



COUNCIL MEETING SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

January 15, 2015

9:00am – 11:30am

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.

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	f) Legislative Affairs Committee – Vice Mayor Doug Congress	

Two or more members of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program may be in attendance and may discuss matters that could come before the 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 the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling (239) 338-2550; if you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice/(800) 955-8771 TDD.



COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

	g) Quality of Life & Safety Committee – Mayor Willie Shaw	
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16	COUNCIL MEMBERS’ COMMENTS	
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NEXT SWFRPC MEETING DATE: February 19, 2015

NOTES: The Council’s Legislative Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet on January 15, 2015 at 8:15 a.m.

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 the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling (239) 338-2550; if you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice/(800) 955-8771 TDD.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR..... Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann
 VICE CHAIR..... Mr. Robert “Bob” Mulhere
 SECRETARY..... Mr. Don McCormick
 TREASURER..... Councilman Forrest Banks

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Commissioner Tricia Duffy, Charlotte Co BCC
 Commissioner Chris Constance, Charlotte Co BCC
 Councilwoman Nancy Prafke, City of Punta Gorda
 Ms. Suzanne Graham, Governor Appointee
 Mr. Donald McCormick, Governor Appointee

GLADES COUNTY

Commissioner Donna Storter-Long, Glades Co BCC
 Commissioner Paul Beck, Glades Co BCC
 Councilwoman Pat Lucas, City of Moore Haven
 Mr. Thomas C. Perry, Governor Appointee

LEE COUNTY

Commissioner Frank Mann, Lee Co BCC
 Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass, Lee Co BCC
 Councilman Jim Burch, City of Cape Coral
 Vice Mayor Doug Congress, City of Sanibel
 Councilman Forrest Banks, City of Fort Myers
 Mayor Anita Cereceda, Town of Fort Myers Beach
 (City of Bonita Springs Vacancy)
 Ms. Laura Holquist, Governor Appointee
 (Gubernatorial Appointee Vacancy)

COLLIER COUNTY

Commissioner Tim Nance, Collier Co BCC
 Commissioner Georgia Hiller, Collier Co BCC
 Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann, City of Naples
 (City of Marco Island Vacancy)
 Mr. Robert “Bob” Mulhere, Governor Appointee
 Mr. Alan D. Reynolds, Governor Appointee

HENDRY COUNTY

Commissioner Karson Turner, Hendry Co BCC
 Commissioner Don Davis, Hendry Co BCC
 Mayor Phillip Roland, City of Clewiston
 Commissioner Daniel Akin, City of LaBelle
 Mr. Mel Karau, Governor Appointee

SARASOTA COUNTY

Commissioner Carolyn Mason, Sarasota Co BCC
 Commissioner Charles Hines, Sarasota Co BCC
 Vice-Mayor Rhonda DiFranco, City of North Port
 Councilman Kit McKeon, City of Venice
 Mayor Willie Shaw, City of Sarasota
 (Gubernatorial Appointee Vacancy)
 Mr. Felipe Colón, Governor Appointee

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Phil Flood, SFWMD
 Jon Iglehart, FDEP
 Melissa Dickens, SWFWMD
 Carmen Monroy, FDOT

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL STAFF

MARGARET WUERSTLE.....EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 SEAN McCABE.....LEGAL COUNSEL

James Beever
 David Crawford
 Nancy Doyle

John Gibbons
 Nichole Gwinnett
 Rebekah Harp

Jennifer Pellechio
 Jerilyn Walker
 Timothy Walker

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

BEBR - 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

DEO - Department of Economic Opportunity

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

FAR - Florida Administrative Register (formerly 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

NADO – National Association of Development Organizations

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

RFI – Request for Invitation

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 Plan

USDA - US Department of Agriculture

WMD - Water Management District (SFWMD and SWFWMD)



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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.

Agenda Item

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Invocation

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--- Agenda --- Item

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Pledge of Allegiance

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Agenda Item

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Roll Call

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Agenda Item

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Public Comments

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Agenda Item

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Election of Officers

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Nominations Committee Report/Election of 2015 Officers

At its October 16, 2014 meeting, Chair Teresa Heitmann, asked for volunteers and the following members volunteered to serve on the 2015 Nominations Committee which scheduled to hold a conference call on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.:

- Commissioner Brian Hamman, Lee County BOCC (Chair of Committee)
- Commissioner Chris Constance, Charlotte County BOCC
- Mayor Rhonda DiFranco, City of North Port

After careful review and the nominees had been contacted and accepted the positions, the Nominations Committee recommended the following:

- ❖ 2015 Chair – Mr. Robert Mulhere, Collier County Governor Appointee
- ❖ 2015 Vice Chair – Mr. Don McCormick, Charlotte County Governor Appointee
- ❖ 2015 Secretary – Councilman Forrest Banks, City of Fort Myers
- ❖ 2015 Treasurer – Mr. Thomas Perry, Glades County Governor Appointee

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: **Approve the Nominations Committee Report and approve the 2015 Slate of Officers as presented.**

01/2015

Agenda Item

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Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 20, 2014 MEETING**

The meeting of the **Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council** was held on **November 20, 2014** at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council - 1st Floor Conference Room at 1926 Victoria Avenue in Fort Myers, Florida. Chairwoman Teresa Heitmann called the meeting to order at **9:03 AM** and **Commissioner Tim Nance** then led an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. SWFRPC Planner 1/Grants Coordinator, Nichole Gwinnett conducted the roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Charlotte County: Commissioner Chris Constance, Commissioner Tricia Duffy, Councilwoman Nancy Prafke, Mr. Don McCormick

Collier County: Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann, Commissioner Tim Nance, Mr. Bob Mulhere, Mr. Alan Reynolds

Glades County: Commissioner Donna Storter-Long, Mr. Thomas Perry

Hendry County: Commissioner Don Davis, Commissioner Daniel Akin, Mr. Melvin Karau

Lee County: Commissioner Frank Mann, Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass, Councilman Forrest Banks, Councilman Rick Williams for Councilman Jim Burch, Vice Mayor Doug Congress, Ms. Laura Holquist

Sarasota County: Commissioner Cheryl Cook for Commissioner Rhonda DiFranco, Mayor Willie Shaw, Councilman Kit McKeon

Ex-Officio: Ms. Sara Catala for Ms. Carmen Monroy - FDOT, Mr. Jon Iglehart - FDEP, Mr. Phil Flood - SFWMD

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charlotte County: Ms. Suzanne Graham

Collier County: Commissioner Georgia Hiller

Glades County: Commissioner Paul Beck, Councilwoman Pat Lucas

Hendry County: Commissioner Karson Turner, Mayor Phillip Roland

Lee County: Mayor Anita Cereceda

Sarasota County: Commissioner Charles Hines, Commissioner Carolyn Mason, Mr. Felipe Colón

Ex-Officio: Ms. Melissa Dickens – SWFWMD

Ms. Gwinnett announced that there was a quorum present at that time. Chair Heitmann welcomed Lee County Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass to the Council.

AGENDA ITEM #4 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #5 AGENDA

Commissioner Nance made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #6 Minutes of the October 16, 2014 Meeting

Commissioner Nance made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2014 meeting as presented and the motion was seconded by Mayor Shaw. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Wuerstle presented the item. She announced that a quorum wasn't able to be obtained for either date in December (December 11 or 18) for the December Council meeting, and then asked the Council for their recommendation.

Vice-Mayor Congress asked if there were any important issues which the Council needed to address in December. Ms. Wuerstle replied she asked the appropriate staff and there weren't any important issues.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Congress to cancel the Council's December meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously.

She noted that SWFRPC bags had been distributed to the members. She explained that the bags were from the IT Workshop that was hosted by the SWFRPC, City of Cape Coral, and Lee County. She then briefly reviewed the grant writing flyer which was also distributed.

Ms. Wuerstle gave a brief overview of the grants staff is currently working on, such as: The Promise Zone Designation and the I-75 Medical Manufacturing Corridor.

Chair Heitmann asked Ms. Wuerstle is what ways the members could assist with the I-75 Medical Manufacturing Corridor grant. Ms. Wuerstle explained that letters of support/commitment are needed from colleges, medical community, etc. She noted that she would like to obtain a direct contact for Arthrex in order to discuss their needs.

Commissioner Nance recommended to Ms. Wuerstle that she contact the Operations Director, Andy Owen at Arthrex,

AGENDA ITEM #8(a)
Grant Activity Sheet

This item was for information purposes only.

AGENDA ITEM #9
CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. McCormick to approve the consent agenda as presented;
Commissioner Nance seconded the motion.

Vice Mayor Congress referred to the Council's Financial Statements and suggested that it would be appropriate to have the Council's Treasurer give a high-level summary of the financial statements, since at one-point in time there were some financial issues with the Council.

Ms. Wuerstle noted that Councilman McKeon, who is the current Chair of the Council's Budget & Finance Committee, was prepared to give a report. Councilman McKeon reported that currently the Council's finances are in line with its budget. However, the Council's finances are little bit tighter due to the CHNEP relocation to the City of Punta Gorda; where the NEP's funds provided the Council with a buffer. He noted that the Council's financials would probably dip in December and he would be prepared to give a more detailed report at the January meeting. The major issue that the Council has faced was the loss of its CPA Firm and staff is currently in the process of seeking another CPA firm to overlook the Council's financials.

Vice-Mayor Congress questioned the reason the Council lost its CPA firm. Ms. Wuerstle explained that in the past, the Council used the Cordell CPA firm and they recently lost their CPA. She has been researching other CPA firms along with contacting SCORE in Collier County who are retired executives and they match those individuals up with what the agencies are looking for.

Vice-Mayor Congress recommended that the financial statements be pulled from the consent agenda and placed on the agenda as a separate item.

AGENDA ITEM #10
REGIONAL IMPACT

Mr. Crawford gave a PowerPoint presentation on the following items.

AGENDA ITEM #10(a)
Lee County Comprehensive Plan Amendment (River Hall) – CPA2012-01

Mr. Crawford gave a presentation on the River Hall project. He also acknowledged Mr. Russell Schropp representing the applicant.

Commissioner Mann stated that he wanted to make sure that the process for this project is very clear because there are individuals from both sides present at the meeting on this issue.

Mr. Perry stated to Mr. Crawford that he wanted to make sure that the Council understood the significance of approving staff's recommendation. Mr. Crawford explained that the process was that staff would submit the Council's recommendation/comments to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), along with the other agencies' comments (FDOT, FDEP, etc.) If the Council approved staff's recommendations then it would be stating that the proposed amendment was inconsistent with the Council's Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) and DEO should not approve the amendment as presented.

Commissioner Pendergrass asked Mr. Crawford where he obtained the information that there was a lack of public input, because within the last 60 months of being on the Lee County BCC there had been public input on many factors regarding this issue. He stated that he had gone to the community of River Hall, walked it and spoke to many of the residents of River Hall. He stated that approximately 72% of the River Hall residents supported the proposed amendment. Mr. Crawford explained that when staff prepared the report they were receiving complaints from both the public and county staff stating that they didn't meet with the residents of River Hall or Fort Myers Shores, and specifically the adjacent area of Caloosa Shores. Commissioner Pendergrass stated there were public meetings held within River Hall. Mr. Crawford stated concurred; however, there were no public meetings held for the surrounding areas around River Hall.

Commissioner Pendergrass stated that he attended 13 public meetings on this issue with public input from residents of Morse Shores, North Fort Myers, and Collier County. This is why he is questioning staff's comment in regards to not having public input, because he doesn't understand where that information came from. Mr. Crawford stated that it came from county staff at the time the report was being put together. Commissioner Pendergrass asked Mr. Crawford for the date that the "no public input" information was given to staff. Mr. Crawford stated that he didn't have that information available at that time. Commissioner Pendergrass then asked Mr. Crawford for the name of the county staff which provided that information. Mr. Crawford explained that he didn't compile the report so he did not have that information. Commissioner Pendergrass stated that the Council is going to hear input based on county staff even when you don't know who the information came from. Mr. Crawford asked Commissioner Pendergrass if he wanted the name of the specific planner that supplied the information. Commissioner Pendergrass said yes, he wanted to know who gave Council staff the information stating that there was no public input. Mr. Crawford said that he doesn't have that information since he wasn't the staff that put the report together. Commissioner Pendergrass restated that the Council was going to hear this report without having the proper information. Mr. Crawford said that he believed that it was the proper information, but he didn't personally prepare the report and explained that the staff member who put the report together was no longer with the Council.

