

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 20, 2009

FORT MYERS, FLA: On Thursday, October 15, 2009, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) held "A State of the Region Address" at its annual meeting at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda. The Council paid tribute to City of Fort



Myers Mayor James Humphrey for his years of service. He was elected to serve on the Council in January 2003 and was the Chair of the Council from January 2009 to October 2009.

Mayor Humphrey was involved with the Council for more than 34 years. Among his many accomplishments, he successfully argued before the Florida Supreme Court on behalf of Lee County on a development of regional impact (DRI) that the Council had denied. In closing, Mayor Humphrey passed the Council gavel to Vice Chair Mick Denham, Mayor of City of Sanibel. Mayor Denham will be the Acting Chairman of the Council from November 2009 until January 2010, when the Council will elect the 2010 officers.

Mayor Denham has been a member of the Council since March 2005. He is currently the Chair of the Council's Lower West Coast Watershed Implementation Committee and a member of the Council's Climate and Energy Committee. He is also one of the Assistant Treasurer's of the Council.

The attached photograph shows Mayor Humphrey (shown on the left) passing the gavel to Mayor Denham (shown on the right) at the "State of the Region Address" Workshop held on October 15, 2009 at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda.

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council advocates on issues of regional significance on behalf of southwest Florida. It brings 34 local elected officials and five state-appointed officials together to develop agreement on a common vision for the region and assess progress toward obtaining that vision. Created in 1973 by an interlocal agreement among Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota counties, the Council serves as a regional information clearinghouse, conducts research and implements projects that include planning, law, emergency management, public administration, environmental science, business administration and information technology.

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