapathy; Jason Utley; Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; Smith, Timothy; Taylor, John; Corkery, Terrence; Gary Nelson; Erica Chutkan; Fendrick, Jim; Getch, Andrew; Don Scott; Tom Danahy; Lili Wu; Stephen Leung; Ken Heatherington; Scott, Trinity
Subject: RE: BRC DRI Master Traffic Study Update Methodology - FDOT Recommendations and Comments

Dear Dan,

Just want to clarify one of the comments I made in my response on December 17th, 2010. I agree with the FDOT's comment related to 22% Internal Capture Rate (ICR) scenario on Page 9, however, I want to clarify my response to Pass-by Trips on Pages 10 and 11:

Charlotte County agrees with the no Pass-by trips for roadways like SR 31, but allows the internal pass-by trips for the trips that are occurring on the roadway links that end within the Community.

For example, If a person leaves from his RESIDENCE to the TOWN CENTER or OFFICE (OR

10/10/2011

VICE VERSA) which are located within in the development and stops at a land use (like GAS STATION, DAY CARE, BANK, GROCERY STORE), I strongly feel that the trip ends into those intermediate land uses are PASS-BY TRIPS. If we don't allow a certain percentage of internal pass-by trips for this kind of development, we will be at 70% trips for those intermediate uses coming from outside the development, which doesn't make sense.

If you all have any questions or need clarifications, Please call me.

Thank you for the opportunity provided by the department to comment on the referenced traffic study methodology. ..

Thank you
Venkat

Venkat Vattikuti, P.E., PTOE

Transportation Planner/ Engineer

Building and Growth Management

18500 Murdock Circle

Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Ph: (941) 623-1064

Fax: (941) 743-1228

www.charlottecountyfl.com

Please visit our [Smart Charlotte 2050 website](#)

From: Stephen Leung [mailto:stephen.leung@dplummer.com]

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 4:26 PM

To: Dan Trescott; Massey, Lawrence

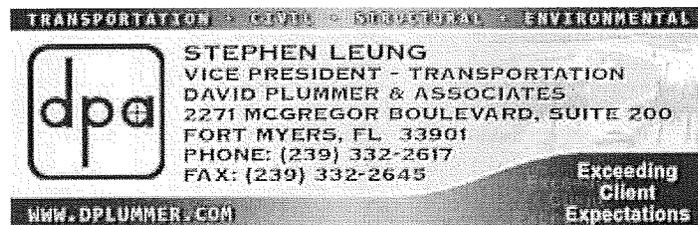
Cc: David Hutchinson; Limbaugh, Johnny; Cahill, Maria; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; Perez, Amarilys; Jung, Rax; Babuji Ambikapathy; Jason Utley; Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; Smith, Timothy; Taylor, John; Corkery, Terrence; Gary Nelson; Erica Chutkan; Jim.Fendrick@charlottefl.com; Vattikuti, Venkat; Getch, Andrew; Don Scott; Tom Danahy; Lili Wu; Ken Heatherington; Scott, Trinity; Robert Berntsson; Jim Paulmann

Subject: RE: BRC DRI Master Traffic Study Update Methodology - FDOT Recommendations and Comments

Dan,

In the attached, please find our written response to the FDOT comments and recommendations.

Thank you.



-----Original Message-----

From: Massey, Lawrence [mailto:Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl.us]

Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 3:03 PM

To: 'Dan Trescott'

Cc: 'David Hutchinson'; Limbaugh, Johnny; Cahill, Maria; 'Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us'; Perez, Amariyls; Jung, Rax; 'Babuji Ambikapathy'; 'Jason Utley'; 'Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us'; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; Smith, Timothy; Taylor, John; Corkery, Terrence; Gary Nelson; Erica Chutkan; 'Jim.Fendrick@charlottefl.com'; Vattikuti, Venkat; 'Getch, Andrew'; dscott@swfrpc.org; Tom Danahy; Lili Wu; Stephen Leung; kheatherington@swfrpc.org; Scott, Trinity

Subject: BRC DRI Master Traffic Study Update Methodology - FDOT Recommendations and Comments

Dear Dan,

Thank you for providing the department an opportunity to comment on the above referenced proposed master traffic study methodology. Please find the department's comments attached herein.

If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Lawrence Massey
Growth Management Coordinator
Florida Department of Transportation
District One, Southwest Area Urban Office
at the Southwest Interagency Facility for Transportation
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913
(239) 461-4300
Fax: (239) 338-2353

APPENDIX B

Stephen Leung

From: Massey, Lawrence [Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl.us]
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 11:45 AM
To: dscott@swfrc.org
Cc: Mark Gillis; Taylor, John; Limbaugh, Johnny; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; Stephen Leung; Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us; Mike.McDaniel@dca.state.fl.us; Vattikuti, Venkat; Fendrick, Jim; Ruggieri, Jeff; Harrell, Gary; GETCHAJ@leegov.com; loveladm@leegov.com; dscott@swfrc.org; jutley@swfrc.org; dhutchinson@swfrc.org; kheatherington@swfrc.org; Gary Nelson; Tom Danahy; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; Erica Rogan; Ernie Cox; Crawley, Bob; Perez, Amarilys
Subject: RE: D1 Sub-Area Model Validation Report, #09622

Dear Dan,

The department has reviewed the submitted Babcock 2007 sub-area validation model and report and has determined that the Babcock sub-area model (R04) meets most validation criteria for the defined study area and should provide a reasonable basis for future year Babcock community site traffic analyses.

In addition, the department offers the following comments:

1. A sub-area model validation is typically a validation refinement of a sub-area within a larger overall validated model. The department notes that for this particular year 2000 validated model, the larger overall districtwide network outside of the defined subarea has not been validated to year 2007 conditions (*the sub-area model has been validated to less than 7% (292 of 4195 directional links with counts) of the total count locations within the entire districtwide model*). Therefore, this model should not be used as a basis for traffic projections outside of the defined subarea.
2. The Validation Report documentation appears to be consistent with the sub-area model reporting, with the exception of screen line #57. For this screen line, the report documentation shows a volume to capacity ratio (V/C) of 1.05, while the model reporting (HEVAL.OUT) indicates a V/C ratio of 1.23. This discrepancy does not significantly affect the level of validation, however the department recommends that the report be corrected to reflect the correct model reporting for screen line #57.
3. The report indicates on page 25 that adjustments to the 2000 model SPDCAP table were not considered as a part of the validation effort, but the sub-area model SPDCAP table reflects considerable changes from the 2000 SPDCAP. Although these SPDCAP changes are not inappropriate, the department recommends that the report should be consistent with the changes that were made to this file.

If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Lawrence Massey
Growth Management Coordinator
Florida Department of Transportation
District One, Southwest Area Urban Office
at the Southwest Interagency Facility for Transportation
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913
(239) 461-4300
Fax: (239) 338-2353

From: Stephen Leung [mailto:stephen.leung@dplummer.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 4:48 PM

To: Stephen Leung; Massey, Lawrence; Taylor, John; Limbaugh, Johnny; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; Joseph.Murphy@dca.state.fl.us; Mike.McDaniel@dca.state.fl.us; Lynette Norr/DCA/FLEOC; Vattikuti, Venkat; Fendrick, Jim; Ruggieri, Jeff; Harrell, Gary; GETHAJ@leegov.com; loveladm@leegov.com; dscott@swfrpc.org; jutley@swfrpc.org; dtrescott@swfrpc.org; dhutchinson@swfrpc.org; kheatherington@swfrpc.org; Gary Nelson; Tom Danahy; Jim Paulmann; Rob Berntsson; Ernie Cox; Kern, Greg; jgraham@trafodata.net; dmacmurphy@trafodata.net; Erica Rogan

Cc: Mark Gillis

Subject: D1 Sub-Area Model Validation Report, #09622

On behalf of Kitson Babcock, LLC, the FDOT District 1 District-wide Sub-Area Model Validation Report and dated September 16, 2010 is available for download from the SWFRPC.

FTP site: <ftp://ftp.swfrpc.org>

Username: dri

Password: driaccess

Folder: Babcock subarea validation

Please let me know if there are any questions..

TRANSPORTATION • CIVIL • STRUCTURAL • ENVIRONMENTAL

STEPHEN LEUNG
VICE PRESIDENT - TRANSPORTATION
DAVID PLUMMER & ASSOCIATES
2271 MCGREGOR BOULEVARD, SUITE 200
FORT MYERS, FL 33901
PHONE: (239) 332-2617
FAX: (239) 332-2645

WWW.DPLUMMER.COM

Exceeding
Client
Expectations

APPENDIX D

Stephen Leung

From: Massey, Lawrence [Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2011 2:41 PM
To: dtrescott@swfrpc.org
Cc: Stephen Leung; Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us; Bob@ccmpo.com; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; JimPaulmann@WilsonMiller.com; jutley@swfrpc.org; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.com; David.Jordan@dca.state.fl.us; Mark Gillis; Tom Danahy; Romig, Robert; Cahill, Maria; Limbaugh, Johnny; Perez, Amarilys; Getch, Andrew; 'Don Scott'; 'Quick, Dan'; Gary Nelson; Jason Utley; Kern, Greg
Subject: RE: Invitation: Babcock Review Discussion (Sep 6 01:30 PM EDT in Staff Office)

Dear Dan,

Based upon the applicant's revisions to the traffic analysis in response to the department's comments, and as a result of the two agency review follow-up meetings held on 09/06/11, FDOT has no further comments pertaining to the review of the Babcock Master Development Order Notice of Proposed Change submittal.

Thank you very much,

Lawrence Massey
Growth Management Coordinator
Florida Department of Transportation
District One, Southwest Area Urban Office
at the Southwest Interagency Facility for Transportation
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913
(239) 461-4300
Fax: (239) 338-2353

From: Stephen Leung [mailto:stephen.leung@dplummer.com]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 12:30 PM
To: Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us; AGetch@leegov.com; Bob@ccmpo.com; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; dtrescott@swfrpc.org; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; JimPaulmann@WilsonMiller.com; jutley@swfrpc.org; Massey, Lawrence; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.com
Cc: David.Jordan@dca.state.fl.us; Mark Gillis; Tom Danahy
Subject: RE: Invitation: Babcock Review Discussion (Sep 6 01:30 PM EDT in Staff Office)

Please find in the attached, the following materials for the morning and afternoon discussions next Tuesday:

- (1) Response to Review Comments;
- (2) Q21 - Amended Pages;
- (3) Exhibit F-MDO-Pg3-Amended.

Thank you.

Stephen Leung

Vice President - Transportation

DAVID PLUMMER & ASSOCIATES

2149 McGregor Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Phone: 239-332-2617 Fax: 239-332-2645

www.dplummer.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us [mailto:Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 9:08 AM

To: AGetch@leegov.com; Bob@ccmpo.com; Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us; dtrescott@swfrpc.org; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; JimPaulmann@WilsonMiller.com; jutley@swfrpc.org; Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl.us; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; Stephen Leung; Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.com

Cc: David.Jordan@dca.state.fl.us

Subject: Invitation: Babcock Review Discussion (Sep 6 01:30 PM EDT in Staff Office)

Calendar Entry

Subject	Babcock Review Discussion		Chair	Suzanne Lex/DCA/FLEOC	
When	Date	09/06/2011	Invitees	Required (to) AGetch@leegov.com, Bob@ccmpo.com, Brenda Winningham/DCA/FLEOC@f dtrescott@swfrpc.org, erogan@kitsonpartners.com, JimPaulmann@WilsonMiller.c jutley@swfrpc.org, Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl rberntsson@bigwlaw.com, stephen.leung@dplummer.com Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.c	
	Time	01:30 PM - 02:30 PM (1 hour)			
Where	Staff Office		Optional (cc)		David Jordan/DCA/FLEOC@l

1-888-808-6959 Code 922-1752

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Please consider the environment - print only if necessary.

APPENDIX D

Stephen Leung

From: Stephen Leung
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2011 8:25 AM
To: 'Getch, Andrew'; Dan Trescott; bob@ccmpo.com; Shao, Jie; Vattikuti, Venkat; Gary Nelson; Gary.Grossman@charlottefl.com; Massey, Lawrence; Don Scott; Block, Alvin; MAustin@CI.PUNTA-GORDA.FL.US; Palermo, Anthony; Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us; Brenda Winningham (Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us); Russell.Schropp@henlaw.com; Paulmann, Jim; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; eandres@kitsonpartners.com
Cc: Collins, Donna Marie; Mark Gillis
Subject: RE: Babcock Ranch Master Traffic Reanalysis MDO NOPC Final Comments

Andy,

The matrix presented on page 4 and the first paragraph on page 5 of your comments identified the BRC recommended improvement for the Littleton Road Extension from Slater Road to Business 41 as four lanes. This is not the case. The BRC recommended improvement was for two lanes, consistent with the Lee County MPO LRTP. The reference from Page 21-30 is attached.

Stephen Leung

Vice President - Transportation

DAVID PLUMMER & ASSOCIATES

2149 McGregor Boulevard

Fort Myers, FL 33901

Phone: 239-332-2617 Fax: 239-332-2645

www.dplummer.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Getch, Andrew [mailto:AGetch@leegov.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2011 3:56 PM
To: Dan Trescott; bob@ccmpo.com; Shao, Jie; Vattikuti, Venkat; Gary Nelson; Gary.Grossman@charlottefl.com; Massey, Lawrence; Don Scott; Block, Alvin; MAustin@CI.PUNTA-GORDA.FL.US; Palermo, Anthony; Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us; Brenda Winningham (Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us); Russell.Schropp@henlaw.com; Stephen Leung; Paulmann, Jim; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; eandres@kitsonpartners.com
Cc: Collins, Donna Marie
Subject: RE: Babcock Ranch Master Traffic Reanalysis MDO NOPC Final Comments

As requested, please find attached the LCDOT comments

Andy Getch, P.E.
Engineering Manager I
Lee County Department of Transportation
3rd floor
1500 Monroe Street
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
direct line (239) 533-8510
LCDOT department line (239) 533-8580
FAX (239) 485-8520
getchaj@leegov.com

From: Dan Trescott [mailto:dtrescott@swfrpc.org]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 11:13 AM
To: bob@ccmpo.com; Shao, Jie; Vattikuti, Venkat; Gary Nelson; Gary.Grossman@charlottefl.com; Massey, Lawrence; Don Scott; Block, Alvin; MAustin@CI.PUNTA-GORDA.FL.US; Palermo, Anthony; Getch, Andrew; Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us; Brenda Winningham (Brenda.Winningham@dca.state.fl.us); Russell.Schropp@henlaw.com; Stephen Leung; Paulmann,

10/10/2011

Jim; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; eandres@kitsonpartners.com
Subject: RE: Babcock Ranch Master Traffic Reanalysis MDO NOPC Final Comments

Hello:

The Babcock Ranch Master Traffic Reanalysis Master Development Order Notice of Proposed Change is scheduled to be on the October 20, 2011 SWFRPC consent agenda. Final comments for inclusion in the agenda item is due on October 7, 2011. If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks

Daniel L. Trescott
Planning Manager
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
1926 Victoria Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Office: 239.338.2550 Ext. 220
Fax: 239.338.2560
Suncom 748.2550 Ext. 220
email: dtrescott@swfrpc.org
Web: <http://www.swfrpc.org>



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Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

2035 Recommended Improvements (Continued)

<u>Roadway</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>E+C Lanes (1)</u>	<u>Recommended # of Lanes (2)</u>
Hanson Street Extension	V. Shoemaker Blvd.	Ortiz Ave.	0	4
	Ortiz Ave.	Forum Blvd.	0	4
Littleton Road	US 41	Business 41	0	4
Littleton Rd. Ext.	Business 41	SR 78/Slater Rd.	0	2

Footnote:

- (1) Beyond E+C network. Number of lanes needed for capacity purposes. These are not necessarily the recommended improvements. Improvements may be widening of existing roadways and/or new roadways.
- (2) Recommendation only. Does not represent actual mitigation, proportionate share calculation or pipelining of improvements.

The recommended improvements are for planning purposes only. The identified list of recommended improvements should not be misconstrued as commitments by Charlotte County, Lee County, FDOT or BRC. Furthermore, the identified list of improvements does not represent BRC's DRI proportionate share or mitigation plan.

Recommended Improvement Network Test

As requested by the review agencies, the recommended roadway network to serve all future traffic, coincident with the buildout of Babcock Ranch Community at year 2035 were tested with the travel model. The travel model was utilized to measure the effectiveness of the future needed roadway improvements, and in particular, the benefits of a new East-West Corridor that extends west from SR 31 to I-75 and connection with the Del Prado Boulevard Extension.

The results of the recommended network test and analysis in support of the above recommendations are provided in Appendix J.

Traffic Mitigation

In addition to providing site-related improvements, the Project will pay its proportionate share of needed improvements. That proportionate share amount and the Project's traffic mitigation will be established through the incremental DRI review.

The Master Traffic Study Update focuses on a road segment evaluation of the entire development at buildout. The Master Traffic Study Update identifies the following:



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Memo

To: Alvin "Chip" Block, Principal Planner
Zoning Division

From: Andrew Getch, P.E.
Engineering Manager I

Date: October 6, 2011

**Subject: Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC
Master Traffic Study Update**

The Lee County Department of Transportation (LCDOT) has reviewed the referenced Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) dated July 2011 to the Charlotte County Babcock Ranch Community Master Development Order (MDO). This project is located in Charlotte County on the east side of State Road 31 north of the Lee County line.

The project approvals for development occur in Increments of the MDO. Increment 1 has been submitted and reviewed. The Increment 1 transportation mitigation includes improvements to State Road 31. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is proceeding with preliminary studies for four-laning State Road 31 in Lee County from Palm Beach Boulevard to North River Road.

Applicant's analysis

The traffic reanalysis is a requirement of the Charlotte County MDO. The reanalysis incorporates several primary changes. The changes include utilizing revised development parameters, an updated estimate of total trips leaving the project and an updated computer transportation model.

The revised development parameters include an increase in the estimated total square footage of office from 2,064,075 to 3,500,000 square feet with a corresponding decrease of commercial square footage from 2,925,943 to 1,400,000 square feet. The NOPC includes a revised buildout year of 2035. The balance of analyzed MDO development parameters include 17,870 dwelling units, 600 hotel rooms, 650,000 square feet of industrial, 54 golf course holes, 177 hospital beds, 418 Assisted Living Facility units,

- 2 -

October 6, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

120,000 square feet of churches, 5 schools, 275 acres of parks, and 120,000 square feet of government/civic uses.

The estimate of total trips leaving the project is based on combined manual and computer transportation modeling methods. The manual methods included trip generation estimate data and procedures contained in the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) publications Trip Generation 8th edition, and Trip Generation Handbook, as well as a new study NCHRP 8-51. The computer transportation modeling method used the Florida Standard Urban Transportation Modeling Structure (FSUTMS).

The traffic reanalysis Trip Generation Summary Buildout (2035) on page 21-13 estimated 25,561 peak hour and 258,238 daily trips generated by the Babcock Ranch Community using the estimation methods in the agreed upon methodology. Of the total daily trips the analysis estimated 9,023 p.m. peak hour and 78,704 daily trips leaving the Babcock Ranch Community at buildout. On page 21-32, the traffic reanalysis indicates

“Sidewalks, bicycle paths and para-transit, as needed, will be provided internal to the project to support the internal interaction of trips....The DRI will support local and/or express transit service, if established by Lee or Charlotte County. The DRI will help support expanded transit service in the area by increasing ridership opportunities and working with the transit authority to provide linkages at the community.”

The most significant change is an update of the FSUTMS network utilized in the analysis. The FSUTMS network was based on the Florida Department of Transportation District One travel model. The model was further refined with a subarea validation. The analysis on pages 21-28 through 21-30 identified recommended improvements for planning purposes to the following portions of the State Highway System Bayshore Road and Pine Island Road (SR 78), Business 41 (SR 739), Colonial Boulevard (SR 884), I-75 (SR 93), SR 31, Palm Beach Boulevard (SR 80), and US 41. On Lee County maintained roadways the traffic analysis identified road improvements to Buckingham Road, Littleton Road, Ortiz Avenue and Orange River Boulevard. The roadway segments are graphically depicted on Exhibit 21.F-5.

The recommended improvements also include an extension of Del Prado Boulevard from US 41 to a project entrance at SR 31, or a similar east west corridor, which included a new interchange with I-75, an extension of Littleton Road to Slater Road, and an extension of Hanson Street. The recommended improvements are graphically depicted in the traffic analysis on Exhibit 21.F-7.