Chair Heitmann stated that it may be more appropriate being that it is a staff issue that both Council staff and Commissioner Pendergrass work together on this issue. Commissioner Pendergrass explained that both he and Commissioner Mann had sat on many public meetings with public comment regarding this issue within the last 18 months, and that is why he is feeling confused about why the statement of “lack of public input” was placed within the report. He then noted that the next process will be the zoning hearing process where there will be community meetings held through the LPA and also the Lee County BCC with public input.

Ms. Wuerstle explained that the report has not been sent to DEO at this time, so the Council can discuss the report and change the recommendation. Whatever the Council decides today will be sent to DEO for their review. She explained that staff has only 30 days to review comp plan amendments and often it conflicts with the Council’s meeting schedule. In those situations, staff sends their report/recommendations up to DEO before it goes before the Council for their review. After the Council meeting is held, staff then sends a letter to DEO explaining that Councils position on the staff report. With this project the timeline fit into the Council’s meeting date and a report will be sent to DEO with the Council’s official recommendations.

Commissioner Pendergrass explained that he had attended an Alva Community meeting approximately one year ago and there were only seven people in attendance, including him. So, at that meeting he agreed that there was a lack of public input. Mr. Crawford stated that staff would be happy to correct that portion of the report to make it accurate.

Commissioner Mann stated that his earlier comment regarding public input had to do with today’s Council meeting, because the Council hasn’t heard this issue prior to today. The issue has come before the Lee County BCC four times and it had been denied previously three times and then the last time it went before the BCC it passed with a 3-2 vote. He noted that this proposed amendment has been very controversial at the Lee County level and there has been public input, but not from this Council. He then asked what the process was for the public to provide input at today’s meeting. Chair Heitmann explained that the process was that staff gives their report, then the petitioner, and then the Council would take public comments.

Commissioner Nance asked the Lee County BCC members to explain to the Council exactly where the project currently is in the process and whether the Lee County BCC voted on the issue and recommended transmittal to DEO. Commissioner Mann said that in October the Lee County BCC voted to transmit by a 3-2 vote and the point he was trying to make is that it took four times before the Lee County BCC before it got approved. The project had failed three times previously before the Lee County BCC with the increased density by 850 units. The issue is a density issue. The argument has been whether we want that much density in what has been traditionally thought of as a rural part of the county. The project is located in the eastern portion of Lee County, close to where it joins to Hendry County. The Local Planning Agency (LPA) voted not to transmit in their recommendation to Lee County and the Lee County Planning staff also recommended not to transmit. Then three previous times the Lee County BCC had opted not to transmit. One time it was transmitted but it failed to be adopted when it returned.

Commissioner Nance asked for clarification from Commissioner Mann that the project had its first transmittal and the Lee County BCC has not sent back a second reading. Commissioner Mann clarified that the Lee County BCC had voted to transmit the project. It is then sent to DEO where

they look for input from various other agencies, including the RPC. At this time, it is our opportunity to comment on the process at which DEO will entertain and make a final decision as to whether or not they want to send it back to Lee County for final adoption.

Commissioner Pendergrass stated to Commissioner Nance that within the last few years that he has been on the BCC, Lee County staff actually approved the project and then it went before the Lee County BCC and failed with a 2-2 vote, due to the BCC having only four members at that time. The plan then came back before the Lee County BCC and with the BCC having all five members present the project passed with a 3-2 vote to only transmit. He said that he was very vocal at that time that he wouldn't support any high end density, but he was supportive of the plan going through the process, such as the hearing examiner process in order to have public input, which there was at that time. The plan then went back before the Lee County BCC with a recommendation from the hearing examiner in order to avoid any legal ramifications.

Mr. Mulhere gave the Council a brief summary of the local government comprehensive planning process and the subsequent zoning process.

Commissioner Mann stated that the very "guts" of the entire issue is indeed the density increase; it has nothing to do with zoning. What the applicant has asked for and argued for the last 10 years and has failed to get, is the reason it has been brought before us today. It has to do with an increase of 850 additional units in a rural area and up against a highway (SR80) that has already been designated by FDOT as failing today. This is more than waiting for the zoning to discuss the density issue. The issue is whether or not there will be an additional 850 units in an area that has already been approved for 2,000 units.

Mr. Mulhere said that the two primary issues that staff has raised at this point was the proximity to Hickey Creek Mitigation Park and changing the community plan which includes the lack of public involvement/involvement. He then asked Mr. Crawford if the density issue was addressed as a concern. Mr. Crawford said it was mentioned within the changing the community plan.

Commissioner Pendergrass stated that the project keeps being referred to as being in a rural natural area. The community is a gated golf course community and the area in question is behind the gates of the golf course community where there is a restaurant and 45,000 square feet of commercial use and it also has a Lee County Elementary School.

Commissioner Storter-Long asked what the build-out percentage was for the 2,000 units. Commissioner Pendergrass said that he believed that it is currently 35-40%. Commissioner Storter-Long stated that she would also like to know the build-out date.

At this time, Chair Heitmann requested that the applicant's representative give his presentation.

Attorney Russell Schropp with Henderson and Franklin Law Firm in Fort Myers explained that he represented GreenPointe Communities who is the applicant and petitioner for the project. He explained that there was a concurrent zoning pending along with the plan amendment. The zoning and plan amendment are tracking together, so when the plan amendment went back to the Lee County BCC for their adoption it would also include the zoning.

Mr. Schropp noted that staff's report and Mr. Crawford's comments essentially raise two issues. The first issue was the plan amendment would increase the density adjacent to the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park; however, he felt that staff's report failed to consider three important factors. First, the mitigation park is not immediately adjacent to River Hall; there is a 250' wide canal between the Mitigation Park and River Hall. The canal itself is approximately 65' in width and the right-of-way is approximately 250' in width. Then along the eastern boundary of River Hall, adjacent to the canal, is a large conservation area along the entire eastern boundary of the project. The width of the conservation area ranges from 670' to nearly half a mile. Secondly, he felt that it was important to recognize the development that would be authorized by this plan amendment is actually going to be further away from the Mitigation Park than the development that has already been previously approved. The nearest residential lots that are within the existing approved areas of River Hall are approximately 870' away from the Mitigation Park. The new areas will be approximately 2,500' away from the Mitigation Park.

Mr. Schropp then said that staff had overlooked the fact that this plan amendment actually changes the future land use map designation of the conservation area. It changes it from rural, which actually allows the density of one unit per acre under the Lee Plan, to conservation lands which allows no residential density under the Lee Plan. So the conservation area along the eastern boundary of the River Hall project actually removes the potential under the Lee Plan to do residential development immediately adjacent to canal which is adjacent to the Mitigation Park. He would respectfully submit that the plan amendment affords greater protection to the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park than is presently provided under the Lee Plan itself.

Mr. Schropp stated that the second area which staff had objected to was that the plan was "being amended without meaningful engagement and participation by the public". There wasn't any analysis done within the staff report and no background to support such a statement. He then offered two responses to that statement; the first was he felt that it was simply incorrect. The procedures adopted by Lee County for amending the plan within that area of the county requires that there be community meetings out in the community of Caloosahatchee Shores during the plan amendment process. In this case, there were at least three community meetings held during this plan amendment process. The last community meeting resulted in significant proposed changes by the applicant to the plan amendment itself, so he respectfully submits that there was a substantial opportunity for input and the input was meaningful.

Mr. Schropp explained that beyond the community meetings held by the applicant, there were two public hearings held before the LPA and also two public hearings were held before the Lee County BCC; all of which lasted several (3-4) hours. Some of the provided input was favorable towards the plan amendment and some were not in favor, but there certainly was an opportunity to engage and participate in the plan amendment process. He respectfully submitted that staff's finding was not supported by the actual process in which Lee County had gone through in this proceeding. His second response to the public participation concern was if the RPC staff was in the proper position to evaluate the local government plan amendment process to determine if meaningful public input or an opportunity to provide input was provided. He believes that it is the local government's jurisdiction and function to provide the process by which the public participates within the plan amendment process. All local governments must follow the procedures established within the statutes; but, beyond that the county could establish additional procedures. It is incumbent on the local government to follow the procedures within the statute and also whatever

additional procedures the local governments want to add. He then respectively suggested that the RPC staff and Council couldn't look in hind-sight at what the local government has done within the process and make a determination as to whether or not the process was meaningful or significant.

In closing, Mr. Schropp respectively requested that the comments/recommendations made by staff not be approved by the Council and then transmitted to DEO.

Commissioner Pendergrass stated that for any members who weren't familiar with the location of the project it would be helpful for staff to bring up an aerial view of River Hall on Google Earth which shows that the project backs up to Lehigh Acres with the density area, also Hickey Creek and the area of conservation. He said that River Hall is already an established community with roads and infrastructure.

Mr. Schropp gave a review of the aerial photo of the River Hall community.

Mr. Mulhere asked for clarification on the total project (1,064) acreage. Mr. Schropp explained that the 1,064 acres is the portion that is being amended. He said that the total project acreage is approximately 1,680. Mr. Mulhere asked what the total density would be after the plan amendment. Mr. Schropp stated that the total density would be approximately 1.4 units per gross acre. Mr. Mulhere asked Mr. Schropp for clarification on the plan amendment and whether it was proposing to remove or eliminating the ability to develop up to 1.5 units per acre by changing the land use designation on the 417 acres that abuts the canal, which then abuts to Hickey Creek Mitigation Park and then transferring it into the development area. Mr. Schropp said that was essentially correct except the density allowed would be 1.0 unit per acre and not 1.5. The area is currently designated as rural and would be amended to conservation.

Mr. McCormick stated that from a planning point of view it is essentially a 3,000 unit project and 2/3 of the project was originally approved approximately 5-6 years ago, so why wasn't the proposed amendments included at the beginning of the project, especially with its impacts on SR80. Mr. Schropp explained that part of the project was approved in the late 1990s which was known as Hawks Haven and he believed that the project was approved for 1,598 units at that time. Land was added to the project later and went through subsequent rezoning and was then approved for 1,999 units, which is just one unit below the DRI threshold. At that point, around 2010, the project went into bankruptcy; then GreenPointe Communities purchased the property out of bankruptcy, stabilized the community and essentially acquired a large amount of debt on the property and is trying to move forward. The project has always been planned by previous developers for density above and beyond 1,999 units. Both the sewer and water was planned and sized accordingly, along with the water management plan system; so the area that is remaining for development in the southern part of the project is the area that the applicant would like to provide for additional density (851 units).

Mr. Reynolds asked Mr. Schropp for clarification. He wanted to know if, as a result of this amendment the amount of land that would be designated for protection would increase from 223 acres up to 417 acres. Mr. Schropp stated that he believed that was a correct statement. Mr. Reynolds said that by doing so, you are increasing the conservation area and moving the density further away from the mitigation park. Mr. Schropp stated that as he had previously indicated that

the existing development areas will remain unchanged, but the new development area is the large unplatted area as shown on the project's site map.

Mr. Karau asked Mr. Schropp how far away Hickey Creek was from the project. Commissioner Mann responded by stating that Hickey Creek was approximately ½ mile east of the project. Mr. James Beever of staff explained that Hickey Creek is a tributary to the Caloosahatchee River. He showed the members where Hickey Creek was located on the map.

Commissioner Storter-Long referred to the elementary school located within River Hall and asked if it has been determined that the school would be able to handle the extra students if the amendment was approved. Mr. Schropp explained that the Lee County School Board did not object to the proposed changes and indicated that the elementary school would be able to handle the extra capacity. Commissioner Storter-Long asked if the utilities for the increase have been determined. Mr. Schropp explained that the utilities have been sized for the number of units being proposed.

Mr. Mulhere referred to the prescribed burns for the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park and asked if there would be any objection at some point for notification. Typically in the past there has been some form of notification at the time of transfer of ownership that there would be prescribed burns. Mr. Schropp noted that the prescribed burns would be an expected condition which usually comes out of the zoning process.

Mr. Perry asked Mr. Schropp if he knew how often there were prescribed burns at the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park. Mr. Schropp stated that he didn't have that information at this time. Mr. Beever explained that the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park is managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in coordination with the Lee County Land Management Program. He explained that the burning is done in units so the mitigation park is segregated into burn units and the general cycle is approximately 5-7 years in order to maintain an open habitat for Florida Scrub Jays and gopher tortoises. The area within River Hall, formerly Hawks Haven, is where the preserve was established at the time Hawks Haven was created for Florida Scrub Jay and it is also the gopher tortoises receiving area, which also should be fire managed. It was established as a conservation area at the time of approval of Hawks Haven.

Ms. Holquist referred to the comments made about the transportation impacts and asked for clarification. Mr. Scropp introduced the transportation planners from David Plummer and Associates. He said that he believed that SR80 was still operating under an acceptable level of service. From the information that he has been given SR80 is at an existing Level-Of-Service (LOS) B from I-75 to Werner Drive and then LOS A from Werner Drive to Hendry County.

