

**MINUTES OF THE
TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
DECEMBER 11, 2020**

Vice Chair Jeff Hmara called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He led the pledge of allegiance and requested roll call. Thomas Lanahan, Council's Executive Director, took roll and announced a quorum was present.

The following attended in person:

Indian River County:	Commissioner O'Bryan Councilman Foley Councilmember Minuse, Alternate
Martin County:	Commissioner Hetherington Commissioner McDonald
St. Lucie County:	Commissioner Townsend Commissioner Dzadovsky, Alternate
Palm Beach County:	Commissioner Marino Vice Mayor Weinroth, Alternate Mayor Gerwig Vice Mayor Hmara Commissioner Linden, Alternate Councilmember Reed, Alternate
Gubernatorial Appointees:	Douglas Bournique Reece Parrish
Ex-Officios:	Kathy LaMartina, SFWMD
Council Staff:	Thomas J. Lanahan Kathryn Boer Liz Gulick Stephanie Heidt Terry Ann Paulo Jessica Seymour
Council Attorney:	Keith Davis

The following participated remotely:

Indian River County:	Commissioner Adams Commissioner Moss, Alternate
St. Lucie County:	Mayor Oravec Commissioner Johnson Councilman Pickett, Alternate

Palm Beach County: Commissioner Bernard
Commissioner Weiss
Vice Mayor Gottlieb
Mayor Kristine DeHaseth, Alternate

Gubernatorial Appointees: Michael Davis
Peter Sachs

Ex-Officios: Lois Bush, FDOT

Council Staff: Phyllis Castro
Kim DeLaney
Sarah Kammel

Agenda Item 3: Agenda Approval

Council Action: Vice Mayor Weinroth from Palm Beach County moved approval of the Agenda. Mayor Gerwig from the Village of Wellington seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Consent Agenda

Council Action: Vice Mayor Weinroth moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Mayor Gerwig seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Items on the Consent were: 4B1, Financial Report – August 31, 2020; 4B2, Financial Report – September 30, 2020; 4B3, Financial Report – October 31, 2020; 4B4, Minutes – September 18, 2020; and 4B5, Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Resolution TCSF #20-04 (revised).

Agenda Item 5: Council Organization: Membership Appointments and Election of Officers

Commissioner O’Bryan from Indian River County stated the Nominating Committee met prior to today’s Council meeting to determine a slate of officers for 2021. The Committee recommended the following:

Chairman: Vice Mayor Jeff Hmara, Palm Beach County
Vice Chairman: Commissioner Cathy Townsend, St. Lucie County
Secretary/Treasurer: Councilmember Douglas Bournique, Indian River County

Council Action: Commissioner O’Bryan from Indian River County moved approval of the Committee’s recommendation. Commissioner Marino from Palm Beach County seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

In accordance with the Council’s Rules of Organization, Mr. Lanahan indicated the Councilmembers for 2021 coincide with the roll read at the beginning of the meeting. Those members are as follows:

PALM BEACH COUNTY

Regular Members: Commissioner Maria Marino
Commissioner Mack Bernard
Commissioner Gregg Weiss

Regular Member Alternates: Commissioner Melissa McKinlay
Vice Mayor Robert S. Weinroth
Mayor Dave Kerner

Municipal Members: Mayor Anne Gerwig, Village of Wellington
Vice Mayor Jeff Hmara, Village of Royal Palm Beach
Vice Mayor Robert Gottlieb, Town of South Palm Beach
Mayor Abby Brennan, Village of Tequesta
President Pro Tem David Norris, Village of North Palm Beach

Municipal Alternates: Commissioner Joseph Peduzzi, City of West Palm Beach
Commissioner Regina Bohlen, City of Pahokee
Mayor Kristine de Haseth, Town of Ocean Ridge
Commissioner John Linden, Town of Lake Park
Councilmember Chelsea Reed, City of Palm Beach Gardens

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Regular Members: Commissioner Peter O’Bryan
Commissioner Susan Adams

Regular Member Alternates: Commissioner Laura Moss
Commissioner Joseph Earman

Municipal Members: Mayor Ed Dodd, City of Sebastian
Councilman Brian T. Foley, Town of Indian River Shores

Municipal Alternates: Councilmember Honey Minuse, City of Vero Beach
Councilmember Patti-Oertle-Phaneuf, Town of Orchid

MARTIN COUNTY

Regular Members: Commissioner Doug Smith
Commissioner Stacey Hetherington

Regular Member Alternates: Commissioner Harold Jenkins
Commissioner Edward Ciampi