The traffic analysis on Page 21-30 states “The recommended improvements are for planning purposes only. The identified list of recommended improvements should not be construed as commitments by Charlotte County, Lee County, FDOT or BRC.”

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October 6, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

Staff analysis

The Babcock Ranch Community project submitted for review is contained entirely within Charlotte County. The analyzed project has three access points to State Road 31 in Charlotte County at approximately one to three miles north of the Lee/Charlotte County border. There is an existing access further north on State Road 31. Transit, vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian facilities on adjacent right-of-way are indicated below.

Street	Transit	Pedestrian	Bicycle	Vehicular
SR 31	None	None	On-road paved shoulders	2 lane undivided

LCDOT staff was involved in the review of the travel model and the development of the methodology. It should be noted that, in terms of the transportation analysis performed, this project is unique in the aspects of location and size. The location is unique in that the border of Lee County and Charlotte County is near several different metropolitan planning areas and at the edge of several transportation models used by those counties. It is LCDOT's understanding that this is the reason that FDOT agreed to use of the FDOT Districtwide model for the project analysis.

The size of the project is unique in that it is a new city. The project is also one of few DRI's in the region to utilize the Areawide Master Development Approval (AMDA) process. LCDOT recommends using the best available transportation data for estimating the number, distribution and assignment of trips, and to estimate transportation impacts. Because the size of the project in total exceeds the available study data, individual project area (centers, hamlets and villages) trip interactions were estimated manually. Computer model methods were utilized to estimate interaction between project areas.

As noted above, the recommendations made by the applicant's consultant indicate that they are for transportation planning purposes and do not represent a commitment by review agencies or the applicant. It is the understanding of LCDOT that DRI transportation impacts and mitigation will be determined at each Increment.

As noted above, the transportation model for this project is different than the model used by each Metropolitan Planning Organization. Florida Administrative Code Rule 9J-2.045 for DRI analysis requirements only allows including projects in the analysis that are funded for construction within one to five years. The submitted analysis time frame for this project is the year 2035 or 24 years from now.

Increment 1 was submitted with an approximate ten year build-out horizon. Transportation mitigation for Phase 1 of Increment 1 resulted in the initiation of a PD&E study for four-laning improvements by FDOT on State Road 31. The PD&E project limits are from State Road 80 to County Road 78 with funding is in the current fiscal year. The remaining phases of the project are not in the current FDOT Work Program.

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October 6, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

The number of project trips that exit the project and travel to Lee County and impact county maintained roads are the primary focus of LCDOT review. Exhibit 21.F-3b identifies approximately 50,000 peak season new daily trip ends from the project crossing the county line (at State Road 31 and US 41). The majority of project traffic within Lee County utilizes the State Highway System, specifically SR 31 to State Road 78 and State Road 80. Improvements to the State Highway System are prioritized by the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization. The impacted Lee County maintained road segments are as follows:

Master Traffic Analysis Recommended Improvements on Lee County maintained roads
(Pg 21-29 and 21-30)

Road	From	To	E+C network #lanes	MPO 2035 Needs & Financially Feasible #lanes	BRC analysis #lanes	Comment
Buckingham Road	Orange River Blvd	Palm Beach Blvd (SR 80)	2	4	4	Consistent with MPO plan
Del Prado extension)	US 41	E of Barbie Ln	2	2 (Feasible) 4 (Needs)	4	Consistent with MPO plan
Del Prado extension)	E of Barbie Ln	I-75	0	0 (Feasible) 4 (Needs)	4	Consistent with MPO plan
New E-W corridor connection to SR 31	I-75	Charlotte County line	0	0	4	Not currently identified in MPO plan
Littleton Road	Business 41	US 41	2	4	4	Consistent with MPO plan
Littleton Road extension	Slater Rd	Business 41	0	2	4	Two additional lanes
Orange River Boulevard	Buckingham Rd	Staley Rd	2	2	2	Consistent with MPO plan
Ortiz Avenue	Colonial Blvd	Palm Beach Blvd (SR 80)	2	4	4	Consistent with MPO plan

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October 6, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

As indicated above for Lee County maintained roadways, there are two differences from the Lee County MPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). An eastern extension of Littleton Road from the current eastern end to Slater Road is in the LRTP as a two-lane project but is not identified as a four lane project.

The traffic analysis recommends a new East-West corridor connecting Babcock Ranch Community to U.S. 41. Exhibit 21.F-7 graphically depicts a connection to an extension of Del Prado at an interchange identified on the LRTP. Lee Plan Policy 36.3.1 is cited below:

POLICY 36.3.1: Lee County views as a priority the proposed East-West Connector roadway and related interstate interchange and any other transportation/mobility improvements that will minimize the impacts in Lee County from the development of the BRC in Charlotte County. Lee County supports the use of the Lee County and Charlotte County MPO plan update processes in a comprehensive, coordinated, cooperative fashion to consider the need for, and location of, an East-West Connector roadway and related interstate interchange, as well as evaluation of transportation alternatives that might serve the projected need related to development of the BRC while minimizing the impacts to the rural nature of northeast Lee County. Upon inclusion in the appropriate MPO plan(s), funding for the East-West Connector roadway or transportation/mobility alternatives will be allocated in accordance with Policy 36.3.3(c) below.

As noted in the policy, LCDOT will work with the MPO on the identification and location of an east-west connector roadway. LCDOT will also work with the MPO, Charlotte County, applicant and stakeholders through the Increment review process as transportation impacts and proposed mitigation are developed.

AJG/db

cc: David Loveland
Clay Simmons
Donna Marie Collins

**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

Memo

To: Alvin "Chip" Block, Principal Planner
Zoning Division

From: Andrew Getch, P.E.
Engineering Manager I

Date: October 7, 2011 (Revised from October 6, 2011)

**Subject: Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC
Master Traffic Study Update**

The Lee County Department of Transportation (LCDOT) has reviewed the referenced Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) dated July 2011 to the Charlotte County Babcock Ranch Community Master Development Order (MDO). This project is located in Charlotte County on the east side of State Road 31 north of the Lee County line.

The project approvals for development occur in Increments of the MDO. Increment 1 has been submitted and reviewed. The Increment 1 transportation mitigation includes improvements to State Road 31. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is proceeding with preliminary studies for four-laning State Road 31 in Lee County from Palm Beach Boulevard to North River Road.

Applicant's analysis

The traffic reanalysis is a requirement of the Charlotte County MDO. The reanalysis incorporates several primary changes. The changes include utilizing revised development parameters, an updated estimate of total trips leaving the project and an updated computer transportation model.

The revised development parameters include an increase in the estimated total square footage of office from 2,064,075 to 3,500,000 square feet with a corresponding decrease of commercial square footage from 2,925,943 to 1,400,000 square feet. The NOPC includes a revised buildout year of 2035. The balance of analyzed MDO development parameters include 17,870 dwelling units, 600 hotel rooms, 650,000 square feet of industrial, 54 golf course holes, 177 hospital beds, 418 Assisted Living Facility units,

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October 7, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

120,000 square feet of churches, 5 schools, 275 acres of parks, and 120,000 square feet of government/civic uses.

The estimate of total trips leaving the project is based on combined manual and computer transportation modeling methods. The manual methods included trip generation estimate data and procedures contained in the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) publications Trip Generation 8th edition, and Trip Generation Handbook, as well as a new study NCHRP 8-51. The computer transportation modeling method used the Florida Standard Urban Transportation Modeling Structure (FSUTMS).

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October 7, 2011
 Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

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Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

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- 5 -

October 7, 2011
Babcock Ranch Community MDO NOPC

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AJG/db

cc: David Loveland
Clay Simmons
Donna Marie Collins

Stephen Leung

From: Suzanne.Lex@dca.state.fl.us
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2011 2:13 PM
To: AGetch@leegov.com; Bob@ccmpo.com; dtrescott@swfrpc.org; erogan@kitsonpartners.com; Jie.Shao@charlottefl.com; JimPaulmann@WilsonMiller.com; jutley@swfrpc.org; Lawrence.Massey@dot.state.fl.us; rberntsson@bigwlaw.com; Stephen Leung; Venkat.Vattikuti@charlottefl.com
Cc: David.Jordan@dca.state.fl.us
Subject: Babcock Review Discussion

Good afternoon everyone,

I just want to take the time to thank Steve your timely response to the review questions, and to also thank the review team for your quick evaluation of the material. I am pleased that the issues identified at the 30 day review were able to be adequately addressed.

Respectfully,

Suzanne

Suzanne K. Lex, Planning Analyst
Department of Community Affairs
Division of Community Planning
2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL
(850) 922-0047 Direct Line
(850) 488-3309 Fax Line
suzanne.lex@dca.state.fl.us

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STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"

RICK SCOTT
 Governor

BILLY BUZZETT
 Secretary

September 27, 2011

Daniel Quick, Growth Management Director
 Charlotte County Growth management Division
 Charlotte County Administrative Complex
 18500 Murdock Circle
 Port Charlotte, Florida 33948

Re: Charlotte County Babcock Ranch Master Application
 Notice of Proposed Change

Dear Mr. Quick:

The Department of Community Affairs has completed its review of the Notice of Proposed Change for the Babcock Ranch Master Application for Development Approval and the applicant's response to questions and comments presented by the review agencies. The proposed update of the Babcock Ranch Master Traffic Study and the associated conditions of the Development Order are consistent with the requirements of Chapter 380.06, Florida Statutes.

On behalf of the Department, I would like to thank the developer's representatives, the Charlotte County staff, the team at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council and the review agencies for their effective and timely coordination during this process. Congratulations on having completed the Master Traffic Study update and we look forward to working with all of the parties as the Babcock Ranch project moves forward.

Please contact Suzanne K. Lex, Community Planner, Division of Community Planning, at 850-922-0047, if we may be of further assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Mike McDaniel, Chief
 Office of Comprehensive Planning

MM/skl

cc: Jim Paulman, FAICP, Authorized Agent, Stantec
 Dan Trescott, DRI Coordinator, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD ♦ TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-2100
 850-488-8466 (p) ♦ 850-921-0781 (f) ♦ Website: www.dca.state.fl.us

♦ COMMUNITY PLANNING 850-488-2356 (p) 850-488-3309 (f) ♦ FLORIDA COMMUNITIES TRUST 850-922-2207 (p) 850-921-1747 (f) ♦
 ♦ HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 850-488-7956 (p) 850-922-5623 (f) ♦

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7g

Sarasota County Comp Plan
Amendments (DCA 11-
1ESR)

7g

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS
SARASOTA COUNTY**

The Council staff has reviewed proposed amendments to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan (DCA 11-1ESR). These amendments were developed under the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act. A synopsis of the requirements of the Act and Council responsibilities is provided as Attachment I. Comments are provided in Attachment II. Site location maps can be reviewed in Attachment III.

Staff review of the proposed amendments was based on whether they were likely to be of regional concern. This was determined through assessment of the following factors:

1. Location--in or near a regional resource or regional activity center, such that it impacts the regional resource or facility; on or within one mile of a county boundary; generally applied to sites of five acres or more; size alone is not necessarily a determinant of regional significance;
2. Magnitude--equal to or greater than the threshold for a Development of Regional Impact of the same type (a DRI-related amendment is considered regionally significant); and
3. Character--of a unique type or use, a use of regional significance, or a change in the local comprehensive plan that could be applied throughout the local jurisdiction; updates, editorial revisions, etc. are not regionally significant.

A summary of the results of the review follows:

<u>Proposed Amendment</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>			
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Consistent</u>
2011-01-C Functional Reclassification of Lockwood Ridge Road	no	no	no	(1) not regionally significant; and (2) consistent with SRPP

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve staff comments. Authorize staff to forward comments to the Department of Community Affairs and Sarasota County.

Attachment I**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION ACT****Local Government Comprehensive Plans**

The Act requires each municipal and county government to prepare a comprehensive plan that must include at least the following nine elements:

1. Future Land Use Element;
2. Traffic Circulation Element;
A local government with all or part of its jurisdiction within the urbanized area of a Metropolitan Planning Organization shall prepare and adopt a transportation element to replace the traffic circulation; mass transit; and ports, aviation, and related facilities elements. [9J-5.019(1), FAC]
3. General Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, and Potable Water and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element;
4. Conservation Element;
5. Recreation and Open Space Element;
6. Housing Element;
7. Coastal Management Element for coastal jurisdictions;
8. Intergovernmental Coordination Element; and
9. Capital Improvements Element.

The local government may add optional elements (e. g., community design, redevelopment, safety, historical and scenic preservation, and economic).

All local governments in Southwest Florida have adopted revised plans:

Charlotte County, Punta Gorda
Collier County, Everglades City, Marco Island, Naples
Glades County, Moore Haven
Hendry County, Clewiston, LaBelle
Lee County, Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel
Sarasota County, Longboat Key, North Port, Sarasota, Venice

Attachment I Comprehensive Plan Amendments

A local government may amend its plan twice a year. (Amendments related to developments of regional impact, certain small developments, compliance agreements, and the Job Siting Act are not restricted by this limitation.) Six copies of the amendment are sent to the Department of Community Affairs for review. A copy is also sent to the regional planning council, the water management district, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

[s. 163.3184(3)(a)]

The proposed amendment will be reviewed by DCA in two situations. In the first, there must be a written request to DCA. The request for review must be received within forty-five days after transmittal of the proposed amendment. [s. 163.3184(6)(a)] Review can be requested by one of the following:

- the local government that transmits the amendment,
- the regional planning council, or
- an affected person.

In the second situation, DCA can decide to review the proposed amendment without a request. In that case, DCA must give notice within thirty days of transmittal.

[(s. 163.3184(6)(b))]

Within five working days after deciding to conduct a review, DCA must forward copies to various reviewing agencies, including the regional planning council. [s. 163.3184(4)]

Regional Planning Council Review

The regional planning council must submit its comments in writing within thirty days of receipt of the proposed amendment from DCA. It must specify any objections and may make recommendations for changes. The review of the proposed amendment by the regional planning council must be limited to "effects on regional resources or facilities identified in the strategic regional policy plan and extra-jurisdictional impacts which would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of the affected local government."

[s. 163.3184(5)]

After receipt of comments from the regional planning council and other reviewing agencies, DCA has thirty days to conduct its own review and determine compliance with state law. Within that thirty-day period, DCA transmits its written comments to the local government.

NOTE: THE ABOVE IS A SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF THE LAW. REFER TO THE STATUTE (CH. 163, FS) AND THE RULE (9J-11, FAC) FOR DETAILS.

Attachment II

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW
FORM 01**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Sarasota County

DATE AMENDMENT RECEIVED:

September 25, 2011

DATE AMENDMENT MAILED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE:

October 12, 2011

Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, Council review of proposed amendments to local government Comprehensive Plans is limited to adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan and extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of any affected local government within the region. A written report containing the evaluation of these impacts, pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, is to be provided to the local government and the State land planning agency within 30 calendar days of receipt of the amendment.

1. AMENDMENT NAME

DCA 11-1ESR
2011-01-C
Functional Reclassification of Lockwood Ridge Road

2. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT(S):

The petitioner, Sarasota County, is requesting a large-scale amendment to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element. The proposed amendment, consistent with HB 7207 and F.S. 163.3167(2), is intended to reclassify Lockwood Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road from a Major Collector to Minor Collector, and the Comprehensive Plan must be amended as follows to implement the change:

- Amend *Figure 6-9: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan (Functional Classifications)* to symbolize Lockwood Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road from a

“Major Collector” to a “Minor Collector.” (See attached Maps 1 and 2 in the Map Series depict this change.)

- Amend *Appendix D, Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan, Major Collectors Section* to strike Lockwood Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road. (See attached Table 1, Page 2 of 3)
- Amend *Appendix D, Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan, Minor Collectors Section* to revise Lockwood Ridge Road limits. Also, amend the limits of Lockwood Ridge Road from Clark Road to Markridge Boulevard to Webber Street to Markridge Road. (See attached Table 1, Page 3 of 3)

ADVERSE EFFECTS TO SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL RESOURCES AND FACILITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN:

Collector roadways serve either the function of collecting and distributing traffic between local streets or mobility-related needs of distributing traffic between or throughout larger residential and/or commercial areas. Minor Collector roadways serve a function more closely related to that of Local Roads, and in some cases may function more closely to that of a main road through a subdivision.

Reason for this Proposed Amendment

The current functioning of Lockwood Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road is more closely related to that of a Local Road or a low volume Minor Collector Roadway. The traffic volumes currently existing on this section of roadway are within the range of 5000 to 7000 vehicles per day, which is associated with a Minor Collector operating at or above Level of Service C.

Analysis and Consistency Review

Sarasota County utilizes The Florida Department of Transportation’s (FDOT) Roadway Functional Classification to categorize its roadways. The FDOT Functional Classification is based on existing roadway characteristics and most recent decennial census data. Further, the FDOT classification is how government agencies view the road as operating today, and the future thoroughfare classification is how the agencies see the road as needing to operate in the future. The current function and traffic volumes on the subject section of Lockwood Ridge Road are those associated with a Local Road or a low volume Minor Collector Road, and that the roadway traverses through primarily residential areas distributing traffic to mainly local streets; it is concluded that the subject roadway segment is in character with that of a Minor Collector Roadway.

Comprehensive Plan Consistency Review

The proposed changes to the Transportation Chapter are internally consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and further the following Transportation Plan goals, objectives and policies:

Transportation Goal 1

It shall be the Goal of Sarasota County to develop and maintain a safe, convenient, efficient transportation system which: recognizes present need; reflects the Future Land Use Plan and the plans of adjacent jurisdictions; provides for an affordable balance of alternative transportation modes; provides for safe, efficient intermodal transportation linkages; and respects the integrity of environmentally sensitive areas and wildlife habitat.

Transportation Policy 1.1.2.

Monitor and analyze traffic and road conditions on an ongoing basis in order to assess the need for revisions to the Future Thoroughfare Plan and Maps and the Countywide Road Construction and Maintenance Program. The monitoring and analysis program shall:

- include a continual inventory of County owned and maintained roads in the County thoroughfare system;
- assess the impacts of proposed developments on roadway system levels of service;
- monitor traffic conditions and investigate the application of traffic system management (TSM) techniques to maintain the function of the existing and future thoroughfare system, and increase its efficiency; and
- include the analysis of applicable accident frequency data.

Transportation Policy 1.4.7.

Maintain provisions in the Land Development Regulations so that all new construction and reconstruction of collector and arterial roadways shall provide for safe pedestrian movement.

Transportation Policy 1.4.11.

The County will periodically review its Transportation Plan to ensure consistency with the State Comprehensive Plan, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Long Range Transportation Plan in furtherance of coordinated intermodal management of the region's surface and water transportation system.

Transportation Objective 1.5.

All traffic circulation plans and programs, as well as aviation, port and rail plans and programs, shall be coordinated with the plans and programs of the State, the Region, the local Metropolitan Planning Organization and other local jurisdictions.

Transportation Policy 1.5.1.

The Transportation Plan and Future Thoroughfare Plan shall consider:

- the State of Florida Comprehensive Plan, as appropriate;
- the plans of the Florida Department of Transportation;
- the long range plans of the Sarasota Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization;

- the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, as appropriate; and
- the Traffic Circulation Plans of the Cities of Sarasota, Venice, North Port and the Town of Longboat Key and the Counties of Manatee, DeSoto and Charlotte.

Transportation Policy 1.5.3.

Sarasota County shall coordinate with the Sarasota Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization in the development of their long range needs plan and in the annual Transportation Improvements Program.

Transportation Policy 1.5.4.

Coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation and the Sarasota Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization in revising the functional classification of Sarasota County roadways.

Transportation Objective 1.6.

Existing neighborhood environments, their cohesion, and integrity, shall be specifically considered in the development of the Year 2020 Future Thoroughfare Plan, and in individual roadway projects.

Amendment Impacts and Issues

The subject section of Lockwood Ridge Road runs through an area adjacent to development that is primarily single family residential, and the roadway serves a mix of local road and Minor Collector road functions. The reclassification of this section of Lockwood Ridge Road to a Minor Collector would bring the roadway more in character with how it currently functions in relation to existing traffic patterns in the adjacent residential areas. Also, in regard to the relationship of a Minor Collector to a Local Road, Minor Collector roadways are eligible for certain types of control and traffic calming or abatement that Major Collector roadways are not.

Council staff has reviewed the submitted information and finds that because the subject roadway is not listed as a regionally significant roadway in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP), the proposed amendments to reclassify a local roadway do not produce significant adverse effects on any regional resources or regional facilities that are identified in the SRPP; nor does the requested amendment produce any extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the local Comprehensive Plans of any other affected local government within the region.

