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JOINT MEETING OF THE  
TREASURE COAST AND SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS

October 12, 2018

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) met on this date at the Broward County Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Chair Caplan of the SFRPC called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM ONE: Pledge of Allegiance**

SFRPC Chair Frank Caplan welcomed the members of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC), South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC), and attendees. He thanked the Broward County Commission and staff for hosting the Joint Meeting. Chair Caplan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ITEM TWO: Roll Call**

The following Members were in attendance:

The following Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council Councilmembers, Alternates, Gubernatorial Appointees, Ex-Officios, staff, and Council Attorney were present:

Indian River County: Commissioner O'Bryan

Martin County: Commissioner Smith  
Commissioner Fielding  
Vice Mayor Bruner, Alternate

Palm Beach County: Commissioner Valeche  
Mayor McKinlay, Alternate  
Vice Mayor Bernard  
Commissioner Berger  
Mayor Gerwig  
Councilman Hmara  
Mayor Brennan  
Commissioner Hardy, Alternate

Gubernatorial Appointees: Douglas Bournique, Indian River County  
Michael Davis, Palm Beach County  
Tobin Overdorf, Martin County  
Erica Whitfield, Palm Beach County  
Reece Parrish, St. Lucie County  
Robert Lowe, St. Lucie County

Ex-Officios: Lois Bush, Florida Department of Transportation, District IV  
Kathy LaMartina, South Florida Water Management District  
Jennifer Smith, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Council Staff: Kathryn Boer  
Michael Busha, TCRPC Executive Director  
Kim DeLaney  
Liz Gulick  
Stephanie Heidt  
Tom Lanahan  
Dana Little

Council Attorney: Keith Davis

The following South Florida Regional Planning Council Councilmembers, Gubernatorial Appointees, Ex-Officios, staff, and Council Attorney were present:

Broward County: Mayor Beam Furr  
Senator Steve Geller  
Mayor Greg Ross, City of Cooper City  
Commissioner Michael Udine

Miami-Dade County: Chair Frank Caplan, Mayor, Village of Key Biscayne  
Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava  
Councilman Tim Daubert, Town of Miami Lakes

Monroe County: Commissioner Samuel Kaufman, City of Key West

Gubernatorial Appointees: Mario J. Bailey, Miami-Dade County  
Cary Goldberg, Broward County  
Sandra Walters, Monroe County

Ex-Officios Members: Laura Corry, South Florida Water Management District  
Shereen Yee Fong, Florida Department of Transportation, District VI  
Jennifer Smith, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Council staff: Isabel Cosio Carballo, SFRPC Executive Director  
Corey Aitken  
Julie Bernal  
Manny Cela  
Karen Chang  
Kathe Lerch  
Christina Miskis  
Natalia Neira

Council Attorney: David Tolces

**AGENDA ITEM THREE: Approval of Agenda**

*Approval carried by unanimous consent.*

**AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Welcoming Remarks – The Honorable Mayor Quentin “Beam” Furr, Broward County; SFRPC Councilmember**

Mayor Furr reminded those present that our Joint Meetings bring us together to discuss regional issues that are common to both Councils and that past meetings have had considerable success. He thanked Representative Kristen Jacobs for her support during the last legislative session and went on to say “Together as seven counties and more than six million people we speak with a loud voice and we can make a difference.” Mayor Furr introduced Broward County’s Deputy County Administrator Monica Cepero who welcomed everyone and stated the County was honored to host the Joint Meeting of the RPCs. She recognized the various attendees: Senators Rich and Geller, Representative Jacobs, and representatives from Senator Nelson’s and Senator Rubio’s office. She mentioned the importance of the various topics that will be discussed today: affordable housing, protecting privacy of families, coral reef protection, and other important issues for our region, and stated that together we form a better coalition.

**AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Chairs’ Comments – TCRPC, Reece J. Parrish and SFRPC, Frank Caplan**

Chair Parrish thanked Broward County for hosting today’s meeting. Many of the TCRPC attendees rode Brightline, in which everything went smoothly. Chair Caplan reminded everyone that last year some of the SFRPC Council took Tri-Rail to West Palm Beach. He stated that this is a way of showing leadership by good example, by taking transit and demonstrating how interconnected our region is. Our Councils, for decades, have been serving and supporting the goals and objectives in our communities in the most populated regions of the third most populous State in the United States. He thanked Mayor Furr and both Councils, County Administrator Bertha Henry, Broward County Board of County Commissioners, and Marty Cassini and staff for organizing this meeting, as well as, TCRPC and SFRPC staff.