Ms. Holquist asked if SR80 would stay at LOS B and A once River Hall has been fully developed. At that time Mr. Scropp introduced Mr. Steve Leung, who is the traffic consultant for the applicant with David Plummer and Associates to explain the transportation issues. Mr. Leung explained that the issue with the LOS on SR80 was as Mr. Schropp had explained. SR80 is currently LOS B and LOS A from I-75 to the Hendry County line. He said that from the traffic studies and comprehensive plan amendment, along with the previous rezoning study that reflects the build out of the project, shows an acceptable LOS on SR80. He said all of the traffic issues; both roadways

and intersections have been and currently are addressed as part of their overall application that will be brought before the hearing examiner and Lee County BCC.

Chair Heitmann asked to hear from FDOT's representative. Ms. Catala apologized stating that she didn't receive a copy of the agenda in order to be prepared. However, FDOT was still conducting their analysis of the proposed comprehensive plan amendment, so FDOT had not submitted their formal comments on the project.

Commissioner Mann stated that by having sat through three separate hearings on the issue, he has heard the transportation discussion before which he had made referenced to earlier in the meeting. He said that he was quoting from Lee County staff's reports; two reports recommended that the project not be transmitted and one report recommended transmittal of the amendment. The one that recommended transmittal failed on a 2-2 vote before the Lee County BCC. He noted that Lee County staff was concerned with the transportation question and stated within their report *"whether or not the 50% increase in density is approved for the project, SR80 is still expected to be considered as failing."* The information came from DOT and county records. He explained that the information was presented as public testimony from transportation experts to the Lee County BCC. Now, he is hearing from Mr. Leung the total opposite and asked for the reasoning behind his analysis. Mr. Leung explained that the segment of SR80 being identified as potentially having deficiency in 2035 was from Buckingham Road south of SR80. In terms of a comprehensive plan amendment, they looked at the ultimate need for 2035 and Buckingham Road, which is planned for two lanes divided, but the ultimate need was four lanes. When it was considered as part of the comprehensive plan amendment traffic study, it could only be assumed to be two lanes in the future.

Commissioner Mann explained that Buckingham Road runs perpendicular to SR80 and he was referring to SR80 being designated as *"failing"* whether or not the additional 850 units were added to the project. This only exacerbates the designation that exists today in FDOT's records. SR80 is projected to fail, not Buckingham Road. This is why if you add an additional 850 units, 1,015 vehicles times 6-10 trips per day generated by each household, it exacerbates and already failing situation. Mr. Leung clarified that the existing conditions on SR80 don't have a problem. Commissioner Mann told Mr. Leung that he would grant him that, but we are here planning and looking ahead and trying to make good decisions for the future. Mr. Leung said that SR80's potential deficiency was identified at the intersections. Also Lee County staff in the previous applications, including the current application, would've identified improvements at the intersections that would support the additional densities from the River Hall project, along with the growth within the surrounding area to meet sufficient level of service standards. This came from the county staff recommendations, as well as from the traffic study as a result of the rezoning study.

Commissioner Constance asked for clarification that there were only five slides presented on the project. Mr. Crawford stated that was correct. Commissioner Constance stated that he agreed with Commissioner Mann because it seemed clear to him that there will be traffic issues.

Mr. Mulhere asked for clarification on the comment made "that there was going to be some improvements made to SR80 that would either accommodate or minimize the impacts on the LOS so it wouldn't be failing with respect to the additional units" and that those improvements were turn lanes. He then asked if there was any mitigation required on the part of the applicant as

it relates to that and where are those improvements located. Mr. Leung explained the intersection improvements on SR80 include turn lanes at River Hall Parkway, which is the main access on SR80 and it extends west to the Buckingham Road intersection and SR31. The turn lane improvements would provide, not necessarily improve the LOS in the numbers, but it would provide better flow for the three intersections by turning vehicles on and off SR80. These are some of the improvements that were recognized by both county and FDOT staff. The more critical improvement would be at the River Hall Parkway and SR80 where FDOT had completed a signal warrant study that established that a signal would be warranted at that location. The signal would serve the elementary school and future traffic, not from just River Hall but also the recently approved CPD north on SR80. There have been a number of improvements that have come online that would mitigate any potential deficiency along SR80. Mr. Mulhere asked Mr. Leung if there was a fair share payment for the signalization at SR80 and River Hall Parkway. Mr. Leung explained that River Hall is fronting the funds for both the design and construction of the signal.

Councilman Banks stated that within the last six months the Council approved all types of plans within Hendry and Glades Counties and during those discussions there was never anything brought up about the traffic impacts on SR80. He is concerned that the Council had approved all of the other plans, but now they were having an extensive discussion on the River Hall project and he finds a little irony it.

Commissioner Storter-Long stated that Commissioner Mann was informed that there was an expectation of failure on SR80. She then said that she would like know what the impacts would be to SR80 with the additional 850 units and also the timeline. Commissioner Mann responded by saying that he couldn't supply the specific date; however, he was quoting from staff recommendations and information that was presented to the Lee County BCC based on FDOT's numbers and their projections. SR80 was scheduled to fail in terms of level of service. He said that Mr. Mulhere's question to Mr. Leung specifically referred to whether or not the proposed intersection improvements (turn lanes) to SR80 would prevent it from failing and the answer was that it wouldn't. The answer from Mr. Leung today was it would mitigate, which was correct but only for that small area, not with the additional 850 units.

Commissioner Pendergrass referred to Commissioner Mann's comments and stated that he believed that it would be 2035. His perception with regard to this aspect was that he could stand strong with Commissioner Mann because we don't want to look like Miami or have urban sprawl. However, the 850 additional units are going into a suburban gated golf community instead of going across the street. Last month the Lee County BCC voted 5-0 to approve a commercial center across the street from River Hall without much discussion. He doesn't want it go in Alva or Olga, but within the next 30 years as the community grows where would you rather have those units go. In the future the Lee County MPO would be able to address the issue of failing roads and what needs to be done to get the traffic from A to B.

Mr. Reynolds stated that he was prepared to make a motion. Chair Heitmann stated that she had a couple of other members who wanted to comment and then she had to ask if there was any public comment. The Council must hear public comment before any motions are made.

Commissioner Nance stated that he was uncomfortable with what the Council was doing with the issue brought before them because clearly this is a very highly contentious issue within Lee County.

This issue isn't any different than what is brought before each of the local jurisdictions. It was his opinion that the issue fails to arise to the level of consideration for the Council because he doesn't feel that it meets the criteria as being defined "regional". The way he reads it and understands is that staff has made the determination that it is regional, but he doesn't see it being a use of regional significance, unique, or a change that would be applied outside the jurisdiction. He didn't feel that it was any different than being a contentious growth related issue. He then said that he was very "ill" at ease with the Council members having to make that decision when clearly; there isn't enough information on an issue that has been discussed in Lee County for years. He said that he was very uncomfortable going forward with this item because he didn't feel that the Council was properly informed or prepared. There have been suggestions made at today's meeting that the project has not met the proper procedure with community involvement. Clearly, the Lee County BCC has already taken action on this project.

Commissioner Davis stated that he agreed with Commissioner Nance's comments.

Mr. Perry explained that traffic issues are some of the concerns which the RPC staff needs to consider during their review and it isn't an issue where staff brought it back to the Council as a concern. He believed that the item was brought before the Council as a public meeting and the public is invited to give their input, so the Council has done their part at the public end. The Council shouldn't be criticizing other government agencies on how they are obtaining public input through their process. He also stated that the other concern was the prescribed burns and being a resident of Glades County where they always burn the sugar cane fields, he doesn't see it being an issue.

At this time, Chair Heitmann asked for any public comment on the item.

Ms. Karen Asfour, resident of River Hall, explained that her property abuts both the preserve and wetland, behind and beside her home. The particular wetland and preserve where she lives is also in direct relation to the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park and she has had wildlife come from the mitigation park such as, black bear, sandhill cranes, gopher tortoise, and river otter. The wildlife come and go because she can see all the way into the mitigation park and back to her house. She announced that she had recently become involved with the East Lee County Council and the Fort Myers Shores Civic Group that does the planning for the area. The people involved with the Fort Myers Shores Civic Group is very disturbed with the fact that all of their planning that was conducted and put forth over the years is being ignored. She then said that she supports staff's recommendations.

Mr. Max Forgey, Forgey Planning Services on behalf of the East Lee County Council referred to Commissioner Pendergrass's comments on how River Hall is a developing community with its infrastructure already in place. He said that the infrastructure that is already in place is consistent with the existing development order that went through a long process of approval and the applicant is now requesting from the Lee County BCC and subsequent bodies to approve a change of what has already been approved. There is an established entitlement of 1,999 residential units and the community was marketed on that basis. People had purchased land and built homes with that understanding, because they reviewed the maps with the purchase of the land(s) and now the applicant is changing things around. He said that FDOT had stated that they haven't had sufficient time to review the proposed changes in order to submit their final comments and it is also

unfortunate that the Lee County MPO had not commented on the future traffic on SR80 and how the proposed changes would impact SR80.

Finally, there is the issue that is very important to the residents of River Hall and also the Fort Myers Shores community that there exists a neighborhood plan that was approved by the Lee County BCC and an ordinance which is enforced. Now the applicant is asking to change the conditions of the plan in order to bypass the neighborhood plan. He said that Commissioner Mann had stood up very eloquently for community planning and the rich tradition that Lee County has for interactive planning between the governing body and local community. He asked that the Council also stand up for the rights of “mom and pop” in their own communities in order to do effective community planning.

Ms. Julian Thomas from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida stated that the Conservancy supports staff's recommendations. She said that there had been two recent staff reports from Lee County and within both those reports Lee County staff raised concerns regarding increased interactions between wildlife and people with the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park. The issue was raised by Lee County staff and still remains an issue today and she believed that it was the main issue of why Council staff had concerns.

Ms. Thomas then noted that another concern is the amendment would take 27% of the rural lands in this portion of Lee County and change them from a rural designation to suburban. This is a change of character and she felt that this change of character is what isn't consistent with the current adopted regional plan, as well as the current adopted Lee County Plan that shows the area as rural. She then referred back to a question that one of the Council members had made asking how many units have been built to date. She explained that there are currently 350 units built, which is less than 20%.

Mr. McCormick stated that he had a procedural question. He said that Commissioner Nance had raised the issue of having the Council not take any action on this item and there is a timeline that has to be met from DEO. He said that he is concerned with the Council not taking any action because the DEO will continue to move forward through the process without the Council's comments.

Mr. Mulhere stated that one option is that the Council states to DEO that they felt that there weren't any regional issues to be addressed.

Mr. Beever stated that he would be speaking to the first point of the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park. The Hickey Creek Mitigation Park is a regional resource because every one of the local jurisdictions who have had gopher tortoises permitted has had it mitigated at this regional mitigation park. So gopher tortoise impacts in Sarasota, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties have been off-set by the establishment of the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park in this location. The Florida Game and Fish Commission had setup regional areas so they would have a large and manageable enough area in order to maintain the gopher tortoises. The park also has several areas of Florida Scrub Jay, which is a federally listed species and by definition of the SRPP is a regionally significant issue. It is also part of a greenway for Hickey Creek that has the conservation land and the conservation lands that were acquired to the east and also the addition of the Hawks Haven conservation area, which was established to address listed species on that

property. This is all connected into a regional greenway and regional greenways are also identified in the SRPP as regionally significant resources. So in a biological, planning and factual basis, based on what the SWFRPC has adopted as to what constitutes regional issues, the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park is a resource of regional significance.

Second point, fire impacts from controlled burning can extend miles. Many communities within the region who have been adjacent to conservation areas, such as the Oscar Sheerer State Park, have coordinated with the adjacent conservation lands and have set up programs to establish and prevent issues such as assisted living facilities, hospitals, etc., areas which house people with respiratory issues, to be adjacent to the air shed of controlled burning. This controlled burning is absolutely essential to maintain scrubs and Flatwoods that maintain a population of gopher tortoises that every one of the local jurisdictions has contributed to.

Mr. Schropp made a statement in response to Ms. Thomas's observance that the proposed amendment would eliminate 27% of rural lands within the eastern portion of Lee County. He explained that the plan amendment does change the designation of the property from rural lands to sub-outlying suburban; however, immediately prior to the motion to transmit the plan amendment by Lee County BCC by a 4-1 motion did find that this project is not rural, but a suburban gated golf course community. That was in the approved motion made by the Lee County BCC.