Council staff also finds that the proposed amendment to the Sarasota County 2035 Comprehensive Plan and consistent with the Goals, Strategies and Actions found in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Request a copy of the adopted version of the amendment? Yes No

Amend Appendix D, Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan, Major Collectors Section to strike Lockwood Ridge Road between Webber Street and Clark Road.

TABLE 1 (EXHIBIT A, Page 2 of 3)

Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan			
Facility	From	To	Lanes
Major Collectors			
Airport Ave	Harbor Dr	Avenida del Circo	2
Albee Farm Rd	Laurel	U.S. 41 Bypass	4
Auburn Rd	Border	Venice	2
Avenida del Circo	Airport Ave	U.S. 41	2
Bay St	U.S. 41	Honore Ave	4
Border Rd	Auburn Rd	Jackson Rd	2
Capri Isles Blvd	Venice	Border	4
Colonia Ln	U.S. 41	Albee Farm Rd	2
Dearborn St	Old Englewood Rd	S.R. 776	2
Edmondson Rd	Albee Farm Rd	Auburn Rd	2
Gantt Rd	Proctor	Clark	4
Gulf Gate Dr	U.S. 41	Gateway Ave	4
Gulf Gate Dr	Gateway Ave	Beneva Rd	2
Harbor Dr	Venice Ave	South of Beach Rd	2
Hatchett Creek Blvd	Pinebrook Rd	Jacaranda Blvd	2
Jackson Rd	Center Rd	Venice Ave	2
Lockwood Ridge Rd	Webber St	Clark Rd	2
Myrtle Street	U.S. 41	Tuttle Ave	4
Palmer Blvd	Honore Ave	Iona Rd	2
Palmer Ranch Pkwy	Beneva Rd	McIntosh Rd	4
Palmer Ranch Pkwy E	McIntosh Rd	Clark Rd	4
Potter Park Dr	Central Sarasota Pkwy	Sarasota Square Blvd	2
Rockley Blvd	U.S. 41	Center Rd	4

Amend Appendix D, Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan, Minor Collectors Section to revise Lockwood Ridge Road limits and amend the limits of Lockwood Ridge Road from Clark Road to Markridge Boulevard to Webber Street to Markridge Road.

TABLE 1 Continued (EXHIBIT A, Page 3 of 3)

Section 4: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan

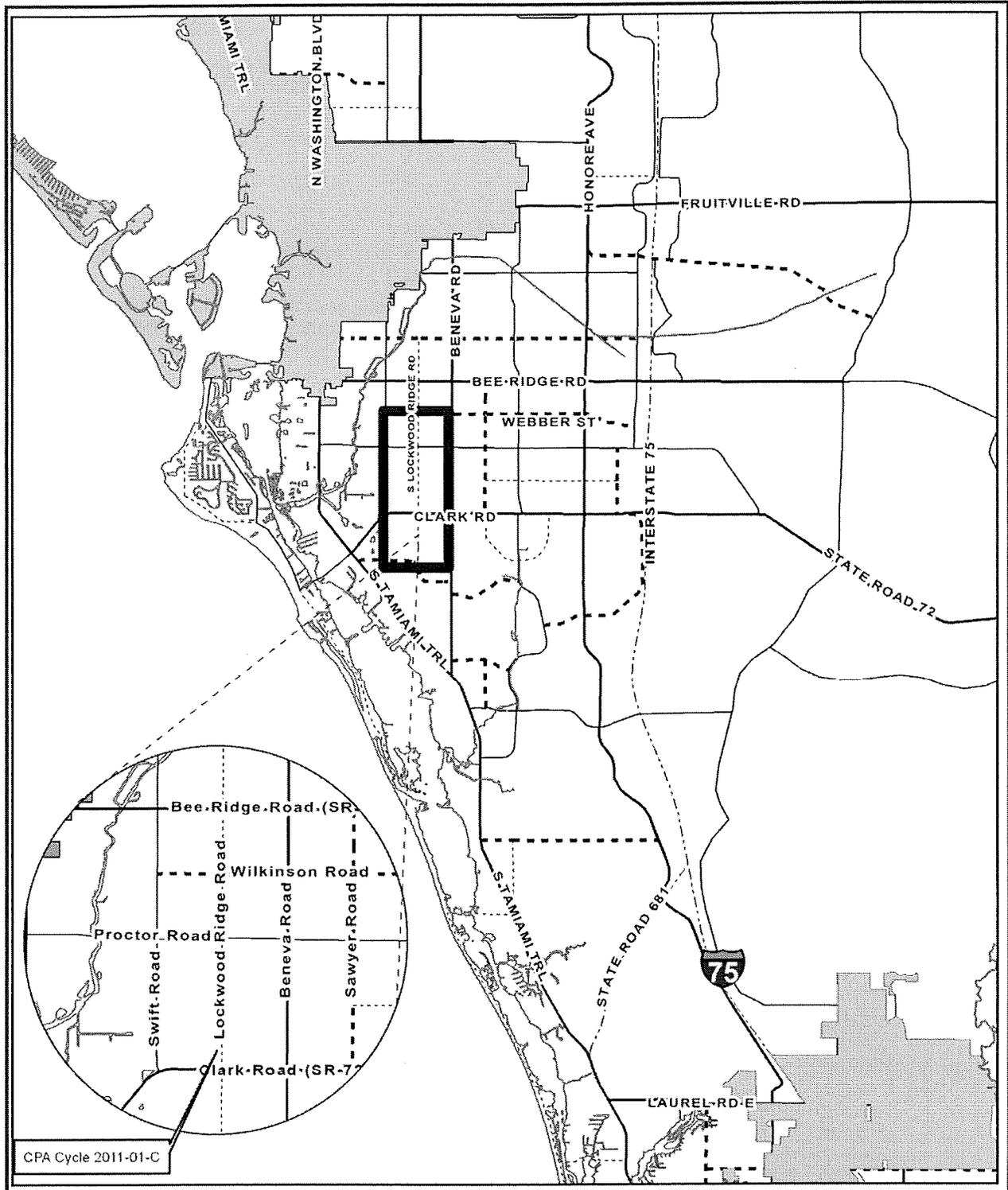
Facility	From	To	Lanes
Sarasota Square Blvd	Beneva Rd	McIntosh Rd	4
Sawyer Rd	Bee Ridge Rd	Clark Rd	2
Venice Ave	Park Blvd	U.S. 41 Bypass	4
Webber St	U.S. 41	Cattlemen Rd	4
Wilkinson Rd	Swift Rd	Cattlemen Rd	2
Minor Collectors			
27th Street/Dr MLK Jr Way	U.S. 301	Lockwood Ridge	2
Albee Rd	Casey Key	U.S. 41	2
Ashton Rd	Sawyer Rd	Gantt Rd	2
Baffin Rd	Shamrock Blvd	U.S. 41	2
Beach Rd	Ocean	Midnight Pass	2
Blackburn Pt. Rd	Casey Key	U.S. 41	2
Casey Key Rd	Blackburn Pt. Rd	Albee Rd	2
Casey Key Rd	Albee	End	2
De Leon Dr	Ortiz	U.S. 41	2
Higel Ave/Treasure Boat	Midnight Pass Rd	Ocean Blvd	2
Jackson Rd	Border	Venice	2
Lockwood Ridge Rd	Clark Rd Webber St	Markridge Blvd	2
Manasota Beach Rd	Manasota Key Rd	Venice East Blvd (N)	2
Manasota Key Rd	Manasota Bch. Rd.	Co. Line	2
Miakka Rd	Fruitville Rd	Myakka Park	2
Midnight Pass Rd	Stickney Pt.	South of Stickney Pt.	2
Ocean Blvd	Higel	Beach	2

Attachment III

Maps

**Sarasota County
DCA 11-1ESR**

**Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments
Site Locations**

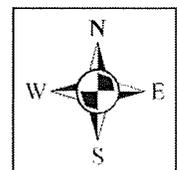


SARASOTA COUNTY COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

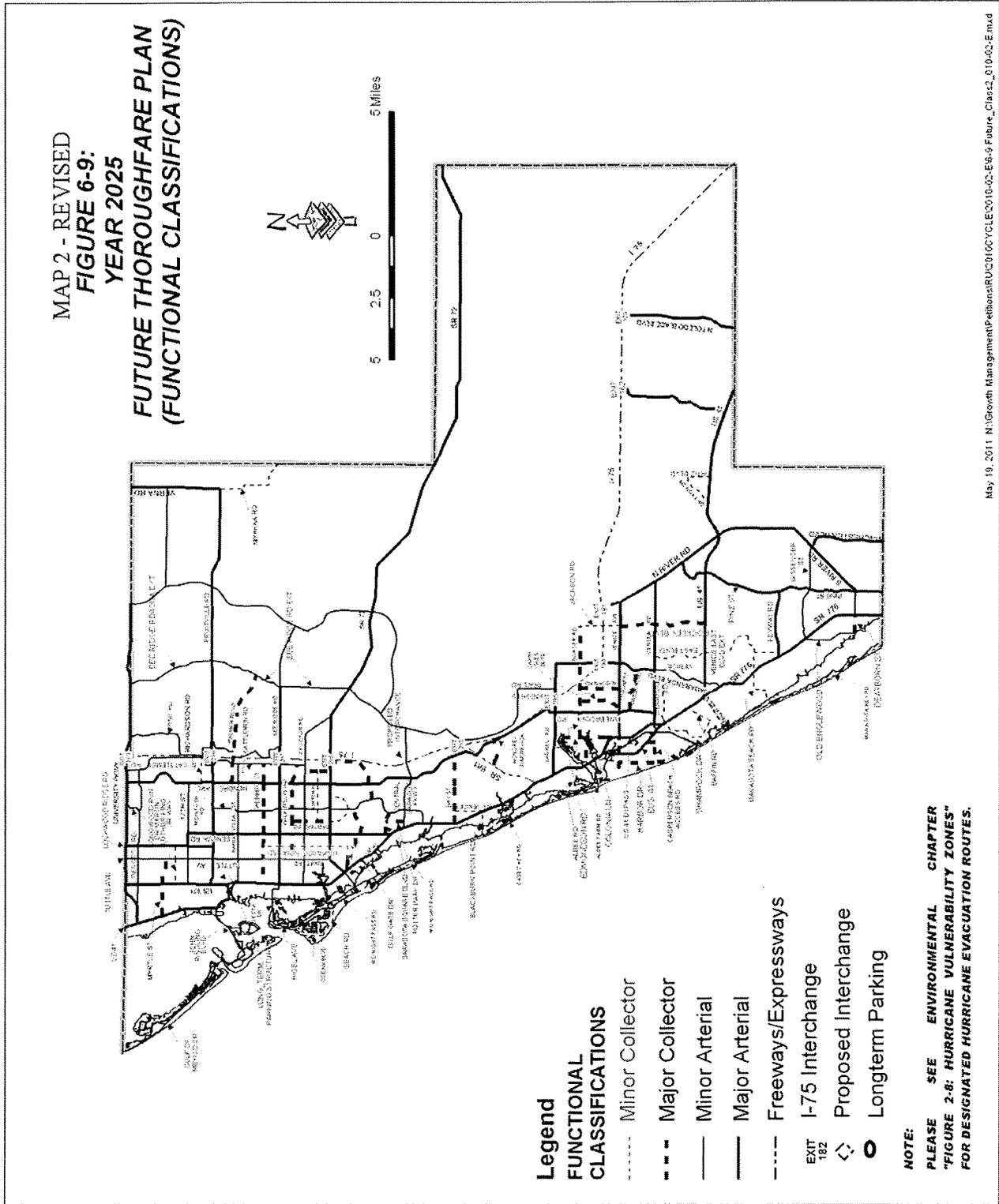
SEPTEMBER 14, 2011

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT

2011-01-C



Amend Figure 6-9: Year 2025 Future Thoroughfare Plan (Functional Classifications) to symbolize Lockwood Ridge between Webber Street and Clark Road as a "Minor Collector."



_____ Agenda
_____ Item

7h

Amended SRPP EAR with
DCA Corrections

7h

7h

STRATEGIC REGIONAL POLICY PLAN EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT

Council submitted the draft Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) on July 22, 2011 to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Division of Community Planning for their review and comments. Council staff received verbal comments from the DEO on August 1, 2011. The attached document is the updated SRPP with all comments and required corrections that were received by staff completed.

If the SRPP is adopted by Council, staff will submit the updated SRPP document to the DEO, Division of Community Planning, for their final review and comments on September 16, 2011.

Following the final, DEO approval of the adopted SRPP, Council staff will complete any final changes and provide Council with a completed SRPP at its October meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Council staff is requesting that Council members adopt the updated SRPP document and approve sending the adopted document to the Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Planning for their final review and comments.

Strategic Regional Policy Plan

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Goals, Strategies, and Actions

(Adopted September 15, 2011)

Strategic Regional Policy Plan

Southwest Florida Region Planning Council

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Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Strategic Regional Policy Plan

(Adopted September 15, 2011)

I. Introduction

Florida Statute Section 186.502(4) states that the Regional Planning Council is recognized as Florida's only multipurpose regional entity that is in a position to plan and coordinate intergovernmental solutions to growth-related problems on greater-than-local issues, provide technical assistance to local governments, and meet other needs of the communities in each region. To fulfill this responsibility, the Florida Legislature required all Regional Planning Councils to develop Strategic Regional Policy Plans.

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) for Southwest Florida provides a long range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of the region. The overall purpose of the SRPP is to steer the region toward a more healthy and sustainable future. The SRPP is not merely a plan for the Council; it is a plan for the region and all those who are active participants in shaping its future.

General Scope and Application

The Florida Legislature mandates that the SRPP for each region of the States contain the following five elements:

- Affordable Housing
- Emergency Preparedness
- Natural Resources
- Economic Development
- Regional Transportation

Each element of the SRPP contains Strategic Issue Areas – issues that will have the most significant impact on the region and for which there are windows of opportunity for actions to create desirable change. These issues are generally multi-jurisdiction and cross-programmatic in nature. Each Strategic Issue Area contains a Trends and Conditions Statement which describes past and present conditions with respect to the issues and forecast future activities. Each Strategic Issue Area also contains one or more Goals. Every Goal is supported by Strategies, which are the ways in which programs and activities are conducted to achieve identified Goals, and each Strategy is supported by an implementation Actions. The Strategies are not intended to be prescriptive nor exhaustive, rather a listing of alternative methods for enacting the Strategy. Finally, each goal area includes indicators for evaluating attainment of the desired Goals.

In addition to being used as a guide for shaping the region's future, the SRPP is used by the Council as a framework to link planning and implementation activities of various entities; to review local Comprehensive Plans and large-scale Developments of Regional Impact; to facilitate resolutions of disputes in planning and growth management issues; and to guide all of the Council's activities. Specifically, the following rules provides for the development and evaluation of the Plan:

Legal Requirements (27E-5.001)

- 1) The purpose of this rule is to establish minimum criteria and a uniform format for strategic regional policy plans. Strategic Regional Policy Plans (SRPP) are required by Section 186.507 of the Florida Statutes as a means to guide long range physical, economic, and social development of a comprehensive planning district which identifies regional goals and policies.
 - These plans shall be developed through a collaborative process that emphasizes consensus and coordination between local governments, regional entities, state and federal agencies, other appropriate organizations and the public.
 - The resultant plan is a plan for the region, not merely for the regional planning council.
 - Regional goals and policies shall be used to develop a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving identified problems and needs.
 - These plans shall contain regional goals and policies that address affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources of regional significance, and regional transportation, and other regional goals and policies as deemed appropriate by the council.
 - The plans shall identify and address significant regional resources and facilities.
 - Strategic Regional Policy Plans shall be strategic rather than comprehensive in nature and need not address all goals and policies in the State Comprehensive Plan. However, goals and policies included in a Strategic Regional Policy Plan shall be consistent with and further the State Comprehensive Plan.
- 2) For the purposes of the State and Regional Planning Act of 1984, as amended by Chapter 93-206, Laws of Florida, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, upon its adoption, shall replace the comprehensive regional policy plan. However, the regional planning council may engage in activities not addressed by the plan so long as the council is not otherwise prohibited from such activities.
- 3) The Strategic Regional Policy Plan shall not establish binding level of service standards for public facilities and services provided or regulated by local governments.
- 4) Strategic Regional Policy Plans shall serve as a basis to review the resources and facilities found in local government comprehensive plans.

Purpose of the Plan (27E-5.003)

- 1) To implement and further the goals and policies of the State Comprehensive Plan with regard to the strategic regional subject areas and other components addressed in the plan.
- 2) To provide long range policy guidance for the physical, economic, and social development of the region.
- 3) To establish public policy for the resolution of disputes over regional problems, needs, or opportunities through the establishment of regional goals and policies and to provide a regional basis and perspective for the coordination of governmental activities and the resolution of problems, needs, and opportunities that are of regional concern or scope.
- 4) To establish goals and policies, in addition to other criteria establish by law, that provide a basis for:
 - the review of developments of regional impact
 - regional review of federally assisted projects
 - other activities of the regional planning council
- 5) To establish goals and policies to assist the state and the council in the determination of consistency of local comprehensive plans with strategic regional policy plans and the state comprehensive plan. Strategic Regional Policy Plans shall serve as a basis to review the resources and facilities found in local government comprehensive plans.
- 6) To establish land development and transportation goals and policies in a manner that fosters region-wide transportation systems.
- 7) To serve as a basis for decisions by the regional planning council.
- 8) To guide the administration of federal, state, regional, and local agency programs and activities in a region to the extent provided by law.
- 9) To identify significant regional resources and facilities, infrastructure needs, or other problems, needs, or opportunities of importance to the region.
- 10) To identify natural resources of regional significance and promote the protection of those resources.
- 11) To set forth economic development goals and policies that promotes regional economic growth and improvement.
- 12) To set forth goals and policies that addresses the affordable housing and emergency preparedness problems and needs of the region.

Evaluation and Modification of Plans (27E-5.008)

- 1) Evaluations of Plans. Each council shall prepare and evaluation report on its plan at least once every five years assessing the successes or failures of the plan and preparing necessary amendments, revisions, or updates to the plan. The evaluation report shall primarily be based upon the region's progress toward attainment of strategic regional policy plan goals using the indicators described in subsection 27E-5.004(6), F.A.C. The evaluation reports shall identify plan amendments which may be necessary as a result of changing regional conditions,

changes to the State Comprehensive Plan, and other statutory changes. The evaluation reports shall be submitted on or before the following dates, and every five years thereafter:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Submission Date</u>
Southwest Florida	March 15, 2000

- 2) Plan Changes. All amendments, revision, or updates to a plan or the maps required by paragraph 27E-5.004(3)(a), F.A.C., shall be adopted in the same manner as the original plan and shall be prepared as needed because of changes in the State Comprehensive Plan or law or as a result of modifications recommended in the evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 27E-5.008(1), F.A.C.

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council adopted its Strategic Regional Policy Plan on July 4, 2001. Florida Statute Section 186.511 requires the Council to assess the Strategic Regional Policy Plan once every five years to evaluate its successes and shortcomings and identify potential amendments, revisions, or updates needed to bring the Plan up to date and address issues that may not have been at the forefront when the Plan was previously created.

Evaluation and Appraisal Report

It is the purpose of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report to examine the effectiveness of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan's Goals, Strategies, and Actions for each of the five (5) strategic subject areas. The Report evaluates each Element separately, and then provides a Summary Recommendation by element for potential changes to the Plan.

History of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council Strategic Regional Policy Plan

The ~~first~~ Regional Comprehensive Plan was a Policy Plan. It went into effect in 1975, and was a series of goals and policies that provided staff direction and boundaries for its various actions and reports. Its legitimacy was within the State Planning Act of 1972 (Chapter 23, F.S. at the time), and Chapter 380, F.S. (Land and Water Management Act). A lot of refinement occurred through federal initiatives for clean water and housing.

With the passage of the State and Regional Planning Act of 1984, the Council adopted an amended plan, a Regional Comprehensive Policy Plan, which also incorporated further considerations contained in the 1980 Regional Planning Act (Chapter 160, F.S.).

A further refinement occurred after ELMS III (1992-3) which directed regions to redefine the scope to be a Strategic Regional Policy Plan, which was to further the (repealed) Growth

Management Element of the State Plan, as well as address issues pertinent to the Region. Those changes established the framework of the Plan that exists today.