Municipal Member: TBA, City of Stuart

Municipal Alternate: Vice Mayor James Campo, Town of Sewall’s Point

ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Regular Members: Commissioner Sean Mitchell
Commissioner Cathy Townsend

Regular Member Alternates: Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky
Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson

Municipal Members: Mayor Greg Oravec, City of Port St. Lucie
TBA, City of Fort Pierce

Municipal Alternates: Councilman David Pickett, City of Port St. Lucie
TBA, City of Fort Pierce

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTEES: Doug Bournique, Indian River County
Michael Houston, Martin County
Michael Davis, Palm Beach County
Mark Llano, Palm Beach County
Reece Parrish, St. Lucie County
Vacant – Martin County
Vacant – St. Lucie County
Vacant – Palm Beach County
Vacant – Palm Beach County

EX-OFFICIOS: Lois Bush, FDOT
Loraine Cargill, SFRTA
Kathy LaMartina, SFWMD
Jason Andreotta, FDEP
Vacant, SJRWMD

Agenda Item 6: Budget and Personnel Committee – Annual Review of Council’s Executive Director

Commissioner Townsend from St. Lucie County, Chair of the Committee, indicated the Budget and Personnel Committee met prior to the Council meeting for the annual review of Council’s Executive Director. The Committee reviewed the completed evaluation surveys, discussed their own observations, and voted to recommend Council retain the services of Mr. Lanahan with a salary increase of 3%.

Council Action: Commissioner O’Bryan moved approval of the Committee’s recommendation. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lanahan stated it has been a pleasure working for Council and he thanked the staff and Council members for their support. Vice Chair Hmara thanked Mr. Lanahan and the outstanding staff.

Agenda Item 7: Council Board Meeting Schedule – 2021

Mr. Lanahan presented the proposed Council meeting schedule for 2021. He indicated there are two joint meetings with the South Florida Regional Planning Council scheduled for the year,

noting the March meeting will most likely be held virtually, but hopefully the October meeting can be in person. Additionally, he noted that typically the August meeting is cancelled, but that will depend on Council's workload.

Council Action: Commissioner O'Bryan moved approval of the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: Port of Fort Pierce Master Plan – Presentation by St. Lucie County Assistant Planning Manager Kori Benton, AICP

Kori Benton, Assistant Planning Manager for St. Lucie County, provided a presentation to Council on the update of the Port of Fort Pierce Master Plan. He noted the planning process included data collection, site assessment, framework planning, concept exploration, plan formulation, and implementation strategies. The purpose of the update was to determine how the Port can evolve to embrace community economic and social opportunities. The update is especially timely because the County recently purchased the 12-acre Indian River Terminal at the Port. Mr. Benton noted there was extensive community outreach that included virtually engaging the public, and one-on-one outreach with landowners, businesses, community interest groups, and both County and City elected officials. He provided results from the two surveys that were conducted and graphics showing key features for the project study area that includes the port and surrounding properties. The Plan calls for the creation of the Treasure Coast's premier center for yacht, shipbuilding, and related marine repair, overhaul, and maintenance facilities; investment in Harbour Pointe Park to create a public marina, boat ramps, and upgraded park; and advancement of a new wharf and surrounding uplands dedicated to supporting small import/export marine dependent businesses.

Scott Lagueux with Moffatt and Nichol, the County's consultants for the update to the master plan, stated that it was a privilege to work with the community and help create what they believe is a very compelling direction forward for the publicly and privately owned properties that comprise the Port of Fort Pierce. He stated that it was important to strike a balance between the economic opportunities and the social benefits while including the visions of the community and stakeholders and protection of natural resources. Mr. Benton noted that the entire update was a collaborative effort and thanked Mr. Lanahan and Ms. Heidt for their contributions to the process on behalf of Council. He indicated because the Port falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Fort Pierce, the County is working with the City and the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, the St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization, and the Florida Department of Transportation to ensure all stakeholders are involved and the plan is achievable from both public and private standpoints.

Councilmember Bournique, Gubernatorial Appointee from Indian River County, noted that in the 1980s and 1990s 20 ships a year were loaded with citrus to go to Japan and Europe. Then, because of the depth of the water and the inability for the ships to enter the port if it was not high tide, the citrus industry started using other ports. He asked if there are plans to dredge the port. Mr. Benton indicated that the average depth is 28 feet, with areas that do get as deep as 34 feet. He stated that within the St. Lucie County comprehensive plan 28 feet had always been the maximum maintenance depth, but when the comprehensive plan was updated in 2018 the specific quantitative figure was removed and the depths are based upon the needs and activities at the Port, which allows for greater flexibility in determining an appropriate depth.