In addition to Mr. Beever's comments, no one can understate the significance of the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park. It is a very significant resource and one of east Lee County's attractions. He stated that the plan amendment would not move any residents closer to the Hickey Creek Mitigation Park than already what exists. In fact, they would be three times further away than anything that is already within River Hall. With regards to the conservation area, the area along the eastern boundary of River Hall for the most part is already under conservation easement. The future land use designation map however, shows it as being still a rural classification, which technically allows development. The plan amendment actually places that area into a conservation category and the conservation easement will be increased slightly.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pendergrass to have the Council take no action due to there not being any regional impacts based upon the request of the applicant. The motion was seconded by Councilman Banks.

Commissioner Mann stated that he lives in the eastern portion of the Lee County and as a Lee County Commissioner he represents the entire eastern portion of Lee County. So he speaks with personal concerns as well as being a Lee County Commissioner representing that portion of the county. He also noted that he will be speaking as a former State Legislator. He then went on to explain why this issue had come before the Council. He was a member of the Florida Legislature when the legislature created the regional planning councils (RPCs) and the reason for creating the RPCs in 1975 was due to subdivisions such as Lehigh Acres, Cape Coral, Golden Gate, and Port Charlotte throughout the State of Florida. This was due to "*no planning*" at that time. The legislature crisscrossed the State of Florida with asphalt, approximately ¼ inch thick so the grass was growing through it the following year. Water was diverted and destroyed the aquifers, wildlife habitats and was bringing chaos to paradise. The legislature finally said it wasn't a good thing and wanted to do something about it in order to correct those issues and prevent it happening in the

future. The legislature recommended having a comprehensive plan for the State of Florida, whereby they would ask that the individual counties adopt their own plan for some reasonable growth and not just *"kill the goose that laid the golden egg"*. We are a magnet for our own destruction and we have to do a better job; because not only is it environmentally damaging, it is *"economically stupid"* because it costs more money. Just think about how many more vehicles that EMS would require to send folks to the outlying areas to help someone who is sick because they bought an inexpensive piece of property to build a house on. It is *"economically efficiency"* and *"environmental sanity"* and that was reason that the legislature invented planning, because it did not exist prior and the State of Florida was being destroyed.

Each county thereafter, adopted their own plans as did Lee County. It was not easy and even beyond that, at the Legislature's direction, Lee County along with other counties invited individual communities to adopt their own community plans and have a voice in this *"great democracy"* in managing their own destiny. What Lee County did in the eastern portion of the county was due to them having six units per acre and larger in some cases. We said to the citizens who lived in the eastern portion of the county that they would like to preserve the rural character and densities at the level that they are. A lot of them were agriculture, largely one unit per acre and the local communities adopted through Lee County those plans to protect themselves. When the land was purchased out in River Hall, they thought that they were purchasing in a one unit per acre for the foreseeable future for their lifetime. The developers have come along and said *"we thank you for holding this density level where it is in a nice little holding pattern"* and now we are here and going to increase the density level by 50%. We are making a mockery out of the entire planning process as envisioned by the legislature in 1975 and adopted locally.

The RPCs were created 3-4 years after the first comprehensive act; recognizing that there was *"regional connectivity"* and what you just did here might hurt the guy next to you. So that is why we are here and when you have a major corridor, such as SR80 going east to west. He said Councilman Banks was correct, the Council should be paying attention to the potential impacts that the project could have on Hendry County. When the Babcock development was approved, which he has not been happy about, there will be 50,000 people driving down SR31 coming into Lee County from Charlotte County and that is a "regional" impact. All of the issues with River Hall have a regional impact and his point is that we exist to work and plan more efficiently than ever before. We are here today to make sense out of what used to be chaos and for over a decade those citizens in the eastern portion of Lee County worked hard in hearing after hearing to get finally to the point where they could take it to the Lee County BCC and say this was their community plan and would like the BCC to adopt the plan. He said that Lee County BCC adopted the community plans unanimously and haven't ever turned down a community plan and there is currently 15 community plans within the entire county.

Now, is Lee County's comprehensive plan and every other plan simply a holding pattern for the next developer coming down the road or does it mean something. This is a fundamental question, if we are not going to say it means something then we just need to close our books here today and say "gosh it has been nice". We can save the State some money and also the county tax payers and just shut the doors; because planning is not important to us. But planning is important; both economically and environmentally it is important. It is also important to the citizens who thought they had a promise when they moved to where they live today, that the density was going to stay what it is currently.

He submitted to the Council that the River Hall proposed comprehensive plan amendment is regionally significant and felt that it was also personally significant to those citizens who thought that they had a promise. Frankly, it was broken by the Lee County BCC by one vote and the only time it had passed within the four times that it went before the BCC. It is important for the Council to take a stand on this issue. He said that he felt that motion should be defeated and accept a motion to accept staff's recommendation, because that is what the Council is here to do - plan - and he encourages all the members not to walk away from that responsibility.

Commissioner Mann stated that he felt the motion needed to be conducted by a "roll call" vote.

Chair Heitmann stated that she would be ending the discussion on this item at this time.

Mr. Karau asked that the motion be restated for clarification.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pendergrass to have the Council take no action due to there not being any regional impacts based upon the staff's recommendations the area of mitigation at Hickey Creek was conservation land and the request was beyond the current permitted property zone. The motion was seconded by Councilman Banks. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed with a 12 to 8 vote.

<i>MEMBER</i>	<i>AYE</i>	<i>NAY</i>	<i>NO VOTE*</i>
Commissioner Chris Constance			1
Commissioner Tricia Duffy	1		
Councilwoman Nancy Prafke			1
Ms. Suzanne Graham	1		
Mr. Don McCormick		1	
Commissioner Tim Nance	1		
Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann		1	
Mr. Robert Mulhere	1		
Mr. Alan Reynolds	1		
Commissioner Donna Storter-Long	1		
Mr. Thomas Perry	1		
Commissioner Don Davis	1		
Commissioner Daniel Akin			1
Mr. Mel Karau		1	
Commissioner Frank Mann		1	
Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass	1		
Councilman Forrest Banks	1		
Councilman Rick Williams		1	
Vice Mayor Doug Congress	1		
Ms. Laura Holquist	1		
Councilman Kit McKeon		1	
Commissioner Cheryl Cook		1	
Mayor Willie Shaw		1	
TOTALS	12	8	

(*) - "No Vote" is for members who were present during roll call, but did not vote on the item when the roll call vote was conducted.

Chair Heitmann thanked the Council for their indulgence and time.

Mr. Crawford noted that staff's recommendation would be changed to reflect the Council's recommendation and provided to DEO immediately. Commissioner Mann stated that the motion didn't include changing staff's recommendation; it was that it was not a regionally significant issue. Commissioner Storter-Long noted that the Council just voted to not take any action, which means no input.

Mr. Crawford asked for clarification if the Council was directing staff not to do anything with the report. Commissioner Mann stated that he believed that the Council did not recommend staff to change their recommendation, but that the Council voted not to take any action.

Chair Heitmann asked for clarification on the motion. Ms. Gwinnett stated that the Council voted not to take any action based upon the project not having regional impacts. Chair Heitmann said that the motion was that the "Council" would take no action so there is now going to be a debate on whether it was "Council" or "staff". Staff presented a recommendation for approval or not, along with a recommendation by the Council and the motion passed that the Council would take no action.

Commissioner Davis stated that if staff was going to send a recommendation up to DEO against the Council's motion then why have the Council vote in the first place. Commissioner Mann clarified that staff will now not be sending any report to DEO regarding the project, per the Council's direction.

AGENDA ITEM #10(b)

Sarasota Interstate Park of Commerce (SIPOC) DRI – Substantial Deviation

Mr. Crawford presented the item.

A motion was made by Ms. Holquist to approve staff's recommendations.

Commissioner Cook referred to the 2050 Plan in Sarasota and as Commissioner Mann had noted earlier in the meeting, the Council is a planning Council and not an economic development Council. She said that her concerns were the brand new mall, Benderson Rowing Park, and most importantly at the Sarasota-Manatee County Line there are massive infrastructure problems such that the Sarasota-Manatee MPO requested funding from the State. To add even more development in that area while not even considering the 2050 Plan, this is even more of a microcosm of what Commissioner Mann had referred to during the 1970s, as far as bringing some type of plan to chaos. She said that she was wondering if this is something that the Council should obtain more detail on before taking action. She explained that it was important for the Council to understand the impacts from a development that has already gone on here, such as the impact fees and struggling to pay for the current infrastructure.

Commissioner Cook stated that she was looking at the Council for direction on how to specify the questions and/or articulate what should be asked in order to take action. Mr. Crawford stated that he felt that Commissioner Cook's concern was a valid one and he agreed that there is a lot of

development, along with substantial impacts both to the infrastructure and the environmental aspects of the project. Staff conditioned the report before the developer can actually start building, the impacts of the project whether they are on the roads, pipes, etc. is mitigated through the county and at the expense of the developer or whatever county funding sources have been allocated for the areas previously approved. In terms of the doing the 2050 Plan, it will be consistent.

Mr. Crawford explained that when staff reviews a project, they don't object to the proposed plan, but want to make sure that it is mitigated and that is why staff has significant conditions on the approval to make the developer mitigate those impacts of concern.

Mayor Shaw referred to a project where the southwest wetlands were traded for five acres up on the Braden River where many issues hadn't been approved. He said that he agreed with Commissioner Cook's earlier comments that there is so much more conversation that hasn't been brought before the public in such a way that it impacts this area. He said that he hasn't heard anything from the residents living west of the project who have suffered with the wetlands because there is a lot of flooding during the rainy season. He isn't aware of the impacts that the builder/developer addressed within the mitigation process. Mr. Crawford explained that there were discussions regarding the flooding issues at meetings with Sarasota County staff and those issues have been addressed with conditions listed within the project. He explained that staff did not receive any input from anybody west of the project that objected to what was being proposed. He explained that staff did review all of the infrastructure issues in order to make sure that they were mitigated by the developer through the development order that will be issued for the project based on the conditions that would be put forward.

Commissioner Duffy noted that she had visited the project and felt that it was a well done project and Sarasota County, staff, and the developer really deserve credit for a gorgeous, well done project. She said that she would be happy to make a motion to approve staff's recommendations.

Councilman McKeon asked if Sarasota County was the governing agency for the project. Mr. Crawford explained that Sarasota County drives the process on this project; whereas usually within the DRI process the Council's staff would be driving the process. The Council becomes more of a reviewer to Sarasota County, but staff takes their comments and incorporates them into the substantial deviation report which is then provided to DEO. Once DEO does their review, Sarasota County would produce a new development order, and the last step is Council staff would present the development order to the Council for their review and action.

Commissioner Storter-Long asked Mr. Crawford if the project includes both Sarasota and Manatee Counties which makes it a "regional" project and Manatee County is not covered under the SWFRPC, does Manatee County have to hold a hearing on the project also. Mr. Crawford explained that Manatee County doesn't need to hold a hearing since the project is mainly located within Sarasota County. If Manatee County had any objections then staff would've incorporated their comments into the report.

Commissioner Mann asked what staff was recommending. Mr. Crawford explained that staff was requesting the Council to approve the recommendations of the staff in order to forward the report to DEO and Sarasota County. At this time, it was noted that staff's recommendations were not included within the materials of the packet.

Chair Heitmann requested that Mr. Crawford list staff's recommendations. Mr. Crawford stated that the following was staff's recommendations for the project:

- Find the proposed changes, such as the increase in square footage, retail and office space, housing regionally significant and increased development are less significant impact on regional resources, which is what the DRI is.
- To approve the conditions provided within the regional report as a result of the substantial deviation. Those conditions are assurances that the regional impacts will be mitigated.
- To approve the applicant's request of changes to the existing SIPOC DRI by approving the office, retail and housing proposed changes and also the map change which needs to occur that is a comprehensive plan change.

Commissioner Mann stated that for future reference for the elderly and infirmed that staff provide their recommendations either on the first page. Mr. Crawford apologized for not having the recommendations present.

Chair Heitmann called to order.

A motion was made by Ms. Holquist to approve staff's recommendations and forward the report to both DEO and Sarasota County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Duffy and carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #11(a)

"ECO"nomics: The Connection between Environment, Quality of Life and Economy Presentation

Ms. Nicole Johnson from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida gave a PowerPoint presentation. She explained that she felt it was very important for the RPC to hear about "ECO"nomics, which is a phrase that captures very well the interrelationship and interdependence between our economy, quality of life, and the quality of the environment. As elected officials and leaders of the community are really in a pivotal and important position, because you are able to get all of the various stakeholders together and talking – environmental community, community organizations, chambers of commerce, and economic development councils, etc. You can lead by example by facilitating that type of communication and really getting everyone talking.

Ms. Johnson explained that the RPC, as an organization, is also in a very good position conduct the studies and provide the information that then can be taken out to the public.