Passage of additional Local and State planning direction in the intervening two decades (changes to transportation concurrency, the addition of school concurrency, the Governor's executive orders on climate change and energy, etc) and the recognition of the National American Planning Association (APA) of the critical trends in Smart Growth for a Changing World lead to a reexamination of the issues in the development of the Evaluation Appraisal Report (EAR) of the existing Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP), adopted pursuant to Chapter 29I F.A.C.

State of the Region

Context – The Greater Southwest Florida Region

The regional visioning process “People, Prosperity, Preservation” is outlined as the precursor to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan update. The process resulted in a discussion of the future of the region and the potential impacts on traffic, environment, community livability, and quality of life. The problems associated with the region’s generally low density development, automobile oriented sprawl land uses patterns are described and the negative impacts are identified and set the stage for a review of the various Goals, strategies and actions found in this Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR). The visioning process that conducted in 2010 is the first part of the development of the future plans for the region. This EAR is the second part of the regional planning process and will result in the identification that the SWFRPC desires to take in the future. The final step in the process will be an update of the SRPP that will guide local governments in their future comprehensive planning efforts and provide a framework for development policies that will direct the actions of the Council during the next seven (7) year planning timeframe.

When the Southwest Florida Regional Planning (SWFRPC) initiated the effort to convene a regional visioning process it first sought to determine what communities comprise Southwest Florida. While SWFRPC is made up of Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, Glades, and Hendry Counties, the council wanted to determine which counties truly comprise the region in order to ensure that the vision plan met the needs, concerns, and demands of all communities in the greater region.

The council sought to answer this question by asking regional stakeholders what communities link together citizens, businesses, and ecosystem together in one region. Additionally, the council conducted research about how the mutual concerns interconnect and unite the region.

Through this process, the council sought to define the region’s boundaries by determining common characteristics and features shared between local municipalities and county governments. The region completed this evaluation by examining key community development factors including: geographic makeup, demographics, economic marketplace, and transportation

systems. Together these factors help define the Southwest Florida Region by determining where local communities and counties interconnect and unite into a single territory.

After reviewing all of the information and considering what comprise the Southwest Florida Region, the SWFRPC determined the region is made up of the eight counties that stretch south from the Sunshine Skyway Bridge to the Everglades National Park and east to Lake Okeechobee. The counties are: Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, and Hendry. The regional definition includes the six SWFRPC counties plus Manatee and DeSoto Counties, which have been added due to their connection to the other counties in the region.

Geographic Make-up of the Region

Southwest Florida is a diverse geographic area. The region is based upon the coastal areas that extend along the Gulf of Mexico from the Tampa Bay Harbor in the north to the Everglades National Park in the south. These coastal areas are linked to inland areas by a complex ecosystem that includes wetlands, rivers and their tributaries, old Florida preserves, and rural lands that extend from the Gulf of Mexico to the interior.

The components of the geographic features are as follows:

- Coastal Areas: barrier islands, beaches, harbor, and wetlands
- Old Florida Preserves: pine forests, wetlands, rivers and their tributaries
- Rural Lands: cattle lands, citrus groves, sugar cane farms, and other produce farms

The coastal areas are located along the Gulf of Mexico shores which stretch the entire west coast of the region from Manatee to Collier County. The old Florida preserves are dispersed throughout the region as they help protect the region's most valuable resources. The region's largest preserved area is the Everglades National Park, which is located at the region's southern section in Collier County. Rural lands dominate the region's three interior counties, but also include areas outside the development corridors of the five coastal counties. Together these areas make up the single geographical area identified as Southwest Florida.

The region's geography supports an array of recreational, economic, and environmental resources including:

- Water resources - boating, fishing scuba diving, and swimming.
- Florida natural resources - hiking, camping, beach-based activities, boating, and natural photography/arts.
- Agricultural resources - produce farming, livestock, nurseries, and aquaculture.

These opportunities are the reason that Southwest Florida is able to provide community members, business owners, and visitors a high quality of life with many opportunities to live, work, and play in the region. Indeed, the geographic diversity of the region is the reason why people are attracted to the region as it provides the foundation for the region's economy.

Southwest Florida is a multi-generational region, with community members from all age groups. While the area is commonly thought of as an area that is tailored to senior retirees, data from the Shimberg Center for Housing shows that the region's population is fairly evenly distributed among all age groups.

The following demographic profile from 2005 shows this distribution:

Total Population:	1,769,239
19 and under:	377,047 / 21%
20 - 34:	255,322 / 14%
35 - 49:	330,572 / 19%
50 - 64:	351,826 / 20%
65 and over:	454,472 / 26%

The highest percentage of residents fall in the 65 and over age group and the lowest percentage is the 20 - 34 year olds. Yet despite this difference, most of the age groups make up approximately 20% of the population - a clear indication that the region's age distribution is fairly equitable through all generations.

The largest counties are located along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico:

1. Lee County

2005 Population: 548,831

Location: Coastal County north of Collier County, and west of Hendry and Collier Counties

Municipalities: Cities of Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, and Sanibel Island, and Town of Fort Myers Beach

Population make up:

19 and under: 121,804 / 22%

20-34: 81,709 / 15%

35-49: 104,540 / 19%

50-64: 109,952 / 20%

65 and over: 130,826 / 24%

2. Sarasota County

2005 Population: 367,836

Location: Coastal County north of Charlotte County, and west of DeSoto and Dade Counties

Municipalities: Cities of Sarasota, North Port, Venice, and the Town of Longboat Key (Note: Longboat Key is also located in Manatee County)

Population make up:

19 and under: 66,106 / 18%

20-34: 42,494 / 12%

35-49: 66,860 / 18%

50-64: 78,606 / 21%
 65 and over: 113,770 / 31%

3. Collier County

2005 Population: 317, 683

Location: Coastal County north of Monroe County, and west of Broward and Dade Counties

Municipalities: Cities of Naples, Marco Island, and Everglades City

Population make up:

19 and under: 70,937 / 22%
 20-34: 49,994 / 16%
 35-49: 60,444 / 19%
 50-64: 61,708 / 19%
 65 and over: 74,600 / 23%

4. Manatee County

2005 Population: 304, 116

Location: Coastal County north of Sarasota County, and west of Hardee and DeSoto Counties

Municipalities: Cities of Anna Maria, Bradenton, Bradenton Beach, Holmes Beach, and Palmetto and Town of Longboat Key (Note: Longboat Key is also in Sarasota County)

Population make up:

19 and under: 69,322 / 23%
 20-34: 48,135 / 16%
 35-49: 59,788 / 20%
 50-64: 56,458 / 19%
 65 and over: 70,413 / 23 %

5. Charlotte County

2005 Population: 152, 899

Location: Coastal County north of Monroe County, County, and west of Broward and Dade County

Municipality: City of Punta Gorda

Population make up:

19 and under: 26,076 / 17%
 20 - 34: 15,906 / 10%
 35 - 49: 25,178 / 16%
 50 - 64: 33,106 / 22%
 65 and over: 52,633 / 34%

6. Hendry County

2005 Population 37, 409

Location: Inland County north of Collier County, Glades County, and west of Palm Beach County

Municipalities: Cities of Clewiston and LaBelle

Population make up:

19 and under:	12, 444 / 33%
20 - 34:	90, 022 / 24%
35 - 49:	6, 937 / 19%
50 - 64:	4, 947 / 13%
65 and over:	4, 059 / 11%

7. DeSoto County

2005 Population 30, 482

Location: Inland county north of Charlotte County, south of Hardee County, and west of Highlands County

Municipality: City of Arcadia

Population make up:

19 and under:	7,883 / 26%
20 - 34:	6,372 / 21%
35 - 49:	5,021 / 16%
30 - 64:	5,053 / 17%
65 and over:	6,153 / 20%

8. Glades County

2005 Population 9, 983

Location: Inland County north of Hendry County, south of Highlands County, and west of Charlotte County

Municipality: City of Moore Haven

Population make up:

19 and under:	2,475 / 25%
20 - 34:	1,690 / 17%
35 - 49:	1,804 / 18%
50 - 64:	1,996 / 20%
65 and over:	2,018 / 20%

Coastal and Inland Counties

Demographic Makeup, County Population Distribution, Population Centers

The largest population centers in Southwest Florida region are located along the Gulf of Mexico. These five coastal counties - Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier - are home to a population of 1, 691,365 of the population. Whereas, the three inland counties - DeSoto, Hendry, and Glades - have only 77, 874 residents. The reason for this disparity is that the five coastal

counties are made up of larger urban / suburban areas while the three inland counties are identifies by their rural agricultural lands. The differences include:
Southwest Florida has 22 incorporated municipalities, eighteen of which are located in the five coastal counties.

The region's thirteen most populous municipalities located in the five coastal counties, west of I-75:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Cape Coral (149, 165) | 8. Venice (20, 799) |
| 2. Fort Myers (61, 318) | 9. Punta Gorda (16, 256) |
| 3. Sarasota (54, 820) | 10. Marco Island (15, 647) |
| 4. Bradenton (54,183) | 11. Palmetto (13, 252) |
| 5. Bonita Springs (42, 296) | 12. Longboat Key (7, 660) |
| 6. North Port (40, 999) | 13. Fort Myers Beach (6, 851) |
| 7. Naples (22, 491) | |

96% of the region's population lives in 5 coastal counties; 4% of the population lives in the 3 inland counties.

The region has three commercial airports, all of which are located in the coastal section of the region.

I-75 is the region's only Federal Interstate Highway. It travels predominantly through the five coastal counties.

Regional Economic Factors

When the SWFRPC asked a group of regional stakeholders to describe the region many people said it is where the market conducts its primary business. This group of community leaders, business owners, and public officials explained that the most important factor in determining what makes up the southwest region is what counties are tied to a shared economy.

As this response resonated strongly with the region's leaders, we sought to quantify these questions by conducting a study of the top industries located within each of the proposed eight counties. The answer was quite insightful as it found that all of the top business sectors correlate in one way or another to the other counties. Indeed, the 2007 U.S. Economic Census found that each county's top industry sectors were also a found in the other counties, though not in the exact same order.

This review found that the region's top industries are associated with leisure-oriented, service-based economic activities as they were related to the support and provision of services, goods, food, and housing.

The following list highlights the top 15 industry sectors in Southwest Florida as reported by the 2007 U.S. Economic Census:

Admin and Support Services: 142, 224 / 47.09%
 Retail: 79, 096 / 26.19%
 Construction: 78, 548 / 26.00%
 Health Care: 77, 699 / 25.72%
 Hospitality and Restaurant: 59, 374 / 19.66%
 Professional and Technical Services: 31, 229 / 10.34%
 Manufacturing: 28, 716 / 9.51%
 Art, Entertainment, and Recreation: 22, 354 / 7.4%
 Other Services: 22, 221 / 7.36%
 Finance and Insurance: 20, 762 / 6.87%
 Wholesale Trade: 19, 620 / 6.50%
 Agriculture: 18, 763 / 6.21%
 Real Estate: 14, 230 / 4.71%
 Information Production and Distribution: 10, 133 / 3.35%
 Management Companies: 7, 547 / 2.50%

The fact that these industries cross county lines underscores the strength of Southwest Florida region's cohesiveness.

The region's economic interdependence upon housing, tourism, and other service-based industries has been particularly evident in the current economic market. The failure of the housing industry has caused the region's economy to spiral downward. Coastal communities which at one time seemed invulnerable to national economic ups and downs have led the region's current economic downturn.

As the nation's housing crisis has crippled the region's core industries, new unfinished neighborhoods are left to deteriorate in the hot Florida sun. According July 2009 economic figures from the Florida Research and Economic Database, the state of Florida's unemployment rate had reached a 16 year high of 11.0% - Florida had a 3.0% unemployment rate as recently as April 2006.

The economic conditions for Southwest Florida were even worse, as the combined 8-county region's unemployment rate was 12.4% or 104,344 individuals. Every county in the region had double digit unemployment as every county except Glades had an unemployment rate that was higher than the state average:

Hendry County / 16.4%
 Lee County / 13.2%
 Manatee County / 12.2%
 Collier County / 12.1%
 Charlotte County / 12.0%
 Sarasota County 11.5%
 DeSoto County / 11.4%

Glades County / 10.6%

United States and Florida Unemployment Rates (seasonally adjusted)

Leading the economic downturn is job associated with the following industries: construction, trades, transportation, utilities, professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, financial services, other services, and information related industries. In particular, construction jobs accounted for over 26 percent of the losses in the state.

According to Florida labor statistics, the two bright spots were education and health services and total government jobs. Increases in education and health services was reported to have been caused by the continued strength of the health care industry as a whole and specific increases in jobs in nursing and residential care facilities. The State reported that the increase in total government is due to seasonal patterns in state universities employment.

Future Economic Outlook

Immediate Economic forecasts for 2009 do not show much improvement as the Florida Agency for Work-force Innovations indicates that, like the nation, Florida must overcome issues related to high home fore-closures, stagnant lending practices, and consumer confidence. However, despite current economic conditions, state officials and real estate experts believe Florida's economy will rebound strongly.

State planners and real estate market advocates suggest that are reasons to be optimistic. Statistics from the Florida Associate of Realtors suggest that there is reason to believe in the continued resilience of Florida's housing market and economic base including:

Reduced Home Costs. Florida's median sales price for existing homes in June 2009 was \$148,000. A year ago it was \$205,300, which is a 28% decrease. However, the statewide existing home median price in June increased 2.49% over May's median price. It also was higher than the statewide median price reported each month since the start of 2009.

Increasing Home Sales. June 2009 saw an increase in new homes sales for the tenth straight month — a clear sign that the housing market may be on the rebound.

High housing inventories. As the housing market stagnated homes did not sell and new homes came on the market. Even though many builders suspended construction plans, a glut of existing homes remained. This glut has resulted in a buyer's market.

Federal Mortgage Rates. In an attempt to encourage home buying, Federal agencies have kept rates at the lowest levels since the 1960s.

Florida is still seen as a growth state. Lenders are still willing to lend to home buyers in Florida because the long-term growth forecasts remain strong. 2010 Census projections have Florida as the third most populous state.

In-migration Remains Strong. Despite the downturn, Florida's growth rate remains strong and is expected to be about 317,000 people a year in the next decade.

Retiring Baby Boomers. As some 80 million baby boomers retire, Florida is seen as a favorable destination.

Growth Industries. Even as the economy is in a state of slow growth there are industries that are doing well. Among those industries are health care, technologies, green energies, all of which are important industries in Southwest Florida.

High Homeownership Rates. Florida has a high owner-occupied housing rate which means community members have a high personal investment in their communities. As a result residents are likely to support local efforts, like this regional visioning process, which seeks to address community issues needs and concerns.

Florida is a Destination. State planning officials remind people that Florida is a place that people want to come to. The features that originally attracted people to the state -sunshine, water, and tropical weather continue to draw residents.

What does this mean for Southwest Florida? That now is the best time to focus on planning for the future. Planning is best accomplished in a stable environment. Stability enables community members, business owners, public organizations, and elected officials to determine what the proper course of action is before the change occurs. Southwest Florida's economy will recover. When it does, the region should have a plan that helps direct the growth in such a way that helps the region achieve its future vision.

Current Economic Conditions

In December 2008, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council sponsored two forums aimed at initiating a regional visioning process for the 8-county Southwest Florida region. Over eighty elected and community leaders participated in the People, Prosperity, and Preservation visioning process forums. Participants included community groups, non-profit organizations, private businesses, and public agencies.

The purpose of the forums was to 1) build upon the various long-term visioning efforts that the have been undertaken through the region and 2) design a visioning process that produces real implementation.

The forums achieved their goal by encouraging participants to consider the region's future by discussing their ideas and concerns about the
Discussions addressed the various challenges and opportunities for developing a regional vision in Southwest Florida as well as why participants thought a vision was important for the region's future.

The forum discussions were framed around three primary topics:

- The region's boundaries and issues.
- Visioning experiences and expectations.
- Visioning Process form, function, and goals.

At the conclusion of the workshop, consensus started to form regarding the best approach to implement a visioning process. This visioning process, as described in this report, is based upon the region's desire to address common regional needs and promote the region's economy while providing excellent public services and superior quality of life that all generations can enjoy. This vision process will continue to be fine-tuned and developed through additional meetings with community members, public officials, intergovernmental partner agencies, and elected government bodies. Additionally, it will reflect the best planning practices of regional planning efforts held through the State of Florida and United States

Focus on Regional Concerns

The communities of Southwest Florida face a number of challenges as they work towards providing their community members, business owners, and visitors a great place to live, work, and play. Many of these challenges transcend local borders and impact the people, economy, and ecosystems of the entire region. Challenges such as housing development, local police and fire services, and recreational resource are primarily local issues that are influenced by regional factors. Others - such as economic development, transportation, and natural resource protection - are regional issues that impact the quality of life for local communities. In either case, local solutions will not succeed unless the regional concerns involved with such issues are resolved.

The challenges facing the communities of Southwest Florida include concerns related to:

Development and Planning

1. Construction of vibrant community centers, strong neighborhoods, viable business areas, and valued public spaces, civic resources, and park and recreational opportunities.
2. Provision of varied housing options that meet the needs of a diverse regional population.
3. Land use patterns that support multi-modal transportation alternatives.
4. Sustainable land development practices that protect vital coastal areas, wetlands, and natural Florida ecosystems.

Economic Development

1. Creation of high quality jobs and diverse economic opportunities.
2. Business development that provides needed jobs, services, and economic resources.
3. Economic efforts that spur long-term business growth and economic sustainability.
4. Provision of private and public services that meet the community's needs.

Education and Workforce Development

1. Support of the educational resources that provide learning opportunities for a lifetime:
 - Pre-school and childhood education.
 - Workforce and job skills training.
 - College and post graduate education.
 - Continuing workforce and professional skills development.
 - Senior and active adult education.

Emergency Management

1. Protection of people, property, natural habitats, and other community assets from fire, tropical events, human caused events, and other emergency events.
2. Provision of emergency services — police, fire, health — which meet the needs of an emergency event and protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of the region.

Environmental Sustainability

1. Protection of vital natural resources.
2. Support of green economy opportunities.
3. Mitigation of the impacts of climate change and habitat degradation.

Health Care and Human Services

1. Support of quality health care and human services needed to care for and maintain people's wellbeing.
2. Health care facilities
3. Emergency care services
4. Family medical services
5. Therapeutic care

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

1. Provision of high quality utility services, infrastructure systems, and natural systems related to the needs of:
 - Potable water and wastewater
 - Solid waste
 - Stormwater management
 - Telecommunications
 - Energy

Public Services, Cultural Resources, and Recreation

1. Support and provision of public services that meet the social, cultural, and personal needs of the community:
 - Parks and recreational resources

Library and historical resources
 Civic and arts resources
 Other community services
 Support and provision of opportunities for community members and visitors to play and recreate:
 Parks
 Sporting venues
 Arts and theater
 Beaches and waterways
 Trails and bikeways
 Natural open areas

Transportation Mobility

1. Provision of an integrated, multi-modal system that enables community members, business owners, and visitors to travel within and through the community.
 - Pedestrian sidewalks and trails
 - Bikeways
 - Transit
 - Roadways
2. Support of land use and development patterns that provide for multi-modal transportation systems.
 - Mixed-use development patterns
 - Community centers and density

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council specifically represents six (6) counties and sixteen (16) municipalities. With a total land area of 6,663 square miles southwest Florida covers 10% of the State's land area and is home to 1 out of 12 Floridians. Since April 1, 2000, the Southwest Florida population (1,206,635) has grown by 28%. It is projected that the region will almost double its current estimated population of 1,552,350 by the year 2030 to 2,396,793 (BEBR, Vol. 41, Bulletin 151, July, 2008.) The age cohort 35-64 make up the largest share of the regional population. The abundance of people in this age group makes for a healthy workforce. The age cohort 18 to 34 is the second fastest growing population; with an expected average annual growth rate of 3%. This age group is a vital part of our future as a region. The fastest growing population cohort - residents age 65 and older - bring a wide range of knowledge and experience to Southwest Florida. Southwest Florida has a well-educated and highly skilled workforce. According to the 2000 Census, 23% of Southwest Floridians (age 25 and over) had a college degree or higher compared to 24% in the nation.

The regional land use is characterized by a mix of land uses and has a historical urban and rural split. Urban communities stretch along the coastal areas and then transition into large tracts of agricultural lands. The region has a large set of environmental resources. The freshwater swamps and sloughs, including the Big Cypress National Preserve and the Everglades National Park include eco-systems that contain the largest remaining habitats for rare and endangered species in Florida.