Councilmember Bournique stated that boat building is a booming business from Hialeah to Vero Beach and he believes this is a healthy move for St. Lucie County and for the Region.

Commissioner Dzadovsky from St. Lucie County noted that one of the challenges with increasing the channel depth is the rapid removal of sand naturally flowing to the southside of the inlet. He stated that it has taken \$3 million every 7 years to renourish the beach and it is now \$10 million every 2 years, which creates a concern for how to fund the renourishment efforts in the future. He stated that with the County's investment in the Port, they will be able to capture a unique market, noting the larger sailing vessels are able to get into the Port more easily because there are no bridges or overhanging wires that are found at other ports. He noted that Derecktor is investing in a 1,500 ton lift that will be one of the largest in the world. He stated this is a unique market because retrofitting these types of vessels is not done in this hemisphere and will create regional synergies throughout the Treasure Coast Region. He thanked Mr. Benton for his great efforts to move this master plan forward.

Councilmember Parrish, Gubernatorial Appointee from St. Lucie County, asked if there are any incentives for private business on the north side of the port to open restaurants or retail shops. Mr. Benton noted that there is an established redevelopment area of which the County is a large contributor. He noted that the City of Fort Pierce, within the community redevelopment area, has enacted a moratorium on impact fees for infill development, particularly along the waterfront. He stated that the City updated their plan for this area in 2020 to support local businesses and industries such as tourism and ecotourism. He indicated there have been new investments and development in downtown Fort Pierce to bring in waterfront restaurants and there are more dock slips and waterway activities that support arriving in both boats and vehicles. He indicated they strategically looked at Council's waterways plan and are trying to implement goals for moving people about on the waterfront which would help to incentivize larger restaurants and other waterfront activities. He indicated there have been very positive benefits with the reconstruction of the downtown and they hope to have the same opportunity at the port.

Vice Chair Hmara thanked Mr. Benton for the excellent presentation. Mr. Lanahan noted that Council is excited and actively participating in this planning effort because the Port presents an enormous economic benefit for the entire Region.

Agenda Item 9: Martin County Community Redevelopment Agency Land Development Regulations Rewrite

Jessica Seymour, Council's Regional Planner, provided an overview of the Martin County Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Land Development Code Rewrite project for all six of the County's CRA areas. The objectives of this project were to provide clarity to property owners, developers, and the community; improve the process for small infill development; and address impediments to implementing the individual CRA vision plans. Ms. Seymour noted the project included extensive public outreach and adherence to a strict schedule to move through the public hearings for each of the CRAs in a timely manner. In all, there were 45 public meetings and over 100 interviews with residents, community members, and business owners. The two main components of the project are a new chapter in the County's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan (CGMP) for the CRAs, and a new chapter in the Land Development Regulations (LDRs) specifically for the CRAs. The CGMP now has new future land use designations for the CRAs and the mixed use overlays were removed. The LDRs outline the permitted uses and standards and contain regulating plans that identify subdistricts, street types,

locations for new streets, and appropriate locations for different land use designations. Ms. Seymour noted that this project included multi-departmental coordination from the County, which proved invaluable to the process.

Commissioner O'Bryan asked if the CRAs are well-funded. Ms. Seymour stated that some of the CRAs are better funded than others, but the re-write was done for all the CRAs. She indicated that available funding will be a factor in getting some of the identified projects, such as stormwater improvements, completed.

Commissioner Heatherington stated that the two-year process from the start has been a very collaborative effort between the County staff and Ms. Seymour and Mr. Little of Council staff. She stated the project has the most extensive community outreach she has ever seen, even during the pandemic. Mr. Lanahan commended Mr. Little and Ms. Seymour for their hard work, noting how difficult it was to stay organized with the various drafts, public workshops, and adoptions taking place simultaneously across the six CRAs and how transformative this project will be for the CRAs.