Commissioner Cook referenced the recent election and Amendment 1 had passed with at least 80% of the votes. With the voting results, it shows what the voters are trying tell us.

Mr. Mulhere stated that one of the things that you often hear is the concern over the loss of the ad valorem tax dollars that would be attributable to a piece of property that might be more significant in an urban setting and less significant in a rural setting. On the converse of that, there have been a

lot of studies done that provide an economic analysis of the benefit of having natural and conservation lands that are accessible to the public, tourists, and have a value (i.e., Everglades). Most of the counties within the region have expressed the desire to focus on getting their fair share of ecotourism dollars.

Chair Heitmann announced that there wouldn't be any reports given on Agenda Items #12(a), 12(e) and 12(g). She stated that Agenda Item #12(f) would be moved up to be the first report given.

AGENDA ITEM #12(f) **Legislative Affairs Committee**

Vice-Mayor Congress gave the committee report.

Ms. Catala asked how the regional transportation plans factor into the existing MPOs and the newly formed TPO, which both Glades and Hendry Counties are part of. The Council is asking for \$4 million to do what. Is the Council planning on forming a regional MPO? Ms. Wuerstle explained that it wasn't the intention of the Council to form a regional MPO. The MPOs have stated that they would participate as long as they didn't have to contribute financially. She explained that the recently completing the Veterans Transportation Plan Study found that everyone was working within their own silo and there wasn't a lot of coordination among the MPOs and both the private and public transportation providers. It was discussed and decided to do a regional transportation plan that would include all of the transportation providers throughout the Southwest Florida Region.

Ms. Catala asked how it would factor in to the ability of going after funding. Does it mean that the Council would be in direct competition with the MPOs and TPOs going after the same funding resources? Ms. Wuerstle stated that it wasn't the Council's intention to be in direct competition with the MPOs and TPOs for funding.

Ms. Catala asked what it would like with FDOT's 2040 Needs Plan and the Long Range Transportation Plans that have been developed through the MPOs and TPOs. Ms. Wuerstle stated that she didn't have an answer at this time. She explained that the Council's Regional Transportation Committee was scheduled to hold a meeting immediately following the Council meeting and she would have more information available at that time. It was a project that has been discussed with a desire to also seek funding to cover the costs of putting the plan together. She explained that there was a proposal that has been prepared, but it hasn't been vetted at this time with the Council's Regional Transportation Subcommittee. So, until the committee had the time to review the proposal and give their input, the proposal wouldn't be released to the full Council for their review and recommendation.

Vice-Mayor Congress noted that the legislative priorities have not been approved at this time. He explained that it contains a compilation of everyone's priorities and speaking with the RPC in order to understand where their priorities are and putting it into a package where everything could be reviewed.

Ms. Catala asked if Ms. Monroy had been involved in the discussions of the regional transportation plan. Ms. Wuerstle explained that Ms. Monroy is a member of the Council's

Regional Transportation Committee. However, she hasn't seen the written proposal because it is being presented to the committee at its meeting today.

Councilman Banks stated that there are MPOs located throughout the State and one of his favorite comments has been for 20 years is if we were to build a railroad from Fort Myers and Sarasota and try to meet up somewhere in Punta Gorda it wouldn't meet. He knows that FDOT has plans, but nowhere can anyone pick up a map that shows how Southwest Florida is dealing with their transportation. On the other hand, he felt that \$4 million is a golden figure and it might get thrown out at the very beginning. Vice-Mayor Congress explained that the \$4 million figure was discussed and debated and he feels the same way that it is too much to ask the legislature for at this time. However, the \$4 million is over a long period of time (5 years). It may make sense to instead of having a failed effort to really get more "seed" money for the beginning stages of the project and then request more as the project moves forward.

Ms. Catala stated that she had some concern since there are already established MPOs and both Hendry and Glades Counties are now part of the Central Florida RPC/TPO and if the Council starts developing a plan how is it going to impact their TPO plan. She didn't know if it was taken into consideration during the discussions.

Mr. McCormick said that he understood that it would be "new" money and won't be taking funding away from anyone. Also, the Council wanted to have the legislators know what the project's size really is.

Vice-Mayor Congress continued with his report with the Council's proposed 2015 Legislative Priorities.

Mr. Mulhere said that he felt that the committee did an excellent job. He then stated that from working with the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (FAPA) had a similar approach and it did help a lot because you don't get much time or exposure. The opportunity is where if something comes up and are able to point to this would be very helpful.

Mr. Mulhere then referred to the recent discussion of regional transportation where it has been perceived as having a priority and also relates to enhanced connectivity with regional transportation issues. He suggested that regional transportation become one of the Council's legislative priorities.

Commissioner Storter-Long asked the Council to consider supporting under "e" in Glades County there is a proposal for another 18,000 acres to be placed into conservation. Glades County is an ideal spot for conservation and Glades County recognizes the importance; however we also recognize the impacts that it has had on the county's economy. Glades County is asking for support for legislation on the land placed into conservation development and the rights could stay with its current owner and they would have the option to put it on another piece of their property. The second option would be to give it to the county and it could be placed somewhere else within the county. It is a win-win for everyone because the conservation is needed, but the county is forfeiting future development rights at that time. Vice-Mayor Congress stated that he believed that it has been addressed within the document.

Mr. Mulhere announced that Mr. Reynolds was responsible for working on a project that did just that and it was adopted at the State level.

Commissioner Constance announced that he had been sitting in at the Grove Agriculture and Environment Section at the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) legislative meeting in Tampa and one of the real big issues being discussed was Amendment 1 on water and land conservation. FAC wants to have the local jurisdictions at the table “pushing the train”; hopefully more than the State because it is going to affect Southwest Florida. The first priority is going to be Amendment 1 and the second priority will be payment in lieu of taxes. It has been noted that if lands are pulled off of the local jurisdictions’ tax rolls for conservation purposes the loss of revenue needs to be addressed.

Mr. McCormick thanked both Vice-Mayor Congress for his efforts and also Mr. McCabe of staff who has done most of the work and putting the documents together.

Vice-Mayor Congress noted that the committee had discussed other issues of regional concern such as, human trafficking, fracking, off-shore drilling, water-land conservation, etc. The document will continue to be refined throughout the year.

A motion was made by Mr. Mulhere to approve the Council’s 2015 Legislative Priorities as modified. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKeon.

Councilman Banks stated that the Council is asking for funding to be returned to the RPC and then further down the document we are asking for \$4 million to conduct a regional transportation plan. The legislature and governor will only give so much, so he felt that asking for \$4 million for a regional transportation plan was too much to ask for. Vice-Mayor Congress stated that he didn’t disagree and then suggested that under “D” discuss the scope of the project as being a \$4 million project. Such as, requesting a certain amount in Year 1, another amount in Year 2 and so forth.

Mr. Reynolds stated that he felt that the list was very good; however, if the Council wants to have an impact the legislature he felt that the Council’s top priority should be the re-establishment of funding for the RPCs and spend time on developing a new strategy on how the Council could engage the governor’s office.

Chair Heitmann said that she agreed with Mr. Reynolds’ suggestion. She agreed that things need to change, especially since it seemed that FRCA can’t always be relied upon to get the funding returned to the RPCs, even though the Council pays a lot of money to have their support. However, she believed that the Council’s position needs to be sent to FRCA. She then asked Mr. Reynolds if he would be able to attend FRCA’s Legislative meeting in January and/or have either Vice-Mayor Congress or Mr. McCabe include it in the Council’s legislative priorities.

Commissioner Constance noted that within the FAC’s legislative packet for growth management implementation there is a statement on regional planning stating to “support full funding for regional planning councils and at a minimum cover the costs for the RPC’s statutory responsibilities and to support and enhance the economic development activities, oppose legislation prohibiting or restricting the ability of an RPC to provide planning and technical services to its local governments.” There is also a revised/approved statement on DRIs stating “support

legislation that strengthens intergovernmental coordination to ensure that land development projects don't result in adverse impacts on a neighboring jurisdiction without properly being mitigated by the approving jurisdiction." The reason for that statement was during the 2014 Legislative Session bills were filed that expanded the areas where DRIs would be exempt.

Chair Heitmann requested Commissioner Constance to forward that information to Mr. McCabe and also any other information that he would feel to be pertinent.

Vice-Mayor Congress stated that everyone's priorities are listed in the appendices.

The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #12(a)
Budget & Finance Committee Report

No report was given at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #12(b)
Economic Development Committee

Councilman Banks gave the committee report at this time. Staff has begun the process of scheduling the next committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #12(c)
Energy & Climate Committee

Mr. McCormick stated that he had no report to give at this time; however, the committee will be meeting immediately following the Council meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #12(d)
Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management Committee

No report was given at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #12(e)
Executive Committee

No report was given at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #12(g)
Nominating Committee

No report was given at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #12(h)
Quality of Life & Safety Committee

Mayor Shaw gave the committee report at this time. He is planning on having the committee meet sometime in January.

Chair Heitmann noted that Mayor Shaw had requested that if any member has a member of his/her community who they feel would like to serve on the committee to please either contact or have them contact Ms. Wuerstle. The committee needs members from each county within the region to serve on the committee.

AGENDA ITEM #12(i)
Regional Transportation Committee

Ms. Wuerstle gave the committee report and stated that the committee would be meeting immediately following the Council meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #13
NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Mann gave a brief overview of the item. He explained that there is a research station located in Immokalee and there were plans to downsize the center, but both the governor and legislature changed their minds. The center is a vital part of the region's agriculture industry, particularly the threat of the ongoing citrus diseases that have become very significant. The center needs to remain open and be able to grow which is stated within the proposed resolution.

A motion was made by Councilman Banks to approve the request for a resolution from the SWFRPC supporting the budget request made by the South Florida Ag Council to the Florida Legislature for continued funding of the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center. The motion was seconded by Mayor Shaw and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #14
STATE AGENCIES COMMENTS/REPORTS

SFWMD – Mr. Flood announced that on December 2 at the Fort Myers City Pier building in Downtown Fort Myers, the SFWMD will be hosting their 2nd Caloosahatchee Community Forum (Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties) to discuss regional priorities for water storage and treatment.

FDEP – Mr. Iglehart announced that FDEP had conducted all day training in Spanish for the Lee County Fertilizer Ordinance and 21 Latino companies were certified to be able to apply fertilizer and pesticides.

Councilman McKeon asked if there was still talk within the legislature to try to circumvent the home rule on the fertilizer ordinances. Commissioner Mann said that they are still out there.

**AGENDA ITEM #15
COUNCIL ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS**

No report was given at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM #16
COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Mr. McCormick announced that he had attended a meeting discussing an unintended consequence of Amendment 2 where staff conducted a survey of the younger generation and found an increase of drug use and awareness within the middle school population over the previous year.

Vice-Mayor Congress announced that Sanibel was recognized as the Silver Award Winner as a bicycle friendly community. Sanibel is one of four communities that have the silver status within the State of Florida. Silver is the highest in the State of Florida, Sanibel has over 25 miles of bike paths.

Commissioner Storter-Long said that she had heard it twice now where staff had submitted a report to DEO before it went to the Council. She asked if there was a possibility to request a schedule change because this Council can't be the only Council that has the same problem. With the River Hall issue it made a big difference. Ms. Wuerstle stated that she agreed with Commissioner Storter-Long and stated that it had been discussed internally and she decided to wait until after the first of the year when there will be a new executive committee. Staff then could take that issue before them to discuss some options. She doesn't know if things could be changed at the staff level, but it can be changed internally at the Council.

Councilman McKeon thanked Sanibel for joining the City of Venice as being a Silver Award Winner for being a bicycle friendly community.

**AGENDA ITEM #17
ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Mr. Don McCormick, Secretary

The meeting was duly advertised in the November 10, 2014 issue of the **FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER**, Volume 40, Number 219.

Agenda Item

8

Director's Report

8

8



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: January 15, 2015

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.

1. Internal Issues

- a. Budget Update
 - The Audit for 2014 began on January 14th.
 - The CPA firm of Hughes, Snell & Co., PA has been hired to assist with our financials and the current audit
 - A contract has been signed with KRISE Commercial Group to find a tenant for the building.
- b. Grants Awarded:
 - EDA Medical Manufacturing Analysis \$58,000
 - DEO Labelle Farm Tours \$20,000
 - DEM - Collier \$8,042

1. External Issues

- a. FRCA: Activity Report attached
- b. All counties and cities within the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council boundaries will now have a staff liaison assigned to work with each local government to understand the priorities and issues of concern. The staff assignments are attached.