The region has access to both the Gulf of Mexico and Lake Okeechobee. Charlotte Harbor, the coastal center of the Region's west coast, is one of the nation's few largely undeveloped estuaries. The Region's beaches and enclosed back water bays provide abundant recreational opportunities that attracts tourist from around the world. Southwest Florida has no port facilities and retirement income, tourism and agriculture make up the three largest components of the region's economy. Florida will add almost 10 million more people over the next 25 years. From metropolitan areas to its rural inlands, all regions in the State of Florida will be affected by growth-related changes in the future. It is critical to manage change to be prosperous in the new global economy while maintaining our quality of life.

Regional Issues

Based on the existing trends, information gathered in public presentations and forums held around the region the Future of the Region from 2011 to 2035 identified within the framework to the SRPP will be as follows:

Population

1. The Region will continue to grow – Just different than expected: lower natural increases, fewer affluent retirees, and more immigrants.
2. Continued multi-cultural, religious and ethnic groups.
3. Boomers will be challenged to sell homes up north.
4. Demand for younger people to support older population.

Economic Development

1. Tourism will continue - if the environment is protected.
2. Retirement will continue to dominate. Retirement checks may be threatened.
3. Construction related activities will be less.
4. Gasoline Prices will become more and may change mobility trends.
5. More locally grown food will increase - which will increase the need to protect farmlands.
6. Not much export and limited local consumption oriented manufacturing.
7. Services will continue to be in demand.

Natural Resources

1. Acquisition of parts of larger natural systems will continue to keep area eco-system healthy and maintain the tourist/retirement oriented economy.
2. Wildlife will continue to be protected.
3. Watershed management will help water quality.
4. Sea level rise will continue.
5. Water amounts will be problematic.

Emergency Management

1. Hurricanes will continue to impact the region.
2. Accidents will continue happen in the region.

Affordable Housing

1. Pockets of wealth will continue to require service populations and these servers will require housing.
2. The demand for smaller units will grow as incomes stagnate, complexities in integrating housing and businesses within the same setting need to be overcome.

Transportation

1. Complete streets will become increasingly in demand.
2. Multi-modal transportation facilities integrated with increased density land uses will increase.

Regional Challenges

Growth in the region has been significant over the past 60 years. By 1990, the region's population growth was more than five times that of 1960. In the year 2006, the Southwest Florida Region continued its significant growth reaching over 1.5 million people and has been estimated to reach an estimated 2.3 million people by 2030. This population growth and demographic changes will drive the development of the region and will and has produced changes in the region's economic trends, land uses and growth pressures at the "edge" of the existing urban core areas. Because of the automobile oriented land development patterns, job dispersion resulting in a jobs/transportation imbalances have occurred and as energy prices increase in the future this imbalance will cause significant stress to the region and could potentially thwart future growth and development. The region also has significant pressures related to the conservation and preservation of Agricultural lands. These pressures could impact the future costs of food stuffs should imports of food from external sources be stressed due to population and demand growth in other parts of the world. Additionally, given the economic downturn due the past several years, retirement populations may be reduced and the income derived from these sources may also experience reductions. Since these income sources are a major portion of the southwest Florida economy, current trends could produce challenges that will slow the future development of the area.

To address these problems, the SWFRPC has been working to coordinate the people of the region to address community, education, health and cultural issues. The SWFRPC desires to provide a framework for prosperity that includes job creation, property value increases, economic development and transportation network improvements at the same time addressing the preservation of the environment that attracts retirees and related service populations to the area. In order to address the balanced use of the region's environment, the SWRRPC has been

emphasizing environmental, agriculture, open space, water, energy and land uses through preservation by planning for the protection of vital resources, by linking multi-modal transportation facilities and land uses, by providing leadership in the establishment of sustainable communities, by searching for linkages between existing and emerging centers transportation and by searching for coordination of leaders efforts to provide consistency across regional boundaries.

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan desires to lead the region to an overall sustainable Florida that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The results of the region’s “People, Prosperity, and Preservation” was a vision that stated it is a desire of the region to provide, “an effective partnership of public agencies, business, industry, and communities working together to further regional investment that provides for a sustainable quality of life, ensures the mobility of people and goods, while recognizing the interrelationship between the economy and environment.”

Strategic Regional Policy Plan Evaluation and Appraisal

The Southwest Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan (Volume Two: Adopted on June 13, 2002 and Effective on July 4, 2002) has been evaluated base on relevant current information, future trends, present required functions and on-going activities of the Council, Federal, State, and grants budget limitations, and input provided from public meetings held throughout the region. The evaluation and appraisal of the SRPP was implemented in order to update and correct the information found in the SRPP related to the Goals, Strategies, and Actions found in the Plan. The SRPP was restructured by adding an additional Element to the Plan named “Livable Communities.” The new Element was added in order to make future reviews of Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Developments of Regional Impact, Intergovernmental Coordination and Reviews, and other uses of the SRPP to be more clearly defined and to allow development issues not previously addressed in the SRPP to be identified. The following matrices provide a detailed evaluation on whether to retain, remove, or amend all of the Goals, Strategies and Actions found in the Plan. The amended SRPP was adopted by the Council on September 15, 2011.

Strategic Regional Policy Plan Goals, Strategies, and Actions

Economic Development Element

Economic Infrastructure

Goal 1: A well-maintained social, health, and educational infrastructure to support business and industry.

Strategy: Continually improve the educational system to produce an educated and trained work force.

- Action 1:** Use the economic advisory committees to assist in the exchange of information between the educational system and the business community about business needs.
- Action 2:** Use the economic advisory committees to advise educational institutions to increase upper division and graduate level studies through programs appropriate to regional needs.
- Action 3:** Review proposed development impacts on and opportunities to provide needed educational facilities and services.

Indicators

- Student retention rates that meet or exceed those of the state.
- Rate of high school graduates entering post-secondary school that meets or exceeds that of the state.
- Expansion of degrees and programs offered by post-secondary schools.

Strategy: Ensure a health care system that addresses the needs of both business and the work force

- Action 1:** Where possible participate in the study of health insurance options for employers and employees.
- Action 2:** Review proposed development for impacts on and opportunities to provide needed health care facilities and services.

Indicators

- Decreased rate of death, disability, and illness.
- Reduction in the rate of health care cost increases.
- Reduction in the rate of health insurance cost increases.

Strategy: Maintain the physical infrastructure to meet growth demands.

- Action 1:** Review plan amendments, development proposal, and clearinghouse items for public facility deficits and encourage mitigation of those deficits.
- Action 2:** Assist local governments and state agencies in planning for future support service facilities, before the need arises.

- Action 3:** Review proposed public facilities to ensure their location in urban areas that have in place, or are covered by binding agreements to provide, the resources and facilities for desired growth in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- Action 4:** Study alternative and assist other entities to study alternatives to encourage land development that maximizes the use, rehabilitation, and re-use of existing facilities, structures, and buildings as an alternative to new construction and development.
- Action 5:** Review proposed development to require the developer to install or finance the necessary infrastructure and to provide land for the needed support services.

Indicators

- An inventory of support services and facilities.
- Increased funding of infrastructure from non-local sources.

Strategy: Ensure the adequacy of lands for commercial and industrial centers, with suitable services provided.

- Action 1:** Include in planning efforts the recognition of lands with natural capacity, accessibility, previous preparation for urban purposes, and adequate public facilities.
- Action 2:** Participate, coordinate, or promote intergovernmental coordination for siting unpopular land uses.
- Action 3:** Review proposed development for increased densities and infill in suitable urban areas.

Indicators

- Increased square footage of development in central business districts when compared with overall population growth.
- Reduced average distance from residential areas to commercial/service sites.
- Increased expansion of appropriate trade and service areas for future residential areas.

Strategy: Ensure the availability of the infrastructure needed for advanced telecommunication and high-technology.

- Action 1:** Promote public and private efforts to monitor and anticipate the need for high-technology infrastructure and to evaluate funding sources to meet those demands.
- Action 2:** Participate with public and private entities to address potential conflicts due to the placement of communication towers and similar high-technology infrastructure.

Indicators

- Cooperative arrangements with regulators and public and private providers of high-technology infrastructure.

Strategy: Ensure adequate infrastructure for rural areas.

Action 1: As requested evaluate locally undesirable land uses as part of rural economic development.

Action 2: Assist rural local governments to develop grant applications.

Indicators

- Adopted levels of service in rural areas, compared with levels of service in urban areas.
- Improve rural infrastructure.

Strategy: Promote the use of alternative energy resources.

Action 1: Review proposed development to promote energy conservation.

Action 2: Participate in an ongoing regional forum on alternative energy research and development.

Indicators

- More occupational licenses for energy production or installation of energy conservation appliances or energy-producing devices or equipment.
- Increased sales of solar water heaters and other alternative energy systems.

The Work Force**Goal 2: A well-educated, well-trained work force.****Strategy: Enhance the skill level of the regional work force.**

Action 1: Coordinate with the public and private sectors to assess skills for targeted industries.

Indicators

- Increased capacity of job-training programs.
- Increased participation by employers in work force development.
- Improvements in educational attainment.

Strategy: Ensure a wide range of employment for all Southwest Floridians.

Action 1: Identify employment sectors that create jobs appropriate to this region.

Action 2: Participate in business, industrial, and governmental organizations to attract diversified and permanent employment.

Action 3: Assist rural local governments to increase services for start-up businesses and entrepreneurs.

Indicators

- A regional job creation rate greater than the rate of population increase.
- A regional job creation rate greater than the state rate.
- Increased number of enterprise zones, free trade zones, etc.

Strategy: Improve the high rates of unemployment and low wage scales in rural areas.

- Action 1:** Identify economically depressed areas and assist with applications for funding and economic development planning.
- Action 2:** Assist communities largely reliant upon agricultural income or employment to diversify their employment and tax bases.
- Action 3:** Assist in the development and expansion of rural tourism and eco-tourism.
- Action 4:** Assist in the development of information programs, including signage coordinated with transportation agencies, for rural historic places and cultural and historical activities.

Indicators

- Reduced out migration rates among younger rural residents.
- Increased median education and income levels in rural areas.
- Increased real value or square footages of commercial, governmental, residential, and cultural land uses in rural areas.
- More rural economic development programs.
- More programs for rural downtown preservation and revitalization.

Diversity

Goal 3: A diverse regional economy.

Strategy: Diversify the regional economy by attracting new business and industry.

- Action 1:** Work with business, industry, and government to target industries appropriate for their markets.
- Action 2:** Develop and publish demographic information and marketing materials to assist communities in business development.

Indicators

- Periodic publication of essential demographic and marketing information.

Strategy: Inventory the business incentives offered in the Region.

- Action 1:** Review and analyze the effects of incentives, such as jobs created and average wages, as well as the community's estimate of benefits.

Indicators

- Publication of an assessment of incentives offered to business.

Strategy: Work with communities to develop eco-tourism.

- Action 1:** Assist in development, expansion, and funding of eco-tourism, especially for rural areas.
- Action 2:** Provide eco-tourism information on the SWFRPC web site.

Indicators

- Increased information about eco-tourism on the SWFRPC web site.

Marketing

Goal 4: Increase tourism and business relocation.

Strategy: Promote both internal and inter-regional tourism.

- Action 1:** Encourage increased regional tourism and promotion by local interests in other areas.
- Action 2:** Advocate tourism between this and other regions and protect inter-regional tourism resources.

Indicators

- Reduced variations in seasonal occupancy versus non-seasonal occupancy.
- Reduced variation in the percentage of tourist development taxes collected during the winter season versus summer season.
- Increase local participation in regional promotional efforts.

Strategy: Re-evaluate the success of Southwest Florida as a retirement and tourist destination.

- Action 1:** Review proposed development to protect the resources important to the quality of life.
- Action 2:** Review capital improvement programs to identify the impacts and needs of residents and tourists and to prioritize improvements to accommodate both.

Indicators

- Analysis of retirement and tourism in the regional economy.

Strategy: Promote Southwest Florida as a business location.

- Action 1:** Participate in local and regional efforts to attract targeted business.
- Action 2:** Encourage increased regional efforts to promote business relocations.

Indicators

- Increased number of new business locations from other areas.
- Increased local participation in regional promotional efforts.

Strategy: Provide technical assistance to member local governments and other public economic development interests.

- Action 1:** Develop and distribute economic and demographic information.
- Action 2:** Maintain and expand the SWFRPC library of items about economic development.
- Action 3:** Exchange information through workshops, economic groups, and committees.
- Action 4:** Review economic proposals, such as plan elements, projects, and grant applications.
- Action 5:** Assist in development and preparation of applications for funding.

Indicators

- Number of volumes in the economic section of the SWFRPC library.
- Number of projects and applications assisted by the SWFRPC.

Regional Cooperation

Goal 5: A system of cooperation and coordination for economic development that includes a broad range of public and private participants.

Strategy: Promote regional cooperation and coordination for economic development.

Action 1: Promote cooperative arrangements and actions for economic development among business, governmental, and environmental groups, and other public and private entities.

Indicators

- None.

Natural Resources Element

Public Awareness

Goal 1: The Region's environmental awareness educational programs will be supported and directed to as many audiences as possible.

Strategy: Provide technical assistance to the Region's various public awareness programs.

Action 1: The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council will assist School Boards and Environmental Education Centers in the design of awareness programs.

Action 2: Local, regional and state agencies should establish non-regulatory, educational urban non listed wildlife programs, which include:

- a. The identification of wildlife living in urban areas;
- b. Public education concerning the behavior and needs of urban wildlife;
- c. The benefits of maintain urban wildlife;
- d. Measures to avoid conflicts between urban wildlife species and man, and the means to resolve such conflicts.

Indicators

- None.

Natural Resource Protection

Goal 2: The diversity and extent of the Region's protected natural systems will increase consistently. The increase will be based upon 1998 acreage of existing conservation, preservation and stewardship lands.

Strategy: To identify and include within land conservation preservation and stewardship programs, those lands identified as being regionally necessary for the sustainability of southwest Florida.

Action 1: Provide a regional clearing house and inventory of lands included in all land acquisition programs in a regional Green Print shared at the SWFRPC web site.

Action 2: Support continued acquisition of lands targeted for conservation and recreation by land acquisition programs, including federal, state regional, local, and private efforts in the region.

- Action 3:** Assist federal, state, regional, local and private entities to evaluate projects that have been submitted for consideration under the land acquisition programs, as requested by reviewing staff on an application-by-application basis..
- Action 4:** Support continued preservation of lands targeted for conservation and recreation by Private Environmental Land Trust Programs in the Region.
- Action 5:** Facilitate and assist in the coordination of all land acquisition programs in the southwest Florida region by sponsoring an annual meeting of all public and private initiatives.
- Action 6:** Maintain the Green Print map depicting land that has been set aside for conservation purposes by federal, state, regional, local and private entities, including existing conservation easements.
- Action 7:** Maintain the existing Green Print map layer of non-regulatory gaps of land needed for recreation, hunting/fishing, flood control, forestry activities, etc. to provide support for future populations, maintain and support the regional economy and to protect existing ecosystems.
- Action 8:** Working with the various acquisitions programs identified in the Plan and working with Local Governments and private landowners, develop a strategy to protect gaps lands identified in the above action, using the Tools outlined in the plan.
- Action 9:** Assist in the preparation of applications of existing programs for funding of land acquisitions for gaps lands shown on the Green Print map.
- Action 10:** Support the formation of new conservation programs and land trusts, and encourage existing land trusts to focus on land acquisition and on other land conservation techniques within portions of southwest Florida not currently within a program and not depicted on the Green Print map.
- Action 11:** Encourage the establishment of management funding at the time of acquisition and refine existing management strategies to insure that the lands acquired are maintained in the natural or goal condition that led to their preservation status. Encourage management strategies that include provisions for natural fire management.

Indicators

- **Green Print Map**
- **Annual meeting**
- **Acres of protected natural systems and other natural areas owned by local governments, water management districts, and privately held natural preserves depicted on the Green Print map.**
- **Net change in native wetland acreage.**
- **Net change in native upland acreage**

Water Resource Management

Goal 3: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management Districts, and local governments must have programs based on scientific modeling to protect surface water, potable wells, wellfields and contributing areas from contamination.

Strategy: Implement the six water quality resolutions adopted by the SWFRPC in all plan and project reviews.

- Action 1:** Working with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management Districts and local governments, assist in the creation of a modeling tools to evaluate current resource conditions based on alternative rainfall scenarios including future climate change. The modeling tool needs to be able to predict and evaluate future resource conditions based on alternative land use and rainfall scenarios. The tools need to be able to evaluate and predict future resource conditions based on alternative land use and rainfall amounts.
- Action 2:** Work with the Water Management Districts and local governments to insure that the resource condition evaluation addresses surface and groundwater, quality and quantity, flow, volume, direction and the hydro period cycle.
- Action 3:** Work with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management Districts regional water authorizes, and local governments to insure a better land use/water linkage and provide for consideration that the land use scenarios recognize the land use patterns of urban, agricultural, and natural system coverage, and the social/economic factors that guide change to land use.
- Action 4:** The different communities and agencies in a given natural basin area need a common forum and coordinated planning framework to pursue a shared response to the selected management system needed for the basin. In lieu of another entity serving that function, the Regional Planning Council should serve that function.
- Action 5:** Where economic/political units are divided by Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management Districts' boundaries, and regional water authorities (i.e., metropolitan areas or cohesive rural food and fiber production areas), assist in the coordination between districts and the political units that emphasizes the planning for water resource management.
- Action 6:** Work with the state to reestablish the intent of the State and Regional Planning Act of 1984 and Growth Management Act of 1985, and support that Water Management District Board Members be included among the Governor's voting appointments to Regional Planning Councils.
- Action 7:** Address long-term planning of potable supply quality and quantities, including promotion of conservation, non-polluting reuse programs and development of alternative water sources that do not impair natural systems including wetlands and fisheries.
- Action 8:** Working with the South and Southwest Florida Water Management Districts, the SWFRPC will promote maximum efficiency and protection for the future development of water resource management in the region.
- Action 9:** The SWFRPC will assist as requested in the long-term planning and coordination for restoration programs in the region as pursued by the South and

Southwest Florida Water Management Districts. These restoration programs will include: the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan, the Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan, and the coastal watershed projects.

Strategy: SWFRPC will coordinate as requested the long-term planning for potable water supplies and sources in the region as pursued by the South and Southwest Florida Water Management Districts.

Action 1: Working with the South and Southwest Florida Water Management Districts, the SWFRPC will promote water conservation, reuse, regional interconnects and development of alternative water supplies.

Action 2: Working with the South and Southwest Florida Water Management Districts, the SWFRPC will utilize the Council's review, planning, and intergovernmental roles to better integrate water resource management and land use planning in the region.

Action 3: Work with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management Districts regional water authorizes, and local governments to insure a better land use/water linkage and provide for consideration that the land use scenarios recognize the land use patterns of urban, agricultural, and natural system coverage, and the social/economic factors that guide change to land use.

Indicators

- Number of implementations of the six water quality resolutions adopted by the SWFRPC in reviews of projects.

Resources

None

Regional Cooperation

Goal 4: Effective resource management is maintained across the borders of sovereign public agencies.

Strategy: All plans concerning the same resource shall have as objectives the same effective results.

Action 1: Assist in the creation of proactive boating siting and management programs that will protect the West Indian Manatee, seagrass areas, sanctuaries, fisheries habitat and other necessary natural features and at the same time identify and maximize the use of available land most suitable for public access to the natural resource.

Action 2: The SWFRPC will play an active role on the Management Conferences for the Charlotte Harbor and Sarasota Bay National Estuary Programs.

Action 3: The SWFRPC will promote state, regional and local agencies to consider lands identified as priority habitat and areas formally designated as critical habitat for the Florida Panther to be incorporated in the agency's natural resource management programs and provide intergovernmental coordination for the implementation of management practices that based on existing data, would be expected to result in maintaining habitat conditions for the panther.

- Action 4:** The SWFRPC will continue to support the regional management of the Region's beaches and shores through the Southwest Florida Beaches and Shores Convocation.
- Action 5:** The SWFRPC will continue to support the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management consistent with the Settlement Agreement for the permitting of Florida Gulf Coast University and in coordination with the signatories of the Settlement Agreement.
- Action 6:** The SWFRPC will continue to coordinate with the entities of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Working Group and the Southwest Florida Watershed Protection Plan in their restoration efforts.
- Action 7:** The SWFRPC will continue to support the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Southwest Florida and their training for Hazardous Materials handling, storage, management, emergency response and disposal.

Indicators

- None

Resources

None

Livable Communities Element

Livable Communities - Economic Development

Goal 1: A stable economy based on a continuing excellent quality of life.