**AGENDA ITEM SIX: Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Joint Resolution of Support – The Honorable Senator Nan Rich, Broward County Commissioner**

Senator Nan Rich reminded everyone that Affordable Housing is a critical issue for all 67 counties and that incorporating the needs of both rural and metropolitan areas should be taken into consideration in solving the housing issue. As part of the Affordable Housing Work Group, Senator Rich suggested everyone read the Final Report. She explained the history of the Sadowski Trust Fund, its association with Amendment 1 (conservation land), and other areas where the funds have been distributed. Affordable Housing includes individuals in the workforce community (essential workers) such as teachers, fire fighters, police, nurses, restaurant employees, etc., as well as senior citizens, special needs individuals and the youth coming out of foster care. The business community has become very involved and is endorsing the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Senator Rich explained some of the local solutions and future plans regarding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. “Whether it is renting or home ownership, having a roof over your head has to become a reality not just a dream,” she said.

Discussion ensued regarding the Florida Realtors’ support, the disbursement formula, lottery system, sharing best practices across the region with innovative approaches, funding, operation, allocation of the Housing Trust Fund, GAP financing, location of the housing developments, a resolution for our federal

partners, changing the verbiage of affordable housing, include the 2017 homeowner numbers (lowest in 34 years), etc.

Chair Caplan suggested that Representative Jacobs and Senator Rich coordinate with the Executive Directors to incorporate today's discussion and amend Resolution TCSF #18-01. Representative Jacobs offered to sponsor the proposed legislation.

*The motion is to adopt TCSF #18-01 today knowing the amendments will include today's recommendations. Councilmember Smith motioned to adopt TCSF #18-01 transmission of the amended Resolution. Councilmember Lowe seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.*

It was suggested that our lobbyists and various agencies campaign for this bill.

**AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization Update – The Honorable Heather Carruthers, Monroe County Commissioner; Chair, Florida Association of Counties Federal Policy Committee**

Monroe County Commissioner Carruthers stated that the National Flood Insurance Program is related to affordable housing. She shared a presentation that explained the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) history, flood insurance rate maps (FIRM), flood plains, policies, insurance limits, and premiums of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). She explained FEMA's Actuarial Accuracy in which FEMA has stated that they do not have enough data to accurately set rates nor do they have an understanding of flood risk. FEMA will be redrawing rate maps to help set rates; these maps will be done with aerial data rather than property data. Commissioner Carruthers explained the need for elevation certificates, the what/where/how the premiums are dispersed within the industry, NFIP investment or lack thereof, FEMA insured states (Florida has the most policies, highest premiums, lowest claims paid), policy statistics for South Florida, debt perception to the Treasury, Biggert-Waters Act of 2012, Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA) that repealed and modified the Biggert- Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act, future premium costs for homeowners, rental and commercial properties, base flood elevation information, latest NFIP legislative action, changes in FEMA (administrative, rating redesign, and policy changes), improve data collection and accuracy, affordable flood insurance, increase the risk pool, mitigate risk, and protect the economy and the residents, etc.

Details were shared on how the coastal economies drive the nation. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners is evaluating the formation of a National Natural Catastrophic Fund similar to the Florida Hurricane Fund since FEMA helps fund any region in the United States that has a natural disaster.

*Councilmember Bailey motioned that the TCRPC and SFRPC Executive Directors prepare a joint letter urging Congress to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program in support of the legislative positions adopted by the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida League of Cities, and Southeast Florida's local governments. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.*

It was suggested that copies of the resolutions and letters be sent to NACO, National League of Cities, FAC, FRCA, and the Florida League of Cities.

Michelle McGovern from Senator Nelson's Office informed the Councilmembers that the Senate passed the Water Resources Development Act, with the support of Senator Nelson and Senator Rubio particularly with the EAA Reservoir and algal bloom research.

**SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM: Award**

Chair Parrish introduced Kate Boer, TCRPC Emergency Programs Director and Coordinator for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). She recognized and thanked Chairs Parrish and Caplan and Executive Director Carballo for their time. She stated that this is Executive Director Busha's last Joint Council Meeting; he will be retiring in November. Ms. Boer expressed her gratitude for Executive Director Busha's service. She shared her personal thanks and appreciation together with the cooperating agencies. Ms. Boer introduced Captain Joe Nelson, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. Captain Nelson stated Florida is the model for the LEPCs across the United States because our regional LEPCs are the backbone. Mr. Busha was presented with various items of appreciation for his support over the years: LEPC pin, TCLEPC Lifetime Achievement Award, State Emergency Response Commission Annual Thomas Yatabe Award. Mr. Lanahan was presented with a LEPC commemorative and official Polo shirt. Two firefighters in Level A HazMat suits were present. Ms. Boer gave details on volunteering to be part of a HazMat team and the logistics of the HazMat suit.

Mayor McKinlay thanked the Mr. Busha, Ms. Boer, and the team for having their most recent table top exercise relative to the agricultural communities' potential hazards given the amount of pesticides and the recent threats to those communities.

**AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Autopsy Records Exemption Legislation – Update and Joint Resolution of Support – The Honorable Kristin Jacobs, State Representative, District 96**

Representative Jacobs reiterated information from the 2017 Joint Meeting regarding the Pulse Nightclub and Fort Lauderdale International Airport tragedies. This was the genesis for the Autopsy Bill and gave details on the House Bill 1317: Public Records/Autopsy Records which did not come to fruition last year. She is reintroducing the Bill for the 2019 Legislative Session in which step children and adopted children will be added to the language.

*The motion to jointly adopt Resolution TCSF #18-02 to move this legislation forward in the 2019 legislative session was approved and carried by unanimous consent.*

**AGENDA ITEM NINE: Florida's Water Infrastructure Challenge – Presentation by Frank Bernardino, Partner, Anfield Consulting**

Frank Bernardino shared a presentation on Florida's challenge regarding water. Information was shared on future financing for drinking water, wastewater infrastructure, capital improvements and long-term maintenance program to support flood control, Numeric Nutrient Criteria Rule compliance, implementation for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), infrastructure replacement, blue green algae, red tide, and the risk from sea level rise. He explained the history and current State funding support and budgeting in detail, along with the funding on various water programs. The water resources assessment, State water expenses and revenues, water supply projections, were described. Mr. Bernardino explained the cost estimate of \$48.71 Billion over the next 20 years for new infrastructure needed for Florida's growing population along with the impact of sea level rise and other climatic changes to flood control and water management systems. Water infrastructure funding and transportation infrastructure funding was compared and how substantially less money is going into water infrastructure. There is interest in the

legislature to update the language in the Economic and Demographic Report requiring what our needs are. There is a need to build a planning model for water infrastructure similar to the one in transportation to help identify and fund the infrastructure in the State. The Councilmembers had various suggestions on improving water issues' funding, marketing the importance, programs like the 5-Year Work Plan, regional capacity, inform and guide the Legislature, etc.

**AGENDA ITEM TEN: Management Alternatives for Human Wastewater Biosolids – Joint Resolution of Support – Michael J. Busha, Executive Director, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council**

Mr. Busha shared information on how biosolids are managed, disposed of, and recovering the biosolids resources (water, energy, nutrients) associated with public utilities. TCSF Resolution #18-03 marks an era when local governments and state agencies work as a group to increase awareness of biosolids management issues. The Resolution prioritizes the reduction and eventual elimination of the land application of human wastewater biosolids, improve water quality impacts, and establish a pilot program for funding for new wastewater technologies that will improve recovery and afford more efficient use of human wastewater biosolids. He explained most of the biosolid waste is land applied for agricultural purposes, incinerated, landfilled, and some becomes deep well injected. No matter how it is being processed it is getting into the environment. Statewide concerns of the excess nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorous) is being debated when land applied as it fuels the algal bloom. This Resolution requests that state agencies and local governments prioritize the reduction and eventual elimination of land application of human wastewater/biosolids as is practiced today. Establishing a large Pilot Project Program would help local governments' public utilities departments with alternative wastewater treatment practices that would be more effective with our biosolids. He offered three suggestions for the future: 1) eventual elimination of land application, allow time to convert and funding, 2) recover and reuse the water, energy, nitrogen and phosphorous to use more efficiently for agriculture and fertilizer, and 3) don't stop today's processing right away. This should generate more power, clean water, and provide our utilities a more refined/direct form of nitrogen and phosphorous. The Pilot Project Fund was explained in detail.