2. First Quarter 2014-2015 (October - December)

- a. Implementation of Workplan:
 - Grants Submitted:
 - ✓ The Brownfields Grant has been submitted - \$600,000
 - ✓ Promise Zone Designation for Glades, Hendry, Immokalee has been submitted
 - ✓ NEA for the *Our Creative Economy* project has been submitted - \$200,000
 - ✓ Bloomberg Philanthropies - Public Art Challenge has been submitted with Ft. Myer as the lead applicant and Naples, Punta Gorda, Glades County, North Port and Cape Coral hosting sites - \$1,200,000
 - ✓ National Endowment for the Humanities \$75,000
 - Grants Under Development:
 - ✓ I-75 Medical Manufacturing Corridor designation;
 - Pending Grants: approximately \$2,210,000 in various grants submitted



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: December 2014

OUTREACH

- In conjunction with the South Florida Regional Planning Council, provided support to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to help complete its application for a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Special Merit Grant that, if awarded, would provide a small amount of funding to the regional planning councils to increase community resiliency capacity at the local level through a variety of training tools.
- Participated by phone in a meeting with staff from the Florida Division of Emergency Management and each of the regional planning councils to resolve Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness contract reporting issues and worked with Division staff to address periphery concerns.
- Continued to coordinate with staff from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity on its application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the National Disaster Resiliency Competition.
- Joined VISIT FLORIDA's Partnership Program.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in a meeting of the Sadowski Coalition and in Enterprise Florida's monthly teleconference for its economic development partners, which focused on preparing for the 2015 Legislative Session and included comments from Governor Scott pertaining to the state's economic status.
- Participated in the Florida Chamber Foundation's 2015 Future of Florida Forum Partners Meeting to begin planning for next year's Forum.
- Participated in a planning meeting for the Florida Civic Advance inaugural annual conference, which is an initiative of the Florida Consensus Center.
- Distributed funding announcements from the Kresgee and Robert Wood Johnson Foundations, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, National Endowment for the Arts, VISIT FLORIDA, and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

- Shared the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee's position statement on Developments of Regional Impact and Sector Plan Programs with the Legislative Director for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and asked that, should the Department run related legislation, it be considered for inclusion.
- Completed a final draft of FRCA's 2015 Legislative Agenda and Legislative Guiding Principles and Procedures for consideration and approval by the Policy Board at its January 9, 2015 meeting in Tallahassee.

- Reviewed pertinent bills and issued the first bill tracking report of the 2015 Legislative Session.

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Welcomed Commissioner Frank Meeker, Flagler County (NEFRC), to the FRCA Policy Board and emailed him a new member orientation packet.
- Finalized a draft of what will be FRCA's first Strategic Operating Plan for consideration by the Policy Board at its January 9, 2015 meeting in Tallahassee.
- Participated in the December 2-3, 2014 FRCA meetings that took place at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.
- Finalized preparations for the series of FRCA events scheduled to take place January 8-9, 2015, including finalizing meeting logistics, securing speakers, developing agendas, and drafting four sets of meeting summaries.

SWFRPC Staff Assignments for the SWFL Region

COUNTY/CITY	STAFF
Collier County BCC	Margaret
City of Naples	Maryann
City of Everglades City	Maryann
City of Marco Island	Maryann
Immokalee	Maryann
Charlotte County BCC	Jim
City of Punta Gorda	Jim
Glades County BCC	Nichole
City of Moore Haven	Nichole & Margaret
Hendry County BCC	Nichole
City of Clewiston	Nichole
City of LaBelle	Nichole
Lee County BCC	Jennifer
City of Bonita Springs	Jennifer
City of Cape Coral	Rebekah
City of Fort Myers	Jennifer
Town of Fort Myers Beach	Tim
City of Sanibel	Jennifer
Town of Estero	Jennifer or Margaret
Lehigh Acres	John
Sarasota County BCC	Margaret
Town of Longboat Key	Margaret
City of North Port	Margaret
City of Sarasota	Margaret
City of Venice	Margaret

Updated on January 5, 2015

Agenda Item

8a

Financial Statements for November
30, 2014 & December 31, 2014

8a

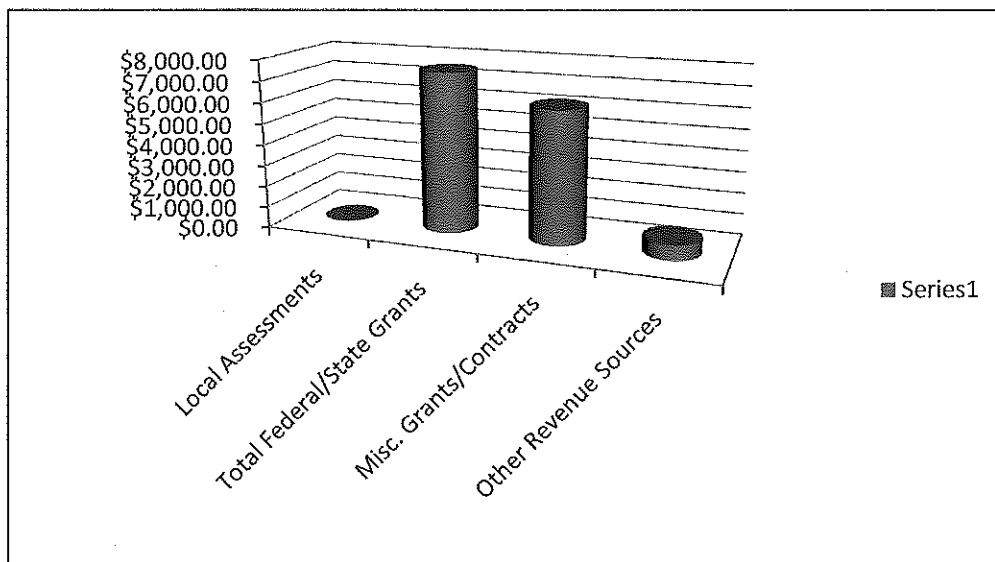
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2014 - 2015 Workplan & Budget Financial Snapshot

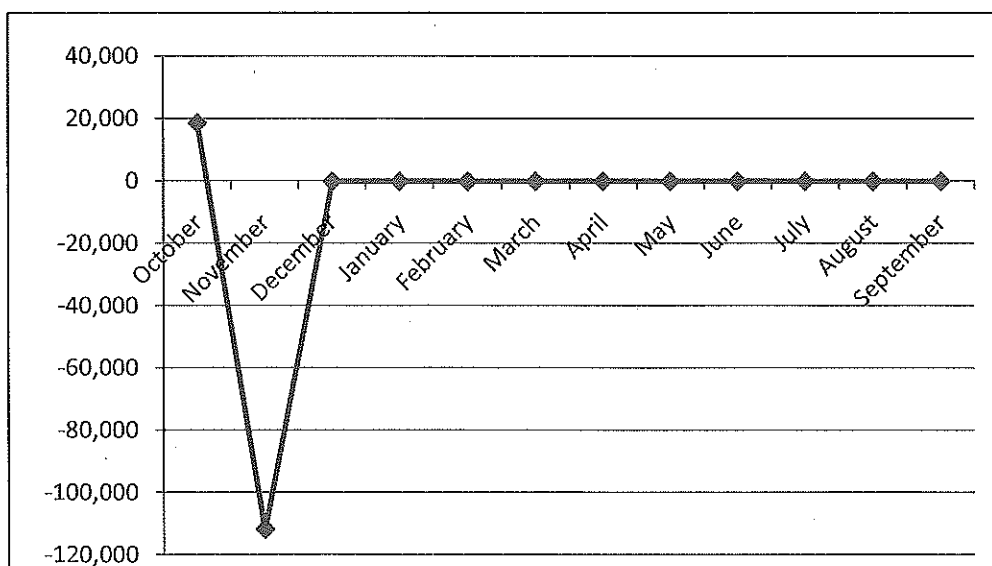
Nov-14

Revenues

Local Assessments
 Total Federal/State Grants
 Misc. Grants/Contracts
 Other Revenue Sources



Notes: Local Assessments billed at the beginning of each quarter: October, January, April and July
 Federal Grants (EPA) billed monthly: EPA: FAMWQ and Conservation Easement
 State/Federal Grants billed quarterly: LEPC, HMEP, TD, and ED
 Misc. Grants/Contracts billed quarterly: MARC Solar Ready
 Misc. Grants/Contracts billed by deliverable: SQG, Interagency PO'S
 Other(DRI) billed /recorded monthly as cost reimbursement



YTD: Net Income \$(85,486) Unaudited

SWFRPC
BALANCE SHEET
NOVEMBER 30, 2014

50 of 168

ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
FUND BALANCE	\$	705,913
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		116,061
		<hr/>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		821,974
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
PROPERTY, FURNITURE & EQUIP		2,016,524
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(576,326)
		<hr/>
TOTAL PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		1,440,198
OTHER ASSETS		
AMOUNT T.B.P. FOR L.T.L.-LEAVE		55,640
FSA DEPOSIT		2,494
AMT T.B.P. FOR L.T.DEBT-OPEP		61,797
AMOUNT T.B.P. FOR L.T.DEBT		942,448
		<hr/>
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS		1,062,379
		<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	3,324,551
		<hr/>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$	0
RETAINAGE PAYABLE		0
DEFERRED INCOME		156,254
FICA TAXES PAYABLE		1,890
FEDERAL W/H TAX PAYABLE		1,678
UNITED WAY PAYABLE		298
DEFERRED COMPENSATION PAYABLE		950
FSA PAYABLE		(364)
LEPC CONTINGENCY FUND		305
		<hr/>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		161,011
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
ACCRUED ANNUAL LEAVE		55,640
LONG TERM DEBT - OPEB		61,797
LONG TERM DEBT - BANK OF AM.		942,448
		<hr/>
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		1,059,885
		<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,220,896
CAPITAL		
BEGINNING BALANCE EQUITY		(3,798)
FUND BALANCE-UNASSIGNED		238,741
FUND BALANCE-ASSIGNED		514,000
FB-NON-SPENDABLE/FIXED ASSETS		1,440,199
NET INCOME		(85,487)
		<hr/>
TOTAL CAPITAL		2,103,655
		<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$	3,324,551
		<hr/>

SWFRPC
BALANCE SHEET
NOVEMBER 30, 2014

FUND BALANCE DETAIL

CASH - BANK OF AMERICA OPER.	\$	203,711
CASH - IBERIA CDS		317,726
CASH - FL LOCAL GOV'T POOL		184,276
PETTY CASH		200
		<hr/>
FUND BALANCE	\$	705,913
		<hr/> <hr/>

OPERATING CASH	\$	203,711
INVESTMENTS		502,002
PETTY CASH		200
		<hr/>
FUND BALANCE		705,913

DEFERRED -NEP CE954836611-1	(48,611)
DEFERRED INCOME NEP LOCAL	(38,814)
DEFERRED INCOME - FAMWQ	(13,236)
DEFERRED INC. PALMER RANCH XXI	(1)
DEFERRED-PALMER RANCH XXII	(26,222)
DEFERRED PALMER XXIII-B	(29,670)
DEFERRED SANDILL NOPC	300
	<hr/>
NET AVAILABLE FOR RESERVE	\$ 549,659
	<hr/> <hr/>

SWFRPC
INCOME STATEMENT
COMPARED WITH BUDGET
FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2014

EXPENSES	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	FY 2014-2015 Amended Budget C	Budget Remainin C-A
PERSONNEL EXPENSES					
SALARIES EXPENSE	55,830	97,456	729,525	729,525	632,069
FICA EXPENSE	4,104	7,162	58,138	58,138	50,976
RETIREMENT EXPENSE	9,162	4,151	53,766	53,766	49,615
HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSE	21,117	32,797	128,579	128,579	95,782
WORKERS COMP. EXPENSE	369	738	3,696	3,696	2,958
TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES	90,582	142,304	973,704	973,704	831,400
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES					
CONSULTANTS	3,660	12,410	0	0	(12,410)
GRANT/CONSULTING EXPENSE	1,093	1,093	54,396	54,396	53,303
LEGAL	0	0	15,000	15,000	15,000
AUDIT SERVICES EXPENSE	0	0	40,000	40,000	40,000
TRAVEL EXPENSE	422	4,600	21,870	21,870	17,270
TELEPHONE EXPENSE	245	697	5,100	5,100	4,403
POSTAGE / SHIPPING EXPENSE	69	69	1,787	1,787	1,718
EQUIPMENT RENTAL EXPENSE	420	1,376	7,015	7,015	5,639
INSURANCE EXPENSE	400	12,840	22,500	22,500	9,660
REPAIR/MAINT. EXPENSE	1,796	2,021	5,000	5,000	2,979
PRINTING/REPRODUCTION EXP	265	547	2,190	2,190	1,643
UTILITIES (ELEC, WATER, GAR)	1,949	4,080	23,200	23,200	19,120
ADVERTISING/LEGAL NOTICES	177	239	2,454	2,454	2,215
OTHER MISC. EXPENSE	1,196	1,231	1,500	1,500	269
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	265	507	2,700	2,700	2,193
OFFICE SUPPLIES EXPENSE	16	994	5,175	5,175	4,181
COMPUTER RELATED EXPENSE	8,650	9,621	27,070	27,070	17,449
DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	2,500	9,117	29,700	29,700	20,583
PUBLICATION EXPENSE	211	211	250	250	39
PROF. DEVELOP.	105	135	7,256	7,256	7,121
MEETINGS/EVENTS EXPENSE	1,534	6,908	3,453	3,453	(3,455)
CAPITAL OUTLAY EXPENSE	0	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
CAPITAL OUTLAY - BUILDING	0	0	24,650	24,650	24,650