Strategy: Maintain and improve the natural, historic, cultural, and tourist-related resources as primary regional economic assets.

- Action 1:** Assist in the identification and acquisition of Potential Park and recreational sites and other resources in future growth areas.
- Action 2:** Participate in studies, plans, and programs for public access to beaches and other resources.
- Action 3:** Review proposed development to require that natural and other resources of regional significance are maintained, enhanced, restored, or re-created, as appropriate.

Indicators

- Development of a regional inventory of natural and other resources.
- Increased preservation/conservation/utility zones covering water sources.
- More public beach access points and boat ramps.
- Fewer closing of public swimming areas or shellfish beds due to health hazards.
- Increased designation of historic sites, with public access.

Strategy: Ensure sustainable volumes of natural resources for economic productivity.

- Action 1:** Promote and assist resource planning programs to incorporate local government population projections and assessments of land consumption.

Action 2: Offer mediation and facilitation to resource-based planning programs that have conflicts with land use-based planning programs.

Indicators

- Reduced application times for standard permits.
- Increased identification and “pre-clearance” of sites suitable for permitting.
- More “ready-to-serve” designated areas.

Strategy: Enhance existing commercial, service, and industrial centers through adequate maintenance and reinvestment.

Action 1: Maintain an inventory of public infrastructure and recommended improvements.

Action 2: Review plan amendments, new plans, and land development regulations for incentives to develop and redevelop.

Action 3: Review proposed development to maximize the use, rehabilitation, and reuse of existing infrastructure.

Indicators

- Increase building permit values in existing urban areas.

Strategy: Protect the regional energy supply against disruption.

Action 1: Review proposed development to promote development and construction patterns, techniques, and designs for more efficient use of energy.

Action 2: Review proposed development to include alternative transportation methods such as sidewalks and bike lanes for greater energy efficiency.

Action 3: Coordinate with other agencies to develop and/or modify transportation plans, traffic circulation plans, and regulations for more efficient use of energy.

Indicators

- Reduce per capita fossil fuel use.
- Reduce proportion of energy from fossil fuels.
- Increase percentage of homes with solar energy devices or equipment.

Strategy: Increase the retention and expansion of local business and industry and encourage local entrepreneurial development.

Action 1: Provide services to facilitate entrepreneurship and the development of small and minority-owned business.

Action 2: Cooperated with the public and private sectors to maintain information on regional economic development needs.

Action 3: Coordinate among learning institutions, employment agencies, and others for training and educational needs.

Action 4: Assist in increased use of economic development tools such as enterprise zones, incubator areas for small business formation, and community development corporations.

Action 5: Identify and publicize programs for business assistance.

Action 6: Identify the needs of local businesses for capital or other assistance and the products they purchase and sell.

Indicators

- Development and maintenance of a needs inventory for businesses.
- Publication of a resource guide for business development assistance.
- Increased number and range of SBA programs in the region.
- More accessible incubator sites for manufacturing and service and retail trade.

Strategy: Increase the preparedness of businesses for potential hazards and natural disasters.

- Action 1:** Work with local emergency preparedness offices, economic development organizations, and other interested groups to alert businesses of the need to prepare for natural disasters.
- Action 2:** Assist in making disaster-preparedness planning resources and tools, such as the Disaster Survival Workbook for Businesses, available to businesses in the region.

Indicators

- Cooperative arrangements with interested groups for disaster preparedness for businesses.
- Development and publication of a guide for disaster preparation for businesses.

Strategy: Enhance support for economic development.

- Action 1:** Educate residents about the benefits of economic trade.
- Action 2:** Demonstrate to residents the benefits of reducing the over-dependence on residential properties for tax revenues.

Indicators

- Periodic publication of the benefits of economic development.

Strategy: Streamline regulatory processes to avoid delays for new or expanding businesses, provided safety, health, and environmental requirements are met.

- Action 1:** Encourage local governments to expedite the permitting process and to assist businesses in permitting and licensing matters.
- Action 2:** Cooperate with local governments, public agencies, environmental groups, and business groups to review permitting and licensing processes, forms, and related aspects for efficiency and standardization.

Indicators

- Reduce time and cost to obtain standard permits for business formation and operation.
- Establishment of bodies to review permitting and licensing.
- Creation of ombudsman positions to assist businesses applying for permits or licenses.

Strategy: Promote agriculture in the face of growing competition for land and water.

Action 1: Cooperate with public and private entities to protect lands with high, sustainable production capability.

Action 2: Participate in economic analyses of agricultural uses.

Indicators

- Real dollar increases in agricultural production value, overall and by crop.
- Increased number and types of agricultural products.

Livable Communities - Natural Resources

Goal 2: Livable communities designed to improve quality of life and to provide for the sustainability of our natural resources.

Strategy: Promote through the Council's review roles community design and development principles that protect the Region's natural resources and provide for an improved quality of life. Implement the six water quality resolutions adopted by the SWFRPC in plan and project reviews and support implementation where possible development concepts put forth by Cross Streets, Low Impact Design, Fit-Friendly Southwest Florida, Climate Prosperity, Food Systems Planning, and other initiatives consistent with the mission of the SWFRPC.

Action 1: Working with agencies and local governments provide for the disposal of man's liquid and solid wastes in a manner that will not lead to long-term degradation of air, ground, and water resources.

Action 2: Working in cooperation with agencies and local governments insure that beaches and inlets that have been damaged by human activity are replaced/renourished and/or managed in order to have the total system function naturally.

Action 3: Working in cooperation with agencies and local governments provide for Air quality improvement and maintenance as our population and urban areas increase.

Action 4: Working in cooperation with agencies and local governments insure that all mining and borrow operations are appropriately sited and do not impact regional natural resources protection areas, prepare and implement reclamation programs that restore and ensure long-term sustainability of their watersheds and native habitats.

Action 5: Working in cooperation with agencies and local governments insure that agricultural operations are compatible with identified natural resource protection areas. Encourage adaptive agriculture that is compatible with a sustainable southwest Florida.

Action 6: Working in cooperation with agencies and local governments insure that new public facilities, facility expansions and additions, and transportation projects avoid designated natural resource protection areas.

Action 7: Working with all levels of government within southwest Florida actively plan and prepare for the potential long-term impact of sea level rise climate upon the Region's natural systems including fisheries and agriculture.

Action 8: Working with all levels of government within southwest Florida actively plan for lands that have been acquired for natural resource purposes to be maintained and managed to protect and support their environmental integrity.

Action 9: Insure that opportunities for governmental partnerships and public/private partnerships in preserving wildlife habitats are maximized.

Indicators

None.

Resources

None

Livable Communities – Emergency Management

Goal 3: New private and public developments are built further from flood prone areas than in the past and structures and roadways are protected from rain induced flooding.

Strategy: New public structures be located outside the Category 2 Hurricane Flood Zone and outside of rainfall induced flood-ways.

Action 1: Assist local mitigation strategy programs to identify relocation sites for most exposed public facilities.

Action 2: Review local Plan amendments and development proposals for their ability to locate new development outside of the category 2 flood zone and rainfall flow-ways.

Action 3: Promote provisions for the acquisition of hurricane valuable land, including channels, low-lying areas, and shoreline by federal, state and local governmental sponsored land acquisition programs.

Action 4: Promote public acquisition of property that has been destroyed or damaged as the result of a hurricane, storm wave, or tidal action.

Indicators

None

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

None

Strategy: New developments and redevelopment of existing areas should provide for increased land elevations for public infrastructure and community infrastructure, including potential sheltering and refuge sites.

Action 1: Promote local development requirements with each mobile park outside of the Category I Surge Zone that there be adequate shelter space with elevated structures to accommodate those who do not want to evacuate outside their community.

Action 2: Promote local development requirements that there will be designated refuge space in condominium and apartment complexes outside of the Category 2 Zone (but within the Category 5 Zone).

Indicators

None

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

10 square feet per person, on an occupancy rate of 75% for mobile home, 41% for a resident recreation vehicle, 78% for apartments, and 64% for condominiums.

Livable Communities - Affordable Housing

Goal 4: Southwest Florida will develop (or redevelop) communities that are livable and offer residents a wide range of housing and employment opportunities.

Strategy: Development livable, integrated communities that offer residents a high quality of life.

- Action 1:** Encourage programs that promote infill development in urban areas to maximize the efficient use of existing infrastructure.
- Action 2:** Work with local governments to promote structures and developments that combine commercial and residential uses as a means of providing housing that is affordable and near employment opportunities.
- Action 3:** Encourage communities that are pedestrian friendly or offer alternative modes of transportation to overcome transportation problems many low-income families face.
- Action 4:** Encourage new housing to be built in higher areas to reduce the need for costly flood insurance.
- Action 5:** Promote the mix of affordable and non-affordable housing to create integrated communities.

Indicators

- Communities that have incentive or other programs to promote infill development.
- Communities that promote combined commercial and residential uses in developments and structures.
- Number of developments containing affordable and non-affordable housing.

Strategy: Protect existing, well-established neighborhoods and communities and revitalize those experiencing deterioration.

- Action 1:** Encourage communities to fill existing infrastructure gaps (such as sidewalks, parks, lighting, etc.) in neighborhoods that offer affordable housing.
- Action 2:** Assist communities in identifying neighborhoods that are, or are in danger of, deteriorating.
- Action 3:** Assist communities in their efforts to develop methods for removing or rehabilitating substandard units, abandon or unsafe property, and blighting influences in residential areas and the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Action 4:** Assist communities in establishing effective housing codes that include ongoing monitoring and enforcement programs.
- Action 5:** Review comprehensive plans and land development regulations to encourage the inclusion of incentives to develop and redevelop land downtown.

- Action 6:** Work with local agencies to apply for state or federal programs that assist in community revitalization.
- Action 7:** Encourage communities to focus on troubled areas in a comprehensive method that coordinates programs and services, rather than using a shotgun approach.
- Action 8:** Promote resident involvement in neighborhood planning efforts, so residents are active in making decisions that will affect their areas.

Indicators

- Communities with rehabilitation and demolition programs.
- Communities with active code enforcement programs.
- Communities with incentive programs.
- Number of applications submitted for state or federal community revitalization programs.

Livable Communities - Transportation

Goal 5: Livable communities designed to affect behavior, improve quality of life and responsive to community needs.

Strategy: Promote through the Council's review function a good environment for driving, walking, bicycling, and public transit using a highly connected network of public streets, green space, and community centers.

Action 1: Work in cooperation with local government to establish criteria reflective of Smart Growth and Livable Communities initiatives.

Action 2: Review future projects so that they implement where possible Smart Growth and Livability principles.

Action 3: Work in cooperation with local government as possible to complete a regional bicycle and pedestrian inventory of existing and needed facilities.

Action 4: Review comprehensive plans and land development regulations for incentives to develop and redevelop using mixed uses, higher densities, shared parking; and improved vehicular, mass transit, pedestrian and bicycle access and travel, as well as providing a variety of affordable residential densities and types.

Action 5: Coordinate as possible with local governments in the construction of bicycle paths and pedestrian ways that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Action 6: Assist local government and private sector in the design and location of shared parking to enhance the character and attractiveness of the community and to encourage the use of alternate modes of transportation.

Strategy: Encourage local governments and the private sector to implement travel demand management policies and actions to relieve traffic congestion, improve air quality and reduce energy consumption.

Action 1: In conjunction with the MPOs and transit providers, work to identify residential communities linked with job centers through transit or through carpooling, or other high-occupancy vehicle mode of transportation.

Strategy: Incorporate community impact assessment techniques throughout the transportation project planning and development process.

- Action 1:** Identify community needs through coordination and partnering with advisory committees, political entities, civic associations, agencies, church groups and other organizations in the community.
- Action 2:** Work with project development members to identify potential design or engineering options to address community impacts starting with avoidance, and then moving on to minimization on minority and low income populations.
- Action 3:** Coordinate enhancements opportunities that are a reasonable expenditure of funds to help projects fit harmoniously into the community and avoid disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low income populations.

Strategy: Review projects for impacts on neighborhoods, commercial centers, and natural areas due to roadway expansions and right-of-way reservations.

- Action 1:** Work with local government comprehensive plans to protect future state, regional, and local public facilities, corridors, and rights-of-way from building encroachment.
- Action 2:** During the development approval process, assist local government in requiring dedicated right-of-way where there is a relationship between the land use and need for the transportation improvement.

Strategy: Assist as possible agency reviews related to the relationship between transportation, natural and manmade resources and impact on the quality of life.

- Action 1:** Coordinate with FDOT, local governments, and the MPOs the region's efforts to direct the expansion of the regional transportation system and its associated development to avoid impacting significant natural resources.
- Action 2:** Assist FDOT, local government, and the MPOs in reviewing transportation access plans to ensure that roads are directed away from identified environmentally sensitive areas and other regional significant natural systems.
- Action 3:** Assist local government in the review of special lighting zones and guidelines when planning for highway and parking improvements near coastal shoreline areas where lighting and turtle nesting beaches interact.
- Action 4:** Review the impact of transportation improvements in coastal high-hazard areas or in identified environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, floodplains, listed species habitat, or marine areas.
- Action 5:** Assist local governments to improve regional air quality by promoting the use of alternative fuel vehicles and less polluting vehicles and promoting intelligent highway systems.

Emergency Preparedness Element

Natural Hazards

Goal 1: The general public and its governmental agencies become aware of the extent of flooding that can be induced from the Gulf of Mexico and Lake Okeechobee by tropical storm or hurricane.

Strategy: Make easily understood information available with timely updates.

Action 1: Maps depicting areas subject to storm surge flooding will be regularly updated and circulated to affected populations.

Indicators

- Storm surge atlases and summary maps widely reprinted.
- Current atlases available at public libraries.
- Current atlases available through emergency management and planning offices.

Facilities

Hoover Dike is the region's only facility established solely for hurricane surge protection.

Planning Standard

Level A-E Storm Standards.

Goal 2: An organized recovery response to the effects of freezes, droughts, or floods on food and fiber production.

Strategy: Coordinated local, sub-state, and state short-term emergency response plans for relief and assistance for areas with catastrophic job losses due to freezes, droughts or floods.

Action 1: Petition Congress, the President, and FEMA to identify drought as a natural disaster deserving emergency relief.

Action 2: Promote with the Water Management agencies, drought, freeze, and flood management programs that promote increased natural system storage to reduce impacts of fire, water shortages, and flooding.

Indicators

- Relief plans with interagency agreements for relief support.
- Management Plans that indicate pre and post storage capacities.

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

Relief support should be prepared to meet 10% of labor force of Glades, Hendry, and Collier Counties, and 2% of the remainder of the region.

Goal 3: Safe evacuation or protection for the most threatened populations.

Strategy: Develop programs that assess risk and are capable of giving priority to those who have the greatest threat, when time or resources provide constraints on total evacuation.

Action 1: Each hurricane study update shall update the numbers and locations of the most exposed populations.

Action 2: Each hurricane study update shall update the evacuation times of the exposed zones, and recommend for prioritization for road improvements those zones with greater than 18 hour evacuation times.

Action 3: Each hurricane study update shall update estimates and concentrations of housing types more subject to hurricane force wind damage, and prioritize these populations for sheltering.

Action 4: Continue requiring all deeds to property located within a Development of Regional Impact located within the Southwest Florida Special Hurricane Preparedness District as required by Rule 9J-2.0257(4) shall be accompanied by a disclosure statement in the form of a covenant stating that the property is located in a hurricane vulnerability zone, that the hurricane evacuation clearance time for City/County or the Southwest Florida Region is high, and hurricane shelter spaces are limited.

Action 5: Work with all local governments in the region to require all deeds to hurricane vulnerable property located within their jurisdiction be accompanied by a disclosure statement in the form of a covenant stating that the property is located in a hurricane vulnerability zone, that the hurricane evacuation clearance time for City/County or the Southwest Florida Region is high, and hurricane shelter spaces are limited.

Indicators

- Forecast evacuation times that exceed 18 hours.
- Number of counties with those forecasts which have developed priority programs for the most threaten residents.

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

Evacuation times.

Goal 4: Ensure that emergency management programs have the logistical support for successful evacuation, sheltering, and post storm relief and recovery.

Strategy: As possible maintain and keep up to date inventories of personnel, communities with mutual aid agreements, public shelter, evacuation route control points, supply lists needed for sheltering and recovery, recovery sites and staging areas for recovery operations.

Action 1: Annually review and update the identification of potential disaster field offices and disaster assistance centers.

Action 2: Assist communities in annually reviewing traffic control points for evacuation.

Action 3: Review local plan amendments and development plans for the staffing, evacuation and sheltering needs of all new development within flood hazard areas in the event of hurricane type high wind and water conditions.

Indicators

None listed.

Facilities

Regional storm recovery sites on Map 2.

Planning Standard

None

Technological Hazards

Goal 5: Reduce to the greatest degree possible the potential for harm to life, property, and the environment from hazardous waste by being prepared to respond to accidental spills of hazardous materials or severely improper disposal of hazardous wastes.

Strategy: All sites that generate, use, or store significant amounts of hazardous materials (including wastes) having appropriate plans to manage spills or releases, and appropriate procedures for safely disposing unneeded materials.

Action 1: Update inventories at least every 5 years of the location, type, and quantity of hazardous materials.

Action 2: Update and maintain through the LEPC a coordinated program among regulatory agencies for the effective regulation of generation, storage, treatment, disposal, and transportation of hazardous materials and waste.

Action 3: Continue to support a region-wide hazardous waste program which:

- a. provides for regional siting for area wide hazardous waste sites;
- b. increases on-site treatment of appropriate wastes;
- c. recycles reusable water;
- d. maintains a pick up system for households, small businesses, and other small quantity generators of hazardous wastes;
- e. develop environmentally safe treatment, storage, and disposal facilities;
- f. provides training and certification for appropriate personnel;
- g. implements the plan for siting of hazardous waste storage and transfer facilities, as previously adopted;
- h. provides public education about hazardous and special waste treatment, disposal and recycling;
- i. encourages the establishment of used oil recycling centers in each county of the Region;
- j. coordinates between land use agencies and transportation agencies in the location of industrial and utility facilities which require a transport along public highways of hazardous waste materials;
- k. restricts hazardous wastes and materials from being transported through residential areas;
- l. evaluates hazardous material and waste movement, includes measures for risk reduction of hazardous waste transport, coordination with emergency contingency plans, off-peak routing schemes or restrictions, and consideration of other transportation modes;
- m. requires carriers to be qualified and permitted, properly identified and marked, and requires vehicles to transport only properly packaged materials and wastes;
- n. addresses and properly disposes of or recycles special wastes, such as construction and demolition debris, white goods, waste tires, bio-hazardous wastes, and batteries; and

- o. provides public information and public notice for proper storage and disposal of hazardous waste and materials, including special opportunities for disposal or technical assistance in proper storage.

Goal 6: Ensure effective emergency response and emergency preparedness to minimize the risk to public health and safety and damage to property and the environment from hazardous materials incidents such as spill or contamination.

Strategy: Promote the proper handling, treatment and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes.

Action 1: Avoid to the extent possible, treatment and disposal of hazardous materials to sensitive uses such as hospitals, schools, residences, and environmentally sensitive area.

Action 2: Support land use patterns that avoid development of hazardous waste generators adjacent to sensitive land uses.

Action 3: Encourage practices and technologies which will reduce the generation of hazardous wastes at their sources.

Action 4: Promote the recovery and recycling of hazardous materials.

Indicators

- None

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

None

Goal 7: Emergency response plan requirements should be considered in new development within a planning area relative to transmission pipelines.

Strategy: Transmission pipeline operators should have procedures and established contacts with local enforcement personnel in order to act appropriately to halt dangerous excavation activities that may damage their pipelines and potentially cause an immediate threat to life or property.

Action 1: Transmission pipeline operators should provide pipeline information to local governments and property owners. Local government authorities regulating development should use this information to establish requirements regarding land use and development around transmission lines.

Action 2: Utilities both above and below ground should be preferentially located and designed to reduce the consequences that could result from a transmission pipeline incident.

Action 3: Work with appropriate agencies to ensure effective emergency response and preparedness to minimize the risk to public health and safety and limit property end environmental damage due to hazardous incidents such as spills or contamination.

Indicators

- Percentages of sites generating or storing hazardous materials that have adequate disposal emergency plans.