Councilmember Bailey abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

There were concerns regarding the language of the Resolution, the impact on the processing plant, new technology, further regulations on testing the pellets for opioids and other chemicals, using the material and transforming it into usable energy, animal waste, watershed, environment, various types of waste, etc. It was suggested that the counties join together to build one facility with the new technology, so each county doesn't have to build their own. The other suggestion was to locate the pilot processing plants in three different scaled areas (large urban, midsize, and a rural location).

*The motion to adopt Resolution TCSF #18-03 and authorize the Chairs to distribute to local government associations and involved state agencies was passed by majority vote. Mayor McKinlay and Commissioner Valeche opposed.*

**SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM: Lunch and Recognition**

SFRPC Executive Director Isabel Cosio Carballo presented Michael Busha with various retirement memorabilia. The TCRPC brought a "riding to retirement" cake to celebrate Mr. Busha's retirement.

**AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Southeast Florida Coral Reef Tract – Update and Joint Resolution of Support –**

**Joanna C. Walczak, Southeast Regional Administrator, Florida Coastal Office, Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

Various attendees thanked Ms. Walczak for her dedication and knowledge on the Florida Reef Tract. She thanked the RPCs for their support and amplifying the importance of the Coral Reef Tract. Ms. Walczak serves at the national platform, local level, and is a conduit of information for many partners across the scene. Southeast Florida has the only continental coral reef in the United States, and is the world's capital for sport fishing. She explained the history, statistics, updates, location, population, visitors, protection of the coral reef, "mapping ocean wealth", coastal protection from storms, food biosecurity, biomedical and drug discoveries in our reefs, research, tourism and tourism value (\$1,152,313,000), jobs created (71,000) because of our coral reefs, funding, etc. Thanks to Mayor Furr and the SFRPC, a meeting took place with tourism representatives, so they could realize the impact.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) funded various projects to help our partners understand the problems of the coral reef. DEP has a dedicated coral disease webpage in which all the data is publicly accessible and transparent. There are international workshops, intervention actions, rebuilding coral by rescuing healthy coral in land based facilities, recommendations and ecosystem resilience, etc. Veterans from around the country are becoming involved to help fight the fight. She thanked everyone for their support but still needs assistance with the short-term capacities, disease response (triage), addressing the environmental conditions (water quality – nitrogen and phosphorus), wastewater, aging infrastructure, outfalls and biosolids issues. How do we collectively solve these issues to save our coral reefs?

*The motion is for the Treasure Coast and South Florida Chairs to sign and transmit Resolution TCSF #18-04 urging Florida's Governor and Legislature to establish a long-term, recurring revenue source to provide adequate and flexible funding for coral reef disease response and to better address the harmful environmental conditions enabling the disease epidemic that is critically damaging the Florida Reef Tract. Councilmember Walters motioned to adopt TCSF #18-04 transmission of the amended Resolution. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.*

**AGENDA ITEM TWELVE: Florida Coastal Mapping Program Initiative – Presentation by Philip Kramer, Ph.D., Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography**

Mr. Kramer, a Marine Biologist, explained that the Florida Coastal Mapping Program Initiative (FCMaP) is a coordinated effort with state and federal agencies, as well as other stakeholders/institutions, to map all of Florida's state and federal waters in the next 10 years. The presentation described the importance of data for federal, state, regional, and local decision-making related to infrastructure, resource management, emergency response, and coastal resiliency efforts. He explained the need for high resolution data of the coast and adjacent seafloor for resource and habitat mapping, understanding coastal vulnerability, evaluating performance of restoration projects, and other coastal and marine spatial planning efforts. An organizational chart was presented illustrating the co-chairs, various institutions, and steering committee (composed of four federal and four state agencies), who are working to coordinate ongoing and future planned mapping efforts, engaging stakeholders through workshops, and other communications to prioritize data collection and set consistent mapping standards. He would like to partner with the RPCs for the workshops located in the southeast region. Mr. Kramer identified who benefits from new technologies and the reason efficient mapping is important. The difference between low / high resolution, vertical / horizontal resolution, LiDAR, etc. was explained. High resolution bathymetry (HRB) can help Florida's renewable energy, aquaculture, artificial reefs, tourism, etc. The problem of moving this forward is the lack of knowledge of what's there, permitting, lack of high resolution data, etc. The technical team, data inventory,

and portal information, along with the LiDAR and Multibeam Mapping were presented in detail. Mr. Kramer described the funding needs and the next steps to update the mapping.