Agenda Item 10: Statewide Regional Evacuation Study (SRES) Program Update

Kathryn Boer, Council's Emergency Programs Director, provided a briefing to Council on the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study (SRES) Program Update. The Legislature and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) approved \$1.2 million to fund the update of the SRES with expected completion by June 2021. FDEM has partnered with the regional planning councils to complete the work and provide for overall statewide coordination. She noted that the Study is used widely as a planning tool that identifies vulnerable populations, hazards, and estimated evacuation clearance times within counties and the Region to provide a more defined set of data for emergency management officials to plan and manage mass evacuations during major storms. Ms. Boer discussed the historical evolution of the study, technological updates to the Behavioral Analysis, and the all-hazards approach to determining impacts from a variety of disasters. She noted that the study will generate several analyses such as population and demographics, hazards, behavioral, and transportation that will be coupled with operational scenarios developed by emergency managers to produce estimated shelter demand and evacuation outcomes. She noted that the current Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data and Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) modeling will be layered with the analysis outcomes to define surge zone inundation and vulnerable population and infrastructure. The Behavioral Analysis will be done using recent historical cellular telephone data for multiple hurricanes which will show actual evacuation choices instead of the surveys used in the past.

Commissioner O'Bryan noted that in the past FDEM wanted counties to have designated host shelters for people evacuating from other parts of the state. He asked if that is something that is still being done. Ms. Boer indicated that this is called host and risk sheltering, which has been around for the last 30 years and is still being implemented. She noted that with the social distancing requirements of COVID, there is going to be less capacity in all shelters. She stated that Etta LoPresti, the Emergency Management Coordinator for Indian River County, just finished a shelter analysis and would know specifically what shelters have been designated as host shelters. She noted that what they are now finding is that State emergency management is requesting that individuals either stay at home or go to a friend's house within their county.

Councilmember Bournique noted that when Hurricane Andrew was approaching Florida he was flying over the Miami/Fort Lauderdale area and saw a mass exodus gridlock on roads all the way up to Jupiter. As he flew over Vero Beach, he observed the same with bumper-to-bumper traffic trying to flee the storm. He saw the same again in 2004 with Hurricanes Jeanne and Frances. He stated that with only a few highways, South Florida is very vulnerable to having a large amount of people stranded on the highways during a storm. He stated that he has always been in favor of having regional planning councils advocate for a built environment that can withstand these types of events so individuals can shelter in their own homes. Ms. Boer noted that it is important for people to listen when told to evacuate, but it is also very important to make the decision early so you are not stuck on the road. She indicated that will be addressed in the study under the behavioral component.

Vice Chair Hmara thanked Ms. Boer for her presentation, noting that this is a good reminder of the importance of Council's work.

Agenda Item 11: Resolution #20-02 Supporting the SEFTC 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Lanahan noted that this a follow-up resolution to the presentation in September by Kim DeLaney on the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan for the Southeast Florida Transportation Council. He noted that the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) is comprised of the Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach county transportation planning agencies that have developed a joint Regional Transportation Plan which aligns the vision for the three-county region and identifies funding sources. He noted that currently there is a disconnect in the level of emphasis and the funding towards automobile movement versus the vision of more transit/bicycle/pedestrian modes of transportation. He stated that SEFTC is asking for support from the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils in the form of the resolution presented today.

Council Action: Commissioner Dzadovsky moved approval of Resolution 20-02 Supporting the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 12: Announcements

Mr. Lanahan indicated that Terry Paulo has joined Council staff as the new Disaster Economic Recovery Coordinator. He noted that this position is being funding through the Economic Development Administration to focus on assistance in the Region to deal with the economic impacts caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. He stated that Ms. Paulo will be reaching out to the communities in the Region to help bridge the gap between problems and solutions and working with local, state, and federal channels. She will also be working with the impacted industries and looking at the best ways to effectively recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

Mr. Lanahan noted that this will be the last meeting for Councilmember Sachs, Gubernatorial Appointee from Palm Beach County. He noted that Councilmember Sachs has been on Council for a long time but is resigning due to his wife's recent successful bid for a seat on the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). He stated that he felt he should resign from Council in order to avoid any potential conflicts of interest. Councilmember Sachs thanked Mr. Lanahan and staff for all the hard work and great presentations he has seen over the last 10

years. He also thanked the past and current elected officials he has worked with for their professionalism, dedication, and desire to serve the people they represent. He congratulated Commissioner Marino on her election to the BOCC, noting that there will now be a north Maria (Maria Marino) and a south Maria (Maria Sachs) doing great work for the County.

Mr. Lanahan stated that starting next month there will be a self-driving shuttle in Tradition. He noted that there are pictures included in the Communication Package of the vehicle (called “Beep”) that will autonomously drive around the town on a fixed route.