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

None

Goal 8: Designate shelters safe from flooding, and containing enough capacity to meet existing estimates of need.**Strategy: Increase shelter space at rates greater than population growth.****Action 1:** Promote programs to provide adequate storm elevation shelters that:

- Require all habitable areas of new residential construction in identified flood-prone areas to be elevated above the level subject to flooding as identified for the statistical 100-year storm or Federal Flood Insurance Program;
- Incorporate in shelter efforts the voluntary participation of owners of structures identified as potential storm evacuation shelters that are elevated above the level subject to flooding as identified for the Category 3 Storm Surge height;
- Require all new development of more than 100 dwelling units located outside Category 1 and 2 zones, but with 3-5 zones, to provide on-site refuge facilities for residents of the development;
- Require all development located outside 1 and 2 flood zones to provide refuge space at a ratio of 20 square feet per person in common areas or other shelter areas; all development in Category 1 and 2 zones should identify and secure unused shelter space in inland areas;
- Require deeds, covenants, and all similar documents, for multi-story residential structures, to contain provisions to permit temporary shelter, during Category 1 and 2 storm events, in upper interior hallways, or similarly protected areas, which contain no openings directly to the exterior, provided the structure is located in Category 3, 4, 5 flood zones;
- Require any shelter to be designed and constructed to withstand winds of at least 120 miles per hour sustained winds;
- Require any shelter to be equipped with emergency power, potable water supplies, and wastewater treatment capacity;
- Require any shelter to be constructed with as little glass as possible, while providing adequate protection by shutters or boards for any glass used;
- Require any shelter to have adequate ventilation, sanitary facilities, and first-aid equipment;
- Establish Homeowner's Associations to provide information to their residents concerning hurricanes, evacuation shelters, and related materials; and
- Requires any new residential development within Category 1, 2, and 3 storm zones, and or with evacuating population, to mitigate impact on inland shelter space.

Action 2: Support management programs that advise hotels/motels in Category 1 and 2 storm zones to evacuate during a hurricane watch and should not be utilized as storm shelters.

Action 3: Discourage all Plan reviews the placement of storm shelters on islands.

Indicators

- Ratios of available public shelter capacity to the projected demand.
- Percentage of new shelters built above the storm surge height.

Facilities

Shelters depicted in SWFRPC Hurricane Evacuation Study (and updates)

Planning Standard

20 square feet for storm duration per person, 40 square feet for a long term stay, power generator and refrigeration, toilet and cooking space, and withstand 120 mph sustained winds. Occupied floor elevations to exceed those heights forecasted for category 3 storms, be located outside of the 1-2 zones according to County Hurricane Storm Tide Atlas, and space is exclusive of unshuttered windowed rooms.

Goal 9: Plan for and accommodate the segments of the population with special evacuation needs.

Strategy: Involve the expertise of human service agencies in identifying and accommodating those with special evacuation needs.

Action 1: Integrate human service entities in evacuation and shelter planning.

Action 2: Provide for special shelter needs for the frail, elderly, handicapped, persons with special medical/support conditions, and people with other conditions requiring specialized attention, who lack a dependable support not within a regular shelter.

Action 3: Include additional disaster preparedness requirements in reviewing existing and new developments whose future residents, including the elderly, might have limited mobility or demand specialized attention.

Indicators

- Designation and capacity of special needs shelters.

Facilities

Shelters designated in 2001 Update, as special needs.

Planning Standard

1 percent of evacuating population, as special needs.

Goal 10: Public Buildings designed to serve as short term shelters.

Strategy: Make all public entities aware of the serious emergency shelter deficits that exist and that the situation affects the lives of the members of the agencies and their families.

Action 1: Promote major public buildings outside of the Category 1 flood zone meeting state building standards for shelters and having on-site facilities which are adequate for maximum capacity short-term occupation.

Action 2: Promote innovative programs for financing shelter space, including municipal service benefit districts and shelter impact fees.

Indicators

- Percentage of new local, district, state, and federal buildings which meet these criteria.
- Percentage of public agency bid packages that included this in the criteria for architectural design and construction.
- Capacity of new shelters.

Facilities

Public Buildings listed as “Secondary Support Services,” Support Services, 2001, SWFRPC

Planning Standards

None

Goal 11: Regional medical centers capable of operating through a natural disaster.

Strategy: Power, water, and sanitation self sufficiency (for temporary periods) for each major medical facility.

- Action 1:** Promote funding eligibly for the retrofit of existing hospitals with Hurricane Andrew Trust Funds, as well as with similar resources.
- Action 2:** Promote in reviews that services necessary for hospital operation during emergencies be located on floors above the forecasted Category 3 flood elevation.
- Action 3:** Promote during reviews of new hospitals (of 100 or more beds) that they should be located outside of the category 1 storm surge zone and should not be located on barrier islands.

Indicators

- Percentage of medical centers that can operate in category 3 storms.
- Percentage that can operate in 1 or 2 only; and the change in percentage through time

Facilities

Major Medical Sites depicted in Map 4.

Planning Standards

Wind-proofing to 120 mph; flood elevation of first occupied floor level to category 3 storm surge heights; elevated generator and water supplies.

Goal 12: A Region prepared for potential fuel shortages or prolonged electrical outages.

Strategy: Maintain up-to-date fuel shortage and energy loss emergency response plans.

- Action 1:** Assist communities in maintaining inventories of commercial fuel storage and sales sites, and in keeping up-to-date ordinances for emergency management of sale.
- Action 2:** Promote public agencies setting examples by maintaining emergency response plans for staff, which include mandatory car pooling for work, and optional programs for family use.
- Action 3:** Promote electrical utilities maintaining and keeping up-to-date fuel emergency and electrical conservation plans, coordinated with local and state regulatory authorities for energy conservation.

Indicators

- Percentage of counties with up-to-date fuel shortage plans.
- Percentage of customers of electrical utilities whose service does not rely on a single generating or transmission system, or fuel type.

Facilities

Regional transmission lines depicted in the Description of the Region; FPL Plant on Caloosahatchee River.

Planning Standard

None

Goal 13: Fire, ambulance, and police services provide satisfactory service and response time, notwithstanding the pressures of growth.

Strategy: Investing in personnel, equipment, and managerial structure to achieve or maintain a response capacity and capability within the recommended response times.

Action 1: Promote increasing law enforcement and fire protection or equivalent community programs to match growth rates and eliminate current service deficits.

Action 2: Review plans for development to ensure that adequate supplies of water for firefighting are available.

Action 3: Promote coordination agreements that enable all medical response teams to take victims to the nearest appropriate emergency facility, regardless of administrative jurisdiction.

Action 4: Promote the participation of all jurisdictions in interagency agreements to cover insurance liabilities and staff and equipment costs when emergencies require assistance between neighbors.

Indicators

- Percentage of emergency calls receive the response within the recommended times; ISO ratings for individual fire departments, including water supplies suitability.

Facilities

None

Planning Standard

ICMA recommended response times for urban and rural communities.

Transportation

Goal 14: Evacuation routes identified and clearly designated, and at capacity and quality needed to carry the expected number of evacuating vehicles.

Strategy: Reduce evacuation times through capital investment and traffic management.

Action 1: Recommend prioritization in FDOT or local capital improvement programs for evacuation routes with evacuation capacity restrictions, particularly intercommunity evacuation routes.

Action 2: Review development and plan amendment proposals to ensure that there is mitigation of the impact of all new development on emergency evacuation routes, including consideration of non-road alternatives such as on site sheltering.

Indicators

- Time to evacuate, by county and by region.

Facilities

Evacuation routes as depicted in the 2010 SWFRPC Regional Hurricane Evacuation Study (as updated).

Planning Standard

2 persons per vehicle; 1.1 vehicles per dwelling, based upon seasonal occupancy rates by unit type; route capacities as calculated according to the Highway Capacity Manual, 1985 edition, and its successor documents.

Regional Coordination

Goal 15: As possible work with regional news media fully aware of and prepared for their critical role in helping the public respond to emergencies.

Strategy: Keep the media informed and answer questions as best as possible.

Action 1: Promote local and state emergency managers annually brief the local news media about the nature of emergencies, likely public responses, and procedures for obtaining and circulating accurate information during emergencies.

Action 2: Promote and maintain information accessible to the public on what can be done to prepare for the nature of emergencies of most importance to them.

Indicators

- Percentage of media participation in annual briefings.

Facilities

All daily print media; all commercial broadcast media with news component.

Planning Standard

Regional Transportation Element

Balanced Intermodal/Multimodal System

Goal 1: Construct an interconnected multimodal transportation system that supports community goals, increases mobility and enhances Southwest Florida's economic competitiveness.

Strategy: Identify the general transportation system composed of connected corridors, facilities, and services for the effective movement of freight and visitors.

Action 1: Continue to identify sites that lack connectivity including ground access to airports, public transportation, waterways, and non-motorized vehicle modes in DRI and Comprehensive Plan reviews.

Action 2: Continue assisting appropriate agencies with applications for intermodal funding, including rail.

Strategy: Ensure that a network of interconnected roads exist that provide the timely, cost effective movement of people and goods within, through and out of the Region.

Action 1: Continue assisting appropriate agencies to review plans that will provide an intermodal transportation network.

Strategy: Promote Smart Growth where residential communities are linked with job centers through transit, carpooling, or other high occupancy vehicle transportation.

Action 1: In cooperation with transit providers and other governmental and private entities, seek long term, dedicated funding sources for use for improving and expanding the transit system.

Strategy: In cooperation with FDOT and the region's airport operators develop a mode balanced plan for people and freight.

Action 1: In cooperation with FDOT, local government, and the MPOs, support where possible airport improvements that optimize Intermodal connections with other transportation modes.

Strategy: Assist as possible agencies responsible for the airports in the Region so as to assure that they will be expanded to meet the regional aviation systems needs for foreseeable demand in passengers and cargo and in private small plane operations.

Action 1: Support where possible assistance programs which support aviation systems plans identified as capital improvements to airport-managed properties.

Strategy: Coordinate investments in rail infrastructure with the needs of the private sector to maximize the development of existing and future industrial, manufacturing, and agricultural centers.

Action 1: Continue to identify any expansion of rail service planned to optimize intermodal connections.

Action 2: Assist local and state planning efforts to incorporate the land use and transportation needs for rail service, including rail related warehousing and industrial uses.

Strategy: As possible, continue to assess the freight capacity of non-highway infrastructure throughout the Region.

Action 1: Work with the FDOT and the MPO to complete a comprehensive transportation programs analysis the includes: waterway plan, combining the natural waterways, maintained intracoastal waterways, interconnecting channels, and current and forecasted users; and an assessment of existing and future suitable pipeline corridors.

Action 2: Continue coordination with governmental agencies and the West Coast Inland Navigational District to ensure that future water system needs can be met with a minimum of land use conflict.

Economic Competitiveness

Goal 2: Achieve a competitive and diversified regional economy through improved work force development, enhanced access to technology and education, and investment in multi-modal transportation facilities.

Strategy: Enhance economic prosperity and competitiveness through a transportation system composed of corridors, facilities, and services for the effective movement of freight and visitors.

Action 1: In cooperation with FDOT, local government, MPOs and private sector businesses coordinate freight movement performances measures, based on operational studies.

Action 2: In cooperation with the FDOT, local governments, MPOs and the private sector assist in the identification of the transportation requirements of lending and emerging sectors of the regional economy and distinctive needs of all business sectors of the regional economy to move people and goods within and through the region.

Strategy: Enhance the movement of goods and freight by identifying important routes as a funding priority in the transportation planning and capital improvement programming process.

Action 1: In cooperation with FDOT, local government and the MPOs, assist in the designation of trade routes networks that accommodates the efficient movement of goods and freight.

Transportation Safety

Goal 3: A regional transportation system that provides Southwest Florida citizens and visitors with safe, timely and efficient access to services, jobs, markets and attractions.

Strategy: Continue to work with the FDOT to reduce the number and severity of traffic crashes, promote bike/ped safety, and to reduce aggressive driving.

Action 1: Identify and document safety issues and concerns to improve highway safety by working with CTST members and local engineering, enforcement, emergency and educational representatives.

Action 2: Develop public and private support and participation for the Community Traffic Safety Team Program through public service announcements, presentations and distribution of safety information.

Action 3: Coordinate with the 47 CTSTs in the Florida Community Traffic Safety Team Coalition to share accomplishments, safety materials, programs, and to facilitate technology transfer among teams.

Strategy: Work with the appropriate agencies to ensure evacuation times in coastal regions will not decline significantly.

Action 1: Develop land use plans and policies that assess the potential for adverse impacts to transportation facilities and protects investment in transportation infrastructure.

- Action 2:** Identify and document evacuation routes with evacuation capacity restrictions, particularly inter-community evacuation routes, to ensure routes receive high priority in FDOT and local capital improvement programs.
- Action 3:** Assist local governments in adopting minimum level-of-exposure standards for the design of local roadway storm drainage systems to prevent flooding during evacuation.
- Action 4:** Identify transportation improvements in local, regional, and state transportation plans related to emergency evacuation constraints, and assist in prioritizing their mitigation in appropriate capital improvement plans.
- Action 5:** Coordinate emergency evacuation routes designated in each of the Counties' comprehensive emergency management plans with the findings of the regional emergency evacuation study.
- Action 6:** Review all disaster preparedness plans for transportation accommodations for the handicapped and transportation disadvantage.

Regional Cooperation

Goal 4: Assist as needed in the development of a cost-effective and financially feasible transportation system that adequately maintains all elements of the transportation system to better preserve and manage the Region's urban and non-urban investment.

Strategy: Assist in the development of land use plans and policies that assess the potential for adverse impacts to transportation facilities and protect investment in transportation infrastructure.

- Action 1:** In cooperation with FDOT, local government, and MPOs, collaboratively test coordinated land use and transportation plans.
- Action 2:** Assist FDOT, local government, and the MPOs in designing plans that connect and serve urban communities with an efficient, transit oriented, and multi-modal transportation system.
- Action 3:** Ensure local governments and metropolitan planning organization, through their planning programs and future road networks, accommodate travel demand across jurisdictional and neighborhood boundaries.
- Action 4:** In conjunction with FDOT, local government, and the MPOs, the capacities and operations of major regional roadways should be protected through coordinated land use, careful site plan review, driveway access management, coordinated signal spacing and timing, paralleling roads, and connection permit policies and other Transportation System Management (TSM) alternatives among all levels of government.
- Action 5:** In cooperation with FDOT, local government, and the MPOs, review transportation plans and projects to direct development in areas where adequate transportation facilities exist or are planned.
- Action 6:** In conjunction with FDOT, local government, and the MPOs, direct transportation investments in such a way so that it contributes to efficient urban and non-urban development throughout the region.

Action 7: Enhance economic prosperity and competitiveness through development of a transportation system composed of corridors, facilities, and services for the effective movement of freight and visitors throughout the region.

Action 8: The Council will work with the Urbanized MPOs, FDOT, and local governments in promoting regional coordination for addressing transportation planning and programming for the entire region, including those counties and portions thereof that are not represented with the MPO.

Strategy: Implement new financing alternatives to overcome the shortfall of transportation funding.

Action 1: Assist transit providers and other governmental and private entities should seek long term, dedicated funding sources for use for improving and expanding the transit system.

Action 2: The Council, in cooperation with representative of the state, regional, and local public transportation agencies and private sector transportation professionals, will undertake a continuing public education program to inform area citizens of transportation issues, their implication to area travel patterns and conditions, and constraints to their full implementation.

Strategy: Encourage local governments to create inter-local and regional agreements to better address joint planning and revenue sharing.

Action 1: Assist non-urban local government in the prioritization of regional transportation improvements.

Action 2: Encourage intercounty bus service as appropriate to meet growing intra-county travel demands.

Action 3: Review all planning for the Florida High Speed Rail system to ensure future links to Southwest Florida and eventual completion of a statewide High Speed Rail System.

Affordable Housing Element

The Supply of Affordable Housing

Goal 1: Supply a variety of housing types in various price ranges to ensure that all residents have access to decent and affordable housing.

Strategy: Increase the supply of affordable housing through public and private efforts.

Action 1: Review housing elements of local comprehensive plans to ensure those needs are identified and considered when funding choices are made.

Action 2: Work with local governments to promote structures and developments that combine commercial and residential uses as a means of providing housing that is affordable and near employment opportunities.

Action 3: Encourage local governments to adopt strategies that promote the development of affordable housing by the private and nonprofit sectors.

Action 4: Work with state programs to change current criteria that make it difficult to compete for projects in some portions of the region.

Action 5: Continue to educate elected officials and citizens on the need for and benefits of affordable housing.

Indicators

- Number of housing elements in local governments' comprehensive plans that identify current and future housing needs of their residents and recommend actions to address those needs.
- Innovative funding or incentive programs in use in the region.
- Number of affordable housing units built in the region through local, state, and federal programs.

Persons with Special Needs**Goal 2: The housing needs of persons with special needs will be met.**

Strategy: Develop housing and services to assist persons with special needs live as independently as possible.

Action 1: Review local government comprehensive plans to ensure that housing for persons with special needs is considered and provided.

Action 2: Encourage communities and organizations to utilize appropriate housing methods to serve developmentally disabled and physically handicapped individuals.

Indicators

- Housing elements that identify the housing demands of special needs populations and recommend actions to address those needs.
- Number of applications submitted to address the housing and service needs of special needs populations.
- Number of cooperative agreements or arrangements between housing and service providers.

Strategy: Farmworkers will be recognized as an essential part of our economy and their housing needs will be included in community programs.

Action 1: Continue to educate citizens and local officials on the need for additional farmworker housing.

Action 2: Work with public and private partners to provide and maintain safe, sanitary housing for farmworkers.

Indicators

- Number of workshops and public meetings to discuss the issue of farmworker housing and alert citizens to the need for housing.
- Number of newly constructed farm worker housing units.

Human Services Needs**Goal 3: Communities and non-profit organizations will work together to identify and address the population's human service needs.**

Strategy: Coordinate local housing programs with related programs to enhance services to clients.

Action 1: Work with service providers and local governments to identify critical needs that cannot be resolved through current funding sources. Where possible, assist communities in developing local or regional networks to address those needs.

Indicators

- Number of cooperative agreements or arrangements between housing and service providers.
- Number of multi-party applications submitted for state or federal funding.

Regional Cooperation

Goal 4: Communities and non-profit organizations will cooperate when possible to reduce duplication of services and improve cost efficiency.

Strategy: Communities will work together to address regional housing needs.

Action 1: Where possible assist communities in development interlocal agreements with neighboring communities so they work together to jointly address community-wise or regional housing concerns.

Action 2: Continue to coordinate the Housing Providers Coalition as a means of bringing together housing providers from the Region to share information and ideas.

Action 3: Where possible assist housing and service providers in working together to stretch limited dollars and eliminate any unnecessary overlap of services.

Indicators

- Number of communities with interlocal agreements to address housing needs.
- Number of Housing Provider Coalition meetings held or other regional forums for sharing information.

Agenda

Item

8

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

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Agenda

Item

8a

Six Pillars Regional Planning
Presentation

8a

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_____ Agenda
_____ Item

8b

SWFRPC Committee Reports

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Regional Visioning Committee

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Executive Director Search
Committee

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8b3

Executive Committee

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Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota Counties

1926 Victoria Ave, Fort Myers, Florida 33901-3414 (239) 338-2550 FAX (239) 338-2560 www.swfrpc.org

September 9, 2011

Ronald L. Book, P.A.
Executive Director
Florida Regional Councils Association
104 West Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1713

RE: FY2011-2012 Membership and Dues

Dear Mr. Book:

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) Executive Committee met on August 18, 2011. During this meeting the Executive Committee discussed the status of each of the SWFRPC's organizational memberships in the context of its FY2011-2012 budget. After extensive discussion concerning the Florida Regional Councils Association, the Executive Committee directed me, in my role as Interim Executive Director, to contact FRCA to convey its motion and Executive Committee discussion.

The Executive Committee passed the following motion:

Motion: Direct the Interim Executive Director send a letter to FRCA that the SWFRPC is not renewing its membership and the SWFRPC Executive Committee requests that FRCA reconsider the increase in membership dues.

The SWFRPC Executive Committee is concerned about the increase in membership dues. The SWFRPC Executive Committee disapproves the decision to increase dues, given the current economic environment, in order to hire additional staff for lobbying in Tallahassee. The SWFRPC FRCA Policy Board members related their frustration with the manner in which the FRCA membership dues increase was handled at the June Policy Board meeting and suggested that the FRCA Policy Board reconsider the increase and amend the FY2011-2012 budget to exclude the increase in dues at the January 2012 FRCA Policy Board meeting.

I welcome your comments concerning this matter. I can be reached at 239-338-2550, ext., 234 or by email at ldonley@swfrpc.org.