*With the RPCs' approval, Mr. Kramer would like to work with the RPCs' planning staff to help plan the March 2019 workshops in Southeast Florida and the Keys. He would like the RPCs' participation, involvement, and endorsement in helping organize this for the State of Florida. This request was approved and carried by unanimous consent.*

Information on updating the data, spot checking, repeat mapping, and interaction with the Florida Keys was discussed.

It was requested that the next Joint Meeting should be in March.

**AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN: Regional Passenger Rail Update – Anthony Catalina, Ph.D., Director of Planning and Capital Development, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority**

Kim Delaney of TCRPC staff, noted that Dr. Catalina from SFRTA, Rusty Roberts from Brightline, Larry Merritt, FDOT Project Manager, and Jaime Lopez from FDOT's Project Team, who is working on the Tri-Rail Extension on the FEC (TriRail Coastal Link), and Council staff were available for questions after the presentation.

Rusty Roberts presented a promotional video on Brightline and the possible new corridors that are "too short to fly, too long to drive" throughout the United States. He reiterated that some of the TCRPC participants used Brightline to travel to Broward County for this meeting. The video depicted the various people, locations, connections, and future locations in Florida and across the country.

Dr. Catalina explained the existing and planned future services of TriRail's commuter passenger service, freight service on the corridor, Amtrak, and Brightline. Further information was provided regarding track location (Florida East Coast Railway and South Florida Rail Corridor), possible rail corridor and station locations, ridership, highway coordination, funding, etc. Dr. Catalina described the history of the services and the various rail service expansions. This included updated information on Miami Central: Miami's Transportation Hub that is comprised of TriRail, Brightline, Metrorail, Metromover, and Metrobus Service and its mixed-use development that is still under construction. He explained the expansion of passenger rail service and its corridors, public-private partnerships, funding, current and possible future alignments, Positive Train Control implementation, the federal/statutory requirements, compatible technology between the trains, and various demonstrations and information.

**AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN: U.S. Highway 27 Multi-Modal Corridor Project and Resolution of Support – Thomas J. Lanahan, Deputy Executive Director, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council**

Mr. Lanahan shared a presentation updating the U.S. Highway 27 Corridor. He provided information on the current discussions on alternative freight rail along U.S. Highway 27. This is an opportunity to execute a joint resolution urging FDOT to expedite this process. The background, analysis, studies, connections between cities, track usage, and funding was detailed. A project-specific website has been established: [www.us27florida.com](http://www.us27florida.com). The positive impact and benefits were noted. This update is identified in the Regional Plan.



*Commissioner Smith motioned the authorization of the TCRPC and SFRPC to sign and transmit TCSF Joint Resolution #18-05 encouraging FDOT to expedite the process for advancing the concept of a new freight route along U.S. Highway 27, including undertaking a Project Development and Environment Study for the U.S. Highway 27 Multimodal Corridor which examines an alternate freight rail project between PortMiami and the I-4 Corridor. Mayor Ross seconded the motion.*

Ms. Carballo stated that Councilmember Davis has suggested additional language to add to the Resolution that would enhance coordination, collaboration, partners, and environmental protection. Chair Caplan stated that Resolution TCSF #18-05 will be adjusted to accommodate today's comments, including Councilmember Davis' suggestions.

*The motion to adopt Resolution TCSF #18-05 with minor modifications was approved and carried by unanimous consent.*

**AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Public Comment** - none

**AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN: Staff Comment**

Marty Cassini, from Broward County thanked his staff for their coordination today. He also thanked Chairs Caplan and Parrish for having the meeting at the Broward County Government Center.

**AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN: Council Comment**

Mayor McKinlay suggested if any agency has information, ordinances, etc. to share with those agencies in northwest Florida who have been affected by the hurricane. Ms. Carballo thanked the Florida Chamber Foundation for the Florida 2030 documentation provided today.

**AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN: Adjournment**

The Joint Meeting of the Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils adjourned at 3:55 p.m. This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the October 12, 2018 Meeting.

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Mario J. Bailey, Secretary

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Date