Also included in the Communication Package is a press release from Brightline about the new station they will be constructing in Disney Springs that will provide access into inside the Magic Kingdom. The plan is to extend westward from their Orlando Airport station that is currently under construction.

Mr. Lanahan indicated Council sponsored, and staff attended, the Southeast Florida Transportation Summit, which was hosted by the Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami Dade transportation planning agencies, the Urban Land Institute, and the chambers of commerce across the three-county region. He noted that the economic development community is making the business case for the importance of transportation and transportation investment to come up with new ways to move people. He said that key takeaways from the summit are that of the billions of dollars that come into that three-county region for transportation, only about 8% of it is completely flexible on how it can be used (e.g., cars, buses, or bikes, etc.); there is another slice with 50-50 flexibility; however the vast majority of the rules and policies require the funding be spent on roadway lanes, which is misaligned with the transportation and mobility visions for the three-county region. He stated there is a call for policy changes to realign the funding and give local communities more flexibility to determine where the funding should be spent. He stated that one of the best statement made at the summit was by Nick Uhren, Executive Director of the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency, who said “Investment in transportation is investment in placemaking.” Mr. Lanahan noted that Council has been advocating for this for many years and he is thrilled to see this is what is being advocated for by people in a position to make that happen.

Mr. Lanahan noted that the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board meeting will be held virtually on January 8, 2021.

Agenda Item 13: Chairman’s Comments

Vice Chair Hmara noted that the benefits of virtual meetings are the ability to participate without having to travel and the increased attendance and he believes these types of meeting will continue. He thanked all the elected officials and decision-makers for continuing to do remarkable work through very difficult situations. He stated that working through this uncharted territory has required a lot of ingenuity and creativity as well as compassion and commitment to do the right thing. He stated that we are all in this together and he is looking forward to a less-challenging 2021. He wished everyone a happy holiday.

Agenda Item 14: Council Member Update

Commissioner Townsend noted that there are a lot of good things happening in St. Lucie County such as the new FedEx distribution center; the connection of the three main east-west interior

corridors to the exterior west corridors; and the completion of a new airport hangar. She welcomed the new members stating that this is a good group. She thanked Commissioner O'Bryan for all the help he has provided. She stated that St. Lucie County is aligned and ready for new things to happen in 2021. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Marino stated she is happy to be on Council again, noting that it is important to share information between the different counties. She welcomed Councilmember Chelsea Reed from the City of Palm Beach Gardens, noting she has a keen eye for transportation and mobility. She wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday.

Councilmember Reed from the City of Palm Beach Gardens stated she is happy to step into Commissioner Marino's shoes. She noted that the City recently approved their Transit Oriented Development comprehensive plan amendments, and they are looking forward to seeing their corridors grow, change, and redevelop and be an example of exactly of what Council is working on here today.

Mayor Gerwig commended the Wellington Chamber of Commerce which was able to change the way events are being held to accommodate the social distancing requirements under COVID-19. She noted that she is concerned that a development in the Ocala area may threaten the equestrian industry in Wellington. She noted that this industry provides economic benefits to not only Wellington, but to the entire county. She also stated that Council has begun working with the Village on redevelopment plans for the Wellington Mall.

Commissioner Linden from the Town of Lake Park noted that they are doing some great projects in Lake Park, including their marina. He stated for the first time in 20 years the elementary school children caroled throughout the Town. He indicated Santa will be riding around town on a fire truck tomorrow night and might look a lot like him. He thanked Mr. Lanahan for giving him an orientation to Council and stated he is looking forward to working with everyone on Council.

Kathy LaMartina from the South Florida Water Management District stated that a 16 County Coalition meeting is occurring today where Jennifer Reynolds from the Water Management District is giving an update on the Indian River Lagoon South Project, which is part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. She stated that every project is moving forward this year and the District has received all funding for the Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir in the south Stormwater Treatment Area, which is scheduled to be completed in 2023.

Vice Mayor Weinroth stated it is great to have the two Maria's joining the BOCC, but they will miss Commissioner Valeche, who will be going to the board of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority. He stated that one of the good things to come from the pandemic has been the CARES funding for broadband expansion throughout the County and assistance from Florida Power and Light Company providing poles to mount equipment. He stated that our next challenges are going to be housing and nutrition. He wished a Happy Hanukkah to all who are Jewish on this first day of Hanukkah stating we look for miracles with a vaccine to change our lives going forward. He wished everyone happy holiday.