Best regards,

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Liz Donley
Interim Executive Director

CC: S. Koons
SWFRPC Executive Committee
R. Brown

_____ Agenda
_____ Item

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Budget & Finance
Committee

8b4

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Summary Remarks regarding the FY 2012 Budget

The adopted FY 2012 budget is \$3,092,764 which incorporates the Governor's decision to eliminate funding to the regional planning councils. The expected revenue from State sources decreased from FY 2011 levels by approximately \$270,000. In order to achieve a balanced budget, expenses have been reduced by \$250,000 with \$400,000 in funds being placed in abeyance in order to fund the Executive Director search and subsequent salary and benefits.

The Council has reduced reserves of \$526,000, which represents approximately 3 months of operating expenses.

When building the FY2012 budget, a very conservative approach was taken; only revenues that met the following criteria were included:

- known to be obligated to the Council, such as awarded grants,
- based on averaged historical levels (DRI reviews, NOPC, etc.), or
- included in a State agency budget and known to be designated to the Council.

To achieve a balanced budget, changes to staffing numbers, job responsibilities and associated job descriptions and titles, span of control, operating procedures, salaries and operating expenses were implemented.

Major changes implemented with the FY 2012 Budget are:

- Reduction in the planning staff while maintaining expertise and institutional knowledge, FY11 headcount was 19 staff, 16.75 FTE; FY 2012 headcount is: 15 staff, 12.075 FTE.
- Planners that have been retained are: Mr. Trescott, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Beever, Ms. Pellechio.
- Positions eliminated: Planning Director, Planning Manager, GIS/Graphics Manager, Operations Manager, Finance Manager, Account Clerk and Information/ Records Clerk.
- Decreased the span of control with the ratio of managers to employees; was 1 to 4 is now 1 to 15.
- Combined 4 support services staff positions into 2 staff positions with reduced hours.
- Reduced GIS and IT support.
- Initiated revising job descriptions for all SWFRPC staff positions
- Work week hours have been reduced for 4 positions
- Overall Council salaries were reduced by \$267,850
- Head count was reduced by 4
- Other direct and indirect costs have been reduced by~ \$60,000

The Budget and Finance Committee has committed to careful, regular review of the performance against budget during the upcoming year, and will make recommendations to the Council should further changes need to be made.

The Budget and Finance Committee is comprised of: Councilwoman Heitmann City of Naples (Chair of Committee), Ms. Andrea Messina, Charlotte County Governor Appointee Ms. Laura Holquist, Lee County Governor Appointee Councilman Forrest Banks, City of Fort Myers, , Vice Mayor Mick Denham City of Sanibel Mr. Robert Mulhere, Collier County Governor Appointee , Commissioner Karson Turner, Hendry County BOCC (Chair SWFRPC)

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Estero Bay Agency on Bay
Management

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Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management

The regular meeting of the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management was scheduled for September 12, 2011 did not occur since polling determined there would not be a quorum.

At the August 11, 2011 meeting Representative Matt Caldwell, District 73 presented a legislative update and answered questions with regard to upcoming legislative issues expected in the next session.

Cathy Olsen, Conservation 20/20 Senior Supervisor described the Smokehouse Bay Preserve Restoration including completed and future phases. Wayne Gale, Lee County Mosquito Control District Director, discussed his concerns with the restoration of wetlands from existing mosquito control ditches. Mr. Gale then presented on his concerns with Mosquito Control on State Managed Lands.

Dr. Win Everham presented a report on the Final FGCU Master Plan Update. Among the issues is that future master plans should include all FGCU facilities and the promotion of new road entrances and highways to the FGCU campus that will impact wetlands and wildlife habitat.

Mr. Wayne Daltry discussed the Alico Road Extension and the proposed restart of CR 951 under the name Sunshine Parkway. These were sent to emerging issues.

The results of the ABM Attendance Reminder letters were discussed. The good news is that every member had attended at least one EBABM meeting in the course of the year. The USFWS and the USEPA were the two members with the lowest attendance record of only one meeting.

ABM Media Release Guideline Discussion was tabled due to time.

ABM Funding Request Letters to FGCU, Lee County, FDEP and SFWMD were approved

Committee Reports and Scheduling discussed the planning for Cela Tega, and IAS

Emerging Issues discussed included the Stewart Cypress Slough Mitigation Permit Application # 110727-7, the Sunny Grove Park, Estero River Permit Application and a 10-year plan for Estero Bay as suggested by Commissioner Brian Bigelow.

Currently the EBABM is working on its 2012 workplan and the long term 10 year plan for water quality restoration in the Estero Bay Watershed.

Information on the EBABM can be found at <http://www.swfrpc.org/abm.html>

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information only.



MINUTES OF THE ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT

Held on August 8, 2011

The regular meeting of the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management was held on August 8, 2011 at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council offices in Fort Myers, Florida.

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Gloria Beauchamp	FDEP/Lovers Key
Jim Beaver	SWFRPC
Lisa Beaver	CHNEP
Karen Bickford	Lee County
Brian Bigelow	Lee County BOCC
Brenda Brooks	CREW
Matt Caldwell	Representative, District 73
David Ceilley	Self
John Curtis	Johnson Engineering
Wayne Daltry	Audubon of Southwest Florida
Win Everham	FGCU
Rand Frahm	Audubon of Florida
Wayne Gale	Lee County Mosquito Control District
Harry Gottlieb	FMBCA
Renee Kwiat	LCPA
Keith Laakkonen	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Sarah Larsen	FGCU
Diana McGee	Senator Bill Nelson
Laura Miller	LWV of Lee County

Cathy Olson	Conservation 2020
Judy Ott	CHNEP
Ellen Peterson	Self
Pete Quasius	Audubon of SWF / Snook Foundation
Erin Rasnake	FDEP – South
Shelly Redovan	Lee County Mosquito Control District
Carl Veaux	RGMC, Sierra Club

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Dr. Beever at 9:30 a.m. Introductions were made.

Agenda Item #2 – Attendance

Attendance was taken through the sign-in sheet.

Agenda Item #3 – Agenda Additions, Deletions or Corrections

Commissioner Bigelow suggested adding a public comment statement at the top of the agenda to stating that "Public may comment at the discussion of each agenda item".

Dr. Beever asked if there were any other additions, deletions or corrections. There were no added additions, deletions or corrections.

Agenda Item #4 – Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #5 – Minutes of June 13, 2011

MOTION BY MR. QUASIUS AND SECONDED BY MS. BROOKS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2011. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #6 – Presentation: Legislative Updates

Representative Matt Caldwell, District 73, provided an update on legislative issues. Growth management was a huge issue this legislative session which totally reformed the 1975 Growth Management Act. He stated that the idea was to invert the process to be a bottom up process, changing the state from the classical role with the basic premise being to put the onus on the local governments.

Mr. Daltry asked if the state land planning agency was still in existence.

Representative Caldwell stated that there would not be a state comprehensive plan, but that there would still be an office within DEP that would keep track of what was going on. The central clearinghouse would still have oversight on issues of state concern as defined in the statute (i.e. encroachment on military bases, first magnitude springs, anything that would impact the Everglades, etc.)

Mr. Daltry asked if the Regional Planning Councils would be eliminated.

Representative Caldwell stated that the funding was cut, but they were not eliminated.

Discussion ensued on the state comp plan. Representative Caldwell stated that there was a vision in 1985 that the state would have a more aggressive role in outlining land use categories and growth. There is still a plan that outlines how to organize government.

Mr. Quasius stated that he thought the movement was towards longer term planning and sector plans rather than DRIs and more short-term operations.

Representative Caldwell said that basically the legislature took Rule 9J5 and with input from the community, staff and legislators, they kept the areas they wanted to keep and eliminated the others, Need being one of those.

Mr. Daltry asked if financial feasibility was eliminated.

Representative Caldwell stated that would be left to the local governments to decide. Eliminated was the requirement that the local municipalities follow the steps that had been required in the past. Municipalities now have more flexibility as to how to apply standards. None of the city plans were invalidated.

Discussion ensued on possible state policy looking at alternative forms of energy.

Representative Caldwell stated that this issue would most likely not be discussed in the current legislative session. It would probably be a couple of years. Senator Benaquisto, Chair of the Energy Committee, has been an advocate of getting this policy completed, however, the logistics of redistricting will have an effect, not only on this issue, but other major issues as well.

Dr. Everham said that one of his concerns as an ecologist, even though he understood the desire to give more local control, however, sometime our systems are outside our control. The Caloosahatchee River is a prime example. He asked Representative Caldwell if he felt that there was enough state oversight as people downstream might be negatively affected by local decisions upstream.

Representative Caldwell stated that we have looked at what has been built and have built smarter suburban environments. There are two problems: 1) Discouragement of urban development (transportation concurrency) that ruined the ability to have dense urban areas and 2) mortgage and financial subsidy structure of the federal government that discourages cash investment and encourages borrowed spending which has manifested itself in the larger suburban environment.

Dr. Everham asked if Representative Caldwell saw any changes in the state stepping in on the mining resource.

Representative Caldwell said that with the assistance from Senator Benaquisto had preemption removed from House Bill 991. There is a strategic resource in the rock and it is not a renewable resource. He hoped that this debate would take place at the local level.

Discussion ensued on mining, DRGR, preemption and damage to the water.

Mr. Beever said that another issue is the fertilizer ordinance which have been initiated from Collier County to Pinellas County and are stricter than the state standards. He asked if Representative Caldwell if we will see another attempt at preemption.

Representative Caldwell replied that he did not think it would be a legitimate issue.

Commissioner Bigelow asked about rock mining and the fertilizer ordinances as we tend to lose sight of the downstream consequences of rock mining and phosphate. These two factors have one of the largest negative impacts and extraction is potentially “Armageddon” for us.

Representative Caldwell stated that the debate is cost and property rights. Rock mining has as big an impact on Estero Bay as Lehigh has on the Caloosahatchee River. Mining was chosen as it only involved 10 owners.

Commissioner Bigelow stated that the ABM was extremely concerned with what has happened to water and habitat quality which is nearly in a cesspool status. The state needs to recognize that this is a state preserve. He asked if the ABM could rely on his office for assistance if they could come up with a 10-year plan with milestones.

Representative Caldwell said that he would be glad to help wherever he could. He had opposed the closing of the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserves office. The difficulty lies in the fact that it is not just rock mining that has changed. It is also the developments, roads and golf courses as well. Balancing that issue is extremely difficult.

Discussion ensued on basin rules, water quality, design improvements and the technologies used to treat, retain and reuse water on the site. Mr. Beever reviewed the history on the Southwest Florida basin rule. Representative Caldwell said that he would look further into this issue and get back with Karen Bickford and the members of the ABM.

Discussion ensued on TMDLs and the action plan ensued.

Mr. Veaux stated that the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation is working on a blueprint for conservation and expressed his hope that the legislature would find a way to get the land builders to mitigate their land for wildlife and approve preservation of the thruway for the panther and black bear population.

Representative Caldwell said that there was still a lot of work for the major agencies to do with respect to moving forward with less money and still preserve what they have. He felt that we should focus more on less-than-fee acquisitions rather than the fee simple acquisitions as they are less expensive and would relieve the state of the maintenance costs.

Discussion ensued on the reconsideration of funding of water management district in the next several years. Representative Caldwell asked everyone to vocalize their opinions to their legislators on reform, structure, localization, policy, etc. as this would be an active topic for the next several years.

Agenda Item #7 – Smokehouse Bay Preserve Mosquito Ditches Discussion

Cathy Olson, Lee County 2020 Program, presented this item. She explained that there are three primary tiers: 1) Conservation of natural resources, 2) Improving hydrological systems and 3) Nature based restoration. Their organization takes the land that has been altered over time and brings it back to the natural system.

Discussion ensued on mulching the melaleuca. Ms. Olson said that the cost was exorbitant. Mr. Beever said that the mulch will transport out of the system and create a water quality problem, and, therefore, it is better to leave it intact to let the natural processes occur.

Ms. Olson explained that their goals were to reestablish natural hydrology, reclaim palm grove into high marshes and salt flats, remove spoil piles, control invasive exotic plants and get the native plants back into the system. This technique is a well utilized restoration technique on the east coast, the west coast and up the eastern seaboard as well as in Australia. It will restore much of the natural water movement and enhance globally imperiled communities, increase bioproductivity on the site, reduce fragmentation and help maintain a healthy coastal system.

Discussion ensued on funding for the project which will be all grants if she is successful in getting the third grant.

Discussion ensued on the cost. Ms. Olson said that the cost is \$50,000 for the second phase and did not include design and permitting.

Agenda Item #8 – Mosquito Control on State Managed Lands Discussion

Wayne Gale presented this agenda item. He explained that Lee County has more of this acreage than any other county in high marsh and that restoring a tidal marsh to its natural condition will create this type of habitat. Mosquito control and marsh habitats have been an issue of concern in Florida for several years. Chapter 338 of Florida law provides for a Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control which consists of folks from DEP, EPA, Fish & Wildlife and Mosquito Control, and meet three to four times a year to discuss these issues. There is also a Subcommittee on Managed Marshes which is comprised of marsh management experts who are available to discuss, provide expert advice and evaluate projects with an eye towards the impact on mosquito control.

Discussion ensued on permits for ditching and the types of fish found in the marshes and pools. Impacts from the birds and predators is very minimal. Mr. Beever stated that the horseflies are a major problem in the marshes.

Discussion ensued on alternatives to mosquito ditching and the impact to the environment, spoil piles and ditches.

Mr. Laakonen asked about treating mosquitoes after the habitat shift as it would make spraying more efficient.

Mr. Gale said that the habitats are so small and temporary that it would have little effect.

Discussion ensued on rotary and starburst ditching.

Ms. Redovan said that there would be a meeting in two weeks and that one of her ideas was to go to an open marsh system or rotary ditch situation. She explained that she was not proposing to fill every mosquito ditch and that the benefits largely outweigh the increase in cost.

MOTION BY MR. QUASIUS AND SECONDED BY DR. EVERHAM TO HAVE THIS ITEM ON THE NEXT IAS AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #9 – Final FGCU Master Plan Update

Dr. Everham said that the Master Plan Update had been sent in.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION BY MR. DALTRY AND SECONDED BY MR. QUASIUS TO SEND THE LETTER PREPARED BY DR. EVERHAM.

Mr. Daltry said that he did not find any mentioning of the research center off campus.

Dr. Everham said that it will be presented to the Board of Trustees in September.

Commissioner Bigelow asked if the students had been asked to comment on the master plan.

Mr. Daltry said he also did not see the Sunshine Expressway mentioned either which was supposed to be on the east side of the university.

Mr. Carl Veaux began the discussion on the concerns regarding 951 and the widening of Corkscrew Road. The east road would have given better access by emergency vehicles.

Discussion continued.

Dr. Beever called the question.

**MOTION AMENDED THE LETTER TO INCLUDE ALL PROPERTIES
IN THE MASTER PLAN. MOTION MAKER AND SECONDER
AGREED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Agenda Item #10 – Alico Road Extension – Wayne Daltry (moved to IAS Committee)

This item was moved to the IAS Committee for action.

Agenda Item #11 – ABM Attendance Reminders

Mr. Beaver presented this item. Ms. Larsen and Ms. Kooi had researched the attendance of each member. Currently two members (EPA and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) will be sent a letter with respect to attendance issues.

Agenda Item #12 – ABM Media Release Guideline Discussion (TABLED)

This item was tabled to next month.

Agenda Item #13 – ABM Funding Request Letters (will be e-mailed)

The draft letters for ABM Funding Requests from FGCU, FDEP, SFWMD, and Lee County were reviewed.

MOTION BY MR. QUASIUS AND SECONDED BY DR. EVERHAM TO APPROVE THE SENDING OF THE LETTERS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #14 – Draft Mosquito Control Presentation Thank You letter (to IAS)

Ms. Larsen said that she will amend the letter to include the presentation by Ms. Olson, Mr. Gale of Mosquito Control today.

MOTION BY MR. QUASIUS AND SECONDED BY DR. EVERHAM TO APPROVE THE SENDING OF THE THANK YOU LETTER TO MR. GALE AND MS. REDOVAN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #15 – Committee Reports and Scheduling

- Cela Tega Planning

Dr. Everham gave a brief report. The keynote speaker will be from the National Public Radio (NPR).

Mr. Beaver said this meeting will be critical as the agenda will be finalized.

- IAS

Discussion on the conflicts of meeting times with the Lee County Zoning Committee certain board members for the ABM meeting. Commissioner Bigelow said he would talk to Mary Gibbs about the conflict with the Zoning Committee meeting on the second Monday.

Agenda Item #16 – Emerging Issues

Stewart Cypress Slough Mitigation Permit Application #110727-7. Mr. Beever presented this item. This needs to be examined closely to determine if the agency would have anything to go after if didn't maintain the system.

Agenda Item #17 – Announcements

None.

Agenda Item #18 – Next Meeting, Time, Place, Agenda

Cela Tega/IAS: Monday, August 15, 2011 – 1:00 p.m./2:00 p.m. at the Sugden Welcome Center, FGCU.

EBABM: Monday, September 12, 2011 – 9:30 a.m. SWFRPC. Mr. Keith Laakonen said a report will be given on the Laguna Shores dredging project.

Agenda Item #19 – Adjournment

**MOTION BY MR. DALTRY AND SECONDED BY MR. QUASIUS TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:32 A.M. MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

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8b6

Regional Watersheds
Committee

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REGIONAL WATERSHED COMMITTEE

The Regional Watersheds Committee (RWC) will meet after the October 20, 2011 Council meeting. The RWC acting as a technical advisory committee to the Council concerning water quality issues pursued the implementation of the SWFRPC stormwater resolutions and provided continued assistance on fertilizer resolutions.

The RWC is concentrating on the Stormwater Strategy for implementation of the resolutions to improve stormwater treatment for new, rebuilding, and retrofitting stormwater systems. The meeting will address the question of “What can we do in the next 12 months to advance the improvement of stormwater treatment in the region?” The meeting will review the DRI checklist on the Stormwater Questions and identify which local governments are already implementing parts of the resolutions recommendations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: No action on this item is required by Council.

10/2011

Fertilizer Matrix Route from
Resolution to Ordinance

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

June 7, 2011

City or County	Resolution Approved by SWFRPC	Ordinance Under Review by Local Jurisdiction	Ordinance Approved by Local Jurisdiction	Ordinance Legislation Effective	Ordinance Citation
Name	Date	Date	Date	Date	
Sarasota County	03-15-07	4-2007	8-27-07	8-27-07	2007-062
City of Sarasota	03-15-07	4-2007	10-15-07	10-15-07	07-4768
City of Venice	03-15-07	4-2007	10-15-07	10-15-07	07-4768
Town of Longboat Key	03-15-07	4-26-2007	5-5-08	5-5-08	2008-04
City of North Port	03-15-07	11-11-2007	11-26-07	11-26-07	07-45
Charlotte County	03-15-07	11-8-2007	3-18-08 6-14-11 strengthening considered	3-18-08	2008-028
City of Punta Gorda	03-15-07	11-6-2007	12-16-11 on agenda in review	Incorporated in Climate Change Adaptation Plan approved 11-18- 09	Informational brochures and tip cards are in distribution.
Lee County	03-15-07	8-28-2007	5-13-08	5-13-08	08-08
City of Bonita Springs	03-15-07	11-13-07 to 11- 18-08	11-19-08	11-19-08	08-11-0543
City of Cape Coral	03-15-07	10-29-07 to Draft 8-31-10	11-29-10	11-29-10	86-10
City of Fort Myers	03-15-07	1-1-08	11-17-08	11-17-08	3489
City of Sanibel	03-15-07	2-20-07 first 8-21-07 amended	3-6-07 first adoption 9-18-07 amended	3-6-07 first 9-18-07 amended	07-003

Town of Fort Myers Beach	03-15-07	7-18-08	12-18-08	12-18-08	08-61808
Collier County	03-15-07	8-4-07	Draft 6-14-11		
City of Naples	03-15-07	6-7-2006	6-7-2006	10-10-06	06-11245
City of Marco Island	03-15-07	Utilizing the Rookery Bay Greenscape BMPs			Utilizing the Rookery Bay Greenscape BMPs
Everglades City	03-15-07	No Action to Date			
Glades County	03-15-07	No Action to Date			
City of Moore Haven	03-15-07	No Action to Date			
Hendry County	03-15-07	3-2011	4-12-2011	4-12-2011	2011-03
City of LaBelle	03-15-07	No Action to Date			
City of Clewiston	03-15-07	No Action to Date			