UNAUDITED FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

SWFRPC
INCOME STATEMENT
COMPARED WITH BUDGET
FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2014

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	FY 2014-2015 Amended Budget C	Budget Remainin C-A
LONG TERM DEBT	10,646	21,292	128,000	128,000	106,708
RESERVE FOR OPERATIONS EXP	0	0	708,484	708,484	708,484
TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXP.	35,619	89,988	1,143,750	1,143,750	1,053,762
TOTAL CASH OUTLAY	126,201	232,292	2,117,454	2,117,454	1,885,162
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (111,615)	\$ (85,486)	\$ (1,587,568)	\$ (1,587,568)	\$ (1,502,082)

UNAUDITED FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

SWFRPC
INCOME STATEMENT
COMPARED WITH BUDGET
FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2014

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	FY 2014-2015 Amended Budget C	Budget Remainin C-A
REVENUES					
LOCAL ASSESSMENTS					
CHARLOTTE COUNTY	\$ 0	\$ 12,276	\$ 49,104	\$ 49,104	36,828
COLLIER COUNTY	0	25,025	100,100	100,100	75,075
GLADES COUNTY	0	949	3,797	3,797	2,848
HENDY COUNTY	0	2,836	11,342	11,342	8,506
LEE COUNTY	0	38,868	155,480	155,480	116,612
SARASOTA COUNTY	0	28,897	115,588	115,588	86,691
CITY OF FORT MYERS	0	5,031	20,124	20,124	15,093
TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH I	0	474	1,897	1,897	1,423
BONITA SPRINGS	0	3,392	13,569	13,569	10,177
CITY OF SANIBEL	0	485	1,941	1,941	1,456
TOTAL LOCAL ASSESSMENTS	0	118,233	472,942	472,942	354,709
FEDERAL / STATE GRANTS					
EPA FAMWQ	3,207	5,597	0	0	(5,597)
EPA-CONSERVATION	4,381	7,804	0	0	(7,804)
DEM TITLE III	0	0	40,909	40,909	40,909
HMEP-PLANNING & TRAINING	0	0	58,370	58,370	58,370
GLADES HENDRY TD	0	0	38,573	38,573	38,573
TOTAL FEDERAL / STATE GRAN	7,588	13,401	137,852	137,852	124,451
MISC. GRANTS / CONTRACTS					
GLADES SOG	0	0	3,900	3,900	3,900
VISIT FLORIDA - 3174	0	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
IT EVENT	745	6,108	0	0	(6,108)
VISIT FLORIDA	0	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
TOTAL MISC. GRANTS/CONTRA	745	6,108	13,900	13,900	7,792
OTHER REVENUE SOURCES					
DRI MONITORING FEES	0	250	0	0	(250)
ABM SPONSHERSHIPS	0	0	2,500	2,500	2,500

UNAUDITED FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

SWFRPC
INCOME STATEMENT
COMPARED WITH BUDGET
FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2014

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	FY 2014-2015 Amended Budget C	Budget Remainin C-A
RENTAL SPACE-SENATOR	0	1,250	0	0	(1,250)
DRIS/NOPCS INCOME	6,253	7,547	60,000	60,000	52,453
INTEREST INCOME	0	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
MISC. INCOME	0	17	5,000	5,000	4,983
BUDGETED CARRY OVER FB	0	0	542,797	542,797	542,797
BUDGETED CARRY OVER OPER	0	0	83,679	83,679	83,679
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE SOURC	6,253	9,064	698,976	698,976	689,912
TOTAL REVENUES	14,586	146,806	1,323,670	1,323,670	1,176,864

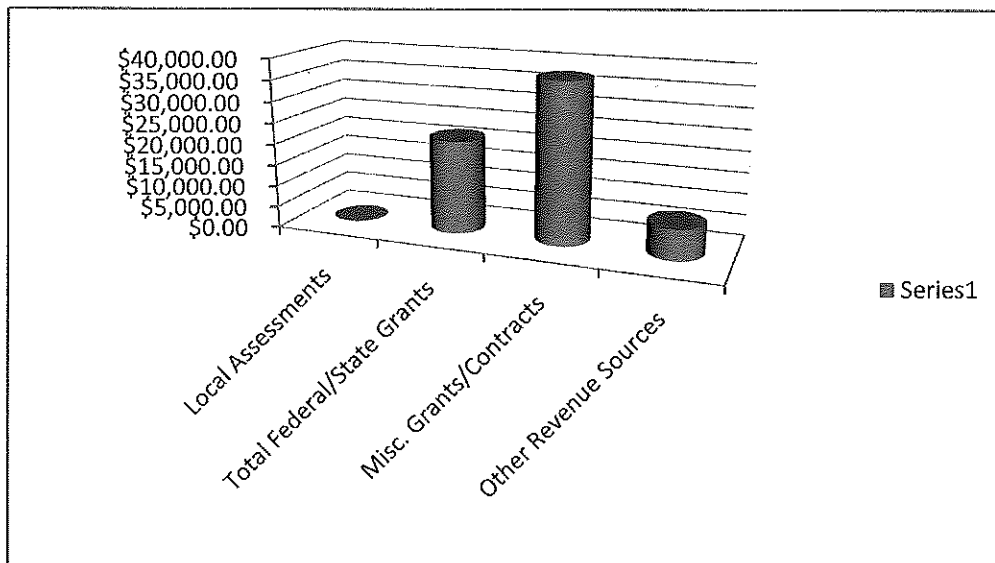
UNAUDITED FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

2014 - 2015 Workplan & Budget Financial Snapshot

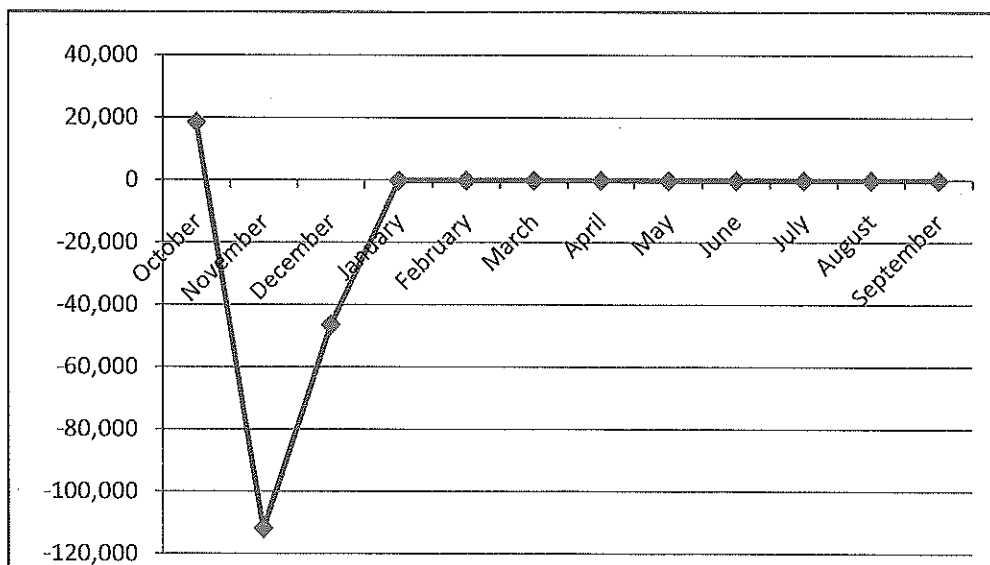
Dec-14

Revenues

Local Assessments
 Total Federal/State Grants
 Misc. Grants/Contracts
 Other Revenue Sources



Notes: Local Assessments billed at the beginning of each quarter: October, January, April and July
 Federal Grants (EPA) billed monthly: EPA: FAMWQ and Conservation Easement
 State/Federal Grants billed quarterly: LEPC, HMEP, TD, and ED
 Misc. Grants/Contracts billed quarterly: MARC Solar Ready
 Misc. Grants/Contracts billed by deliverable: SQG, Interagency PO'S
 Other(DRI) billed /recorded monthly as cost reimbursement



YTD: Net Income \$(131,747) Unaudited

SWFRPC
BALANCE SHEET
DECEMBER 31, 2014

57 of 168

ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
FUND BALANCE	\$	629,501
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		134,333
		<hr/>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		763,834
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
PROPERTY, FURNITURE & EQUIP		2,016,524
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(576,326)
		<hr/>
TOTAL PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		1,440,198
OTHER ASSETS		
AMOUNT T.B.P. FOR L.T.L.-LEAVE		55,640
FSA DEPOSIT		2,494
AMT T.B.P. FOR L.T.DEBT-OPEP		61,797
AMOUNT T.B.P. FOR L.T.DEBT		936,263
		<hr/>
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS		1,056,194
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	<hr/> <hr/> 3,260,226

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$	0
RETAINAGE PAYABLE		0
DEFERRED INCOME		148,387
FICA TAXES PAYABLE		(206)
UNITED WAY PAYABLE		458
DEFERRED COMPENSATION PAYABLE		575
FSA PAYABLE		(387)
LEPC CONTINGENCY FUND		305
		<hr/>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		149,132
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
ACCRUED ANNUAL LEAVE		55,640
LONG TERM DEBT - OPEB		61,797
LONG TERM DEBT - BANK OF AM.		936,263
		<hr/>
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		1,053,700
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<hr/> 1,202,832
CAPITAL		
BEGINNING BALANCE EQUITY		(3,798)
FUND BALANCE-UNASSIGNED		238,741
FUND BALANCE-ASSIGNED		514,000
FB-NON-SPENDABLE/FIXED ASSETS		1,440,199
NET INCOME		(131,748)
		<hr/>
TOTAL CAPITAL		2,057,394
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$	<hr/> <hr/> 3,260,226

UNAUDITED - FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

SWFRPC
BALANCE SHEET
DECEMBER 31, 2014

FUND BALANCE DETAIL		
CASH - BANK OF AMERICA OPER.	\$	127,299
CASH - IBERIA CDS		317,726
CASH - FL LOCAL GOV'T POOL		184,276
PETTY CASH		200
FUND BALANCE	\$	<u>629,501</u>
OPERATING CASH	\$	127,299
INVESTMENTS		502,002
PETTY CASH		200
FUND BALANCE		<u>629,501</u>
DEFERRED -NEP CE954836611-1		(48,611)
DEFERRED INCOME NEP LOCAL		(38,814)
DEFERRED INCOME - FAMWQ		(12,279)
DEFERRED INC. PALMER RANCH XXI		(1)
DEFERRED-PALMER RANCH XXII		(22,541)
DEFERRED PALMER XXIII-B		(26,441)
DEFERRED SANDILL NOPC		300
NET AVAILABLE FOR RESERVE	\$	<u>481,114</u>

Detail of Reserve

Investments:

Iberia Bank CD	317,726
Local government Surplus Trust Fund Investment Pool (Fund A)	184,276
Local government Surplus Trust Fund (Fund B)	0

Total Investments	\$502,002.00
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Petty Cash	\$ 200.00
Bank of America Operating Funds	\$203,711.00

