



SOUTHWEST Florida Regional Planning COUNCIL

MEDIA SUMMARY

November 19, 2009

1. AGENDA ADOPTION

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) will consider changes or additions to its agenda of November 19, 2009.

2. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2009, SWFRPC MEETING

Draft minutes of the October 15, 2009, meeting of the SWFRPC will be considered.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council will finalize administrative and intergovernmental applications submitted under the Florida Intergovernmental Coordination and Review process.

B. Financial Statements (October 2009)

Financial statements of October 2009 will be presented for the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council's perusal and approval.

C. Estero Bay Watershed Public Symposium Report

A brief summary update featuring the Estero Bay Watershed Public Symposium held at Florida Gulf Coast University, September 27-28, 2009, is included in the agenda package. The symposium was conducted to foster greater understanding of the Estero Bay Watershed. Additionally, the update summarizes lessons learned and includes a plan implementation section.

D. Review of the Revised Glades & Hendry Joint Transportation Disadvantaged Bylaws

Proposed by-laws to guide the Transportation Disadvantaged Programs of Glades and Hendry Counties will be reviewed by the SWFRPC for approval consideration.

E. City of Venice Comprehensive Plan Amendment

A proposed amendment to the *City of Venice County Comprehensive Plan* will be reviewed by the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council for consistency with the *Southwest Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan*.

F. Babcock Ranch Master Development of Regional Impact – Noticed of Proposed Change (NOPC)

The Babcock Ranch Master Development of Regional Impact application was originally approved by Charlotte County, December 13, 2007. The project is located in southeastern Charlotte County, north of Lee County Road 78, south of Charlotte County Road 74, and immediately east of State Road 31. A Noticed of Proposed Change was submitted to the SWFRPC, September 23, 2009. The proposed changes involve revising the master development order transportation reanalysis timing conditions and revisions to Map H involving Increment 1 boundary areas which includes the optional Florida Power and Light solar photovoltaic electrical facility.

Regional staff has concluded that the proposed changes will create additional regional impacts not previously reviewed. As such, the request is to notify Charlotte County, the Florida Department of Community Affairs, and the applicant regarding potential transportation impacts, and that approval of the proposed change should be contingent upon the applicant's addressing the noted concerns. Further, staff recommends that Charlotte County provide copies of any development approvals and related materials to the SWFRPC for review to ensure consistency with the recommended NOPC change.

G. University Town Center (Formerly Sarasota Interstate Park of Commerce) Development of Regional Impact – Noticed of Proposed Change (NOPC)

The Sarasota County Board of Commissioners originally approved the Sarasota Interstate Park of Commerce Development of Regional Impact project, July 27, 1993. The project was approved as multi-use development consisting of a hotel, residential, light industrial and retail activities. In October 2009, a Noticed of Proposed Change application request was submitted to amend the project's development order. The following are desired.

- √ Revision of the buildout date, facility reservation date, and the no-down zoning date from December 2009 – December 2014.
- √ Provides language clarification to ensure that the community housing units are designed, permitted, and constructed in accordance with the Housing Units Development Agreement of November 11, 2008.

Regional staff has concluded that the proposed change will not create regional impacts but transportation concerns were noted and that new regional and local transportation impact mitigation language is necessary for approval of the development order. As such, the request is to notify Sarasota County, the Florida Department of Community Affairs, and the applicant regarding potential transportation impacts, and that approval of the proposed change should be contingent upon the applicant's addressing the noted concerns. Further, staff recommends that Sarasota County provide copies of any development approvals and related materials to the SWFRPC for review to ensure consistency with the recommended NOPC change.

H. The Fountains Development of Regional Impact – Request for Extension

The applicant for the Fountains Development of Regional Impact project is seeking a 120-day extension to its deadline for responding to the Application for Development Approval's sufficiency questions. The new proposed deadline for sufficiency responses would be March 10, 2010. Regional staff recommends approval of the extension.

I. North Port Gardens Development of Regional Impact – Request for Extension

The applicant for the North Port Gardens Development of Regional Impact project is seeking a sixty (60) day extension to its deadline for responding to the Application for Development Approval's sufficiency questions. The new proposed deadline for sufficiency responses would be February 25, 2010. Regional staff recommends approval of the extension.

4. BABCOCK RANCH INCREMENT I DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT - STAFF ASSESSMENT

Babcock Ranch Master Development of Regional Impact project was originally approved, December 13, 2007, by the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners. Increment I of the master development project is to include a hotel, residential, retail, office, medical, and industrial activities. The project is to consist of two parcels which are not contiguous. The northern parcel is 367.4 acres and the southern site is 2,583.5 acres. The proposed buildout date is December 31, 2019. Regional staff recommends conditional approval of the Babcock Ranch Increment I Development of Regional Impact project to be

further conditioned on a finding of consistency with the local government comprehensive plan by the Charlotte Board of County Commissioners.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

• **Department of Energy Grant Opportunity – Solar Retrofit Initiative and General Innovation Fund Programs – Mr. David Hutchinson**

The U.S. Department of Energy has publicized the release of funds under its competitive grant program. Planning Director David Hutchinson will elaborate on the activities and programs associated with the grant.

6. REGIONAL ISSUES

A. Offshore Drilling – Councilman Ernie Zavodnyik, City of Venice

On November 9, 2009, the SWFRPC learned that Florida's Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee would be conducting a comprehensive review of the implications of offshore drilling on the state. A copy of an associated news release is provided as an agenda item for the Council's perusal. Political subdivisions of Sarasota County (Sarasota County, City of Sarasota, City of Venice, Town of Longboat Key, and City of North Port) have taken a proactive approach opposing offshore oil and gas drillings in the waters of the state.

B. Intermodal Logistics Center Status Report – Commissioner Karson Turner

Commissioner Karson Turner will articulate the status of the Intermodal Logistics Center.

C. Other Regional Issues

- Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact

This agenda item affords time for other regional issues to be addressed. Also, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact will be considered by the body.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This agenda item affords an opportunity for members of the public to openly discuss and bring issues to the attention of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. The public is encouraged to attend all meetings of the SWFRPC. Prior registration and approval by the SWFRPC to speak before the assembly are required.

8. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Executive Director Ken Heatherington of the SWFRPC will provide a digest of pertinent issues facing the region and state.

9. STATE AGENCIES COMMENTS/REPORTS

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Department of Transportation
- South Florida Water Management District
- Southwest Florida Water Management District
- Southwest Florida's Economic Development Programs
- Southwest Florida School Boards
- Southwest Florida Stewardship Alliance

10. COUNSEL'S COMMENTS

Counsel of the SWFRPC is afforded time to advise the body of pertinent legal issues confronting the jurisdiction.

11. COUNCIL'S MEMBERS COMMENTS

Officials of the SWFRPC are allowed a brief opportunity to share information regarding unique activities in their respective communities, or projects for future consideration.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment signals the close of all proceedings of the official monthly meeting.