Commissioner Dzadovsky stated that Ms. LaMartina's news was a welcome Christmas present. Ms. LaMartina stated that she wanted to clarify that every project in the Indian River Lagoon is moving forward, but not all the funding is not available at this time. Commissioner Dzadovsky stated that St. Lucie County has changed their focus from tourism, rooftops, retirees, and a

seasonal business to manufacturing and intermodal distribution. He noted that with the new 250,000 square foot FedEx distribution center coming we can now see how shopping is changing. He indicated the County has not completely given up on tourism, noting the Treasure Coast Sports Commission is being considered to host Olympic qualifying events for baseball.

Commissioner O'Bryan stated that with respect to CARES Act funding, Indian River County has distributed their initial allocation from the state to its municipalities, constitutional officers, health department, and food banks. He noted they were very conservative in allocating the dollars, keeping in mind that sometimes federal dollars can be de-obligated. He stated the Treasury came out with a ruling that all public health and public safety employees meet the substantially dedicated test, which means CARES dollars can be used to pay for all their costs beginning March first and going through the December 30th deadline. He indicated on December 29th the County is going to take all the CARES Act dollars that have not been expended by all the different groups and allocate those to their public safety and public health costs, therefore taking down 100% of their CARES Act allocation. He stated they made a policy decision that instead of treating that as a windfall to the general fund, they will continue to extend current CARES Act programs into 2021 using those dollars to help fund rental and business assistance programs and will have the funds available for cities that need additional funding assistance. He wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Minuse from the City of Vero Beach stated she has been involved in her community for the last 20-30 years and has served on the Vero Beach Planning and Zoning Board for 10 years, but this is her first foray into elected office. She stated that she has enjoyed working with Council in the past but is concerned that there is not enough communication with the other regional planning councils, especially to the north. She stated that in the past there have been things going on that this Council was not aware of, such as growth in Palm Bay, which could have significant impacts on Indian River County. She noted Vice President Pence was recently here to announce the new Space Force heading to Cape Canaveral. She stated that there will be impacts to us from individuals that are coming to Florida from northern COVID-states. She wished everyone a wonderful Hanukkah, Christmas, and a healthy, happy, and safe New Year.

Vice Mayor Gottlieb from Town of South Palm Beach stated this was a great meeting.

Commissioner Bernard from Palm Beach County concurred that the meeting was great and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Lois Bush, from Florida Department of Transportation, indicated the update to the Florida Transportation Plan is currently underway. She noted that there are four elements, Vision, Policy, Implementation, and Performance. She noted that the comment period is closing on December 13th.

Councilmember Sachs wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year and urged everyone to stay healthy.

Commissioner Weiss from Palm Beach County wished everyone a very happy holiday.

Vice Chair Hmara noted that every Wednesday the Village of Royal Palm Beach partners with an organization called Feeding South Florida. He stated they average between 700 and 800

vehicles that come to get food for individuals who are referred to as food insecure. He stated that one thing that can be taken as a positive during this crisis is that they have come together as a community.

Agenda Item 15: Public Comment

Drew Martin from the Sierra Club welcomed the new members. He noted Council needs to be aware of a recent article in the Palm Beach Post that the South Florida Water Management District is asking for \$3 million from Congress to evaluate the canal system. He stated that there is a lot of concern that, due to sea level rise, the canal system could ultimately not function as it has in the past. He stated that one of the problems is that during heavy rains there are areas that flood. He stated that when we consider development, we need to focus more on green infrastructure to store floodwater. He also noted that there are a lot of native trees being cut because of a law that was passed. He stated that we need to maintain our native trees not just for climate change but for migratory birds. He wished everyone a Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah, and Merry Christmas Day.

Agenda Item 16: Staff Comment

Mr. Lanahan noted that typically in December the outgoing Chair is recognized, however Chair Houston was not able to participate today so that will be done in January.

Mr. Lanahan thanked staff for working hard and stretching their minds to set up the meeting to allow for both in person and remote participation. He also thanked Indian River State College for hosting the meeting and being flexible in the room layout to allow for social distancing.

Commissioner Laura Moss posted the following: *Wish to congratulate Honey Minuse! In a sense, she took my place on Vero Beach City Council being the only woman. Couldn't ask for a better person to serve our community! Happy to work with Peter and Susan on Indian River County Commission! And continue on this Council as an Alternate!*

Mr. Lanahan wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Agenda Item 17: Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Jeff Hmara adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m. This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary or a designated nominee of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct Minutes of the December 11, 2020 meeting of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

Date

Signature