Total Reserves	\$705,913.00
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SWFRPC
INCOME STATEMENT
COMPARED WITH BUDGET
FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	% Of Budget Year to Date	Budget Remaining
REVENUES					
CHARLOTTE COUNTY	\$ 0	\$ 12,276	\$ 49,104	0.25 \$	36,828
COLLIER COUNTY	0	25,025	100,100	0.25 \$	75,075
GLADES COUNTY	0	949	3,797	24.99% \$	2,848
HENDY COUNTY	0	2,836	11,342	25.00% \$	8,506
LEE COUNTY	0	38,868	155,480	25.00% \$	116,612
SARASOTA COUNTY	0	28,897	115,588	25.00% \$	86,691
CITY OF FORT MYERS	0	5,031	20,124	25.00% \$	15,093
TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH INC	0	474	1,897	24.99% \$	1,423
BONITA SPRINGS	0	3,392	13,569	25.00% \$	10,177
CITY OF SANIBEL	0	485	1,941	24.99% \$	1,456
TOTAL LOCAL ASSESSMENTS	0	118,233	472,942	25.00% \$	354,709
FEDERAL / STATE GRANTS					
EPA FAMWQ	957	6,554	36,000	18.21% \$	29,446
EPA-CONSERVATION	6,564	14,369	95,944	14.98% \$	81,575
DEM TTILE III	9,199	9,199	40,909	22.49% \$	31,710
HMEP-PLANNING & TRAINING	0	0	58,370	0.00% \$	58,370
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	14,736	14,736	63,000	23.39% \$	48,264
EDA Technical	14,564	14,736	0	(\$	14,736)
MARC	160	160	45,000	0.36% \$	44,840
GLADES HENDRY TD	5,123	5,123	38,573	13.28% \$	33,450
TOTAL FEDERAL / STATE GRANTS	51,303	64,877	377,796	17.17% \$	312,919
CONTRACTUAL					
GLADES SOG	0	0	3,900	0.00% \$	3,900
VISIT FLORIDA - 3174	0	0	5,000	0.00% \$	5,000
NEFRC	8,256	8,256	7,000	117.94% (\$	1,256)
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS	0	0	20,000	0.00% \$	20,000
CHNEP	0	0	50,000	0.00% \$	50,000
DRI MONITORING FEES	500	250	4,000	6.25% \$	3,750

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	% Of Budget Year to Date	Budget Remaining
DRIS/NOPCS INCOME	6,910	14,457	56,000	25.82%	41,543
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL	15,666	22,963	145,900	2 \$	122,937

OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

IT EVENT	745	6,108	0	(\$)	6,108
ABM SPONSHERSHIPS	0	0	2,500	0.00%	2,500
RENTAL SPACE-SENATOR	0	1,250	15,000	8.33%	13,750
INTEREST INCOME	0	0	1,500	0.00%	1,500
MISC. INCOME	0	17	3,500	0.49%	3,483
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE SOURCES	745	7,375	22,500	0 \$	15,125

BUDGETED CARRY OVER FB

	0	0	708,484	0.00%	708,484
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TOTAL REVENUES

	66,969	213,776	1,727,622	12.37%	1,513,846
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EXPENSES

PERSONNEL EXPENSES					
SALARIES EXPENSE	66,994	164,450	729,525	22.54%	565,075
FICA EXPENSE	4,930	12,091	55,809	21.66%	43,718
RETIREMENT EXPENSE	5,769	9,921	58,766	16.88%	48,845
HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSE	1,433	34,230	128,579	26.62%	94,349
WORKERS COMP. EXPENSE	369	1,107	2,329	47.53%	1,222
TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES	79,495	221,799	975,008	22.75%	753,209

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

CONSULTANTS	3348	15758	14500	108.68%	1,258
GRANT/CONSULTING EXPENSE	0	1,093	54,396	2.01%	53,303
AUDIT SERVICES EXPENSE	0	0	40,000	0.00%	40,000
TRAVEL EXPENSE	5,046	9,646	25,170	38.32%	15,524
TELEPHONE EXPENSE	496	1,193	5,100	23.39%	3,907
POSTAGE / SHIPPING EXPENSE	1,656	1,725	2,787	61.89%	1,062
EQUIPMENT RENTAL EXPENSE	986	2,362	7,015	33.67%	4,653
INSURANCE EXPENSE	5,196	18,037	22,500	80.16%	4,463
REPAIR/MAINT. EXPENSE	573	2,594	15,000	17.29%	12,406
PRINTING/REPRODUCTION EXPENSE	216	763	2,190	34.84%	1,427
UTILITIES (ELEC, WATER, GAR)	123	4,203	23,200	18.12%	18,997

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual A	FY 2014-2015 Approved Budget B	% Of Budget Year to Date	Budget Remaining
ADVERTISING/LEGAL NOTICES EXP	294	532	2,454	21.68% \$	1,922
OTHER MISC. EXPENSE	84	1,315	4,500	29.22% \$	3,185
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0	507	2,700	18.78% \$	2,193
OFFICE SUPPLIES EXPENSE	1,262	2,256	5,175	43.59% \$	2,919
COMPUTER RELATED EXPENSE	2,201	11,822	27,070	43.67% \$	15,248
DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	0	9,117	29,700	30.70% \$	20,583
PUBLICATION EXPENSE	0	211	250	84.40% \$	39
PROF. DEVELOP.	1,595	1,730	10,256	16.87% \$	8,526
MEETINGS/EVENTS EXPENSE	14	6,922	3,453	200.46% (\$	3,469)
CAPITAL OUTLAY EXPENSE	0	0	7,500	0.00% \$	7,500
CAPITAL OUTLAY - BUILDING	0	0	35,150	0.00% \$	35,150
LONG TERM DEBT	10,646	31,938	128,000	24.95% \$	96,062
RESERVE FOR OPERATIONS EXPENSE	0	0	708,484	0.00% \$	708,484
ALLOCATION FRINGE/INDIRECT			(423,937)	(\$	423,937)
TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXP.	33,736	123,724	752,613	16.44% \$	628,889
TOTAL CASH OUTLAY	113,231	345,523	1,727,621	20.00% \$	1,382,098
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(\$ 46,262)	(\$ 131,747)			

--- Agenda --- Item

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2014 Roland Eastwood Planner of
the Year Award Recipient

8b

8b

9

Staff Summaries

9

9

Agenda Item

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Grant Activity Sheet (Information Only)

9a

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SWFRPC Grant Summary As Of 1-6-15

#	Agency	Type	Awarded	Funding Agency	Project Mgr.	Project Name	LOI Due Date	LOI Date Submitted	App Due Date	Date Submitted	Date Awarded/Denied	Project Total	RPC Amt	Start Date	End Date	Deliverables	Total Match Amt- RPC
1	SWFRPC	PO	Yes	TBRPC - Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council	Rebekah Harp	Tampa Bay RPC Graphics and Publications					10/21/2014			10/21/2014		As needed publication and graphic design, including FOR (Future of the Regions) award materials and annual report.	\$0.00
2	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency	Jim Beaver	WQFAM						\$160,000.00	\$160,000.00	10/1/2011	9/30/2015	Extention 2014-2015	
3	SWFRPC	Contract	Yes	Glades County	John Gibbons	SQG Glades						\$3,900.00	\$3,900.00	5/17/2011	7/1/2015		
4	SWFRPC	Contract	Yes	DOE - US Dept. of Energy	Rebekah Harp	Solar Ready II	1/24/2013	1/24/2013		3/22/2013	7/18/2013	\$140,000.00	\$90,000.00	7/1/2013	1/1/2016	Recruit local governments to review and adopt BMPs. Host stakeholder meetings and/or training programs, providing technical assistance to local governments as needed, and tracking any policy adoptions and local government feedback.	\$50,000.00
5	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency	Jim Beaver	A Unified Conservation Easement Mapping and Database for the State of Florida			4/15/2013	4/8/2013	6/3/2013	\$294,496.00	\$148,996.00	10/1/2013	9/30/2015	GIS database with Conservation Easements	\$145,500.00
6	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	EDA - US Economic Development Administration	Jennifer Pellechio	EDA Planning Grant			1/22/2013	12/18/2013	4/18/2014	\$270,000.00	\$189,000.00	1/1/2014	12/31/2016	CEDS Plan, Annual Reports, CEDS Working Committee	\$81,000.00
7	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	EDA - US Economic Development Administration	Jennifer Pellechio	Advanced Manufacturing in West Central Florida An Ecosystem Analysis Supporting Regional Development				12/26/2013	9/3/2014	\$116,514.00	\$58,257.00			SWOT Analysis, Web Survey, REMI, Regional website, branding strategy, brochures	\$30,584.45
8	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	Visit Florida	Margaret Wuerstle	Our Creative Economy: Video - Southwest Florida Regional Strategy for Public Art			2/18/2014	2/18/2014	5/14/2014	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	7/1/2014	5/31/2015		\$5,000.00
9	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	EPA/CHNEP - Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program	Jim Beaver	Identifying Future Saltwater Wetland Loss			4/4/2014	4/4/2014		\$243,324.00	\$60,000.00			Report, transect information, presentations, articles	\$63,800.00
10	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Margaret Wuerstle	Agriculture Tours to Promote Assets and Economic Development in the City of LaBelle			6/6/2014	5/7/2014	8/26/2014	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00	12/1/2014	5/31/2015	City of LaBelle Agriculture Tour Plan	\$0.00
11	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	CTD - FL Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged	Nichole Gwinnett	Glades-Hendry TD Planning Agreement FY2014-15					5/16/2014	\$38,573.00	\$38,573.00	7/1/2014	6/30/2015	Update of TDSP, CTC Evaluation, Staff Support, LCB Quarterly Meetings, Committee Meetings, Update By-Laws and Grievance Procedures.	\$0.00
12	SWFRPC	Contract	Yes	DEM - FL Div. of Emergency Management	John Gibbons	Title III (LEPC) FY14-15			7/1/2014		7/1/2014	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00	7/1/2014	6/30/2015	LEPC Program Coordination; attendance during four (4) local quarterly meetings; attendance during four (4) state quarterly meetings; quarterly reports; quarterly news articles/updates; annual LEPC plan update; industry compliance support; housing of chemical data, meeting minutes; exercise coordination; publishing of public availability notice; etc .	\$0.00
13	SWFRPC	Contract	Yes	DEM - FL Div. of Emergency Management	John Gibbons	HMEP Planning Grant (Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness)			7/1/2014		6/1/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	7/1/2014	11/15/2014	Major Planning Project; travel coordination for LEPC Chairman; LEPC program coordination and quarterly reports.	\$0.00
14	SWFRPC	PO	Yes	NEFRC - Northeast Florida Regional Council	Tim Walker	Small Area Data for the 2014 Statewide Hurricane Evacuation Plan						\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	7/1/2014	12/12/2014	Data	
15	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	City of Bonita Springs	Jim Beaver	Spring Creek Restoration Plan					8/27/2014	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	9/1/2014	9/30/2015	The Spring Creek Vulnerability Assessment and The Spring Creek Restoration Plan	\$0.00
16	SWFRPC	Grant	Yes	DEM - FL Div. of Emergency Management	John Gibbons	HMEP Training FY13-14					7/1/2014	\$47,963.00	\$47,963.00	7/1/2014	11/15/2014	Training Exercises	\$0.00
17	SWFRPC	Grant	To Be Submitted	FDOT - Florida Department of Transportation	Jennifer Pellechio	Florida Highway Beautification Grant - City of Clewiston			10/1/2015								
18	RC&DC	Grant	To Be Submitted	The Energy Foundation	Rebekah Harp	Solar GIS Website										GIS website designed to help citizens estimate potential benefits and costs of installing solar panels at specific locations across the SWFRPC region.	

SWFRPC Grant Summary As Of 1-6-15

#	Agency	Type	Awarded	Funding Agency	Project Mgr.	Project Name	LOI Due Date	LOI Date Submitted	App Due Date	Date Submitted	Date Awarded/Denied	Project Total	RPC Amt	Start Date	End Date	Deliverables	Total Match Amt- RPC
19	SWFRPC	Grant	To Be Submitted	NEA - National Endowment for the Arts	Margaret Wuerstle	Our Creative Economy - A Regional Strategy for Southwest Florida's Public Art and Cultural Venues			1/13/2015			\$400,000.00	\$200,000.00			• Asset Mapping • A Regional Strategy for Enhancing Public Art: A SWOT • Southwest Florida's Public Art and Cultural Venues Field and Tour Guide	\$113,472.00
20	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	NEH - National Endowment for the Humanities	Jay McLeod	ZombiCon: Dying for the Arts			8/13/2014	8/13/2014		\$75,000.00	\$45,000.00			Film Script/Storyline developed, in collaboration with humanities scholars.	\$0.00
21	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	Atilus, LLC	Rebekah Harp	RC&DC Website			9/30/2014	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00			New website, 2-year hosting, Adwords setup, and BoardMa tool (50 licenses).	
22	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	Dreyfus Foundation - The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation	Beth Nightingale	"Our Creative Economy - A Regional Strategy for Southwest Florida Public Art, Festivals and Cultural Venues"	11/10/2014	11/10/2014				\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00			1. complete the Lee County public art descriptions (name of artist, year of creation, material, and significance); 2. provide QR Codes for Lee County's public art assets which will drive traffic to the Guide and direct users to other public art assets and venues; and 3. Create and promote a photo share site to encourage making art (photography) from art (public art assets and venues).	\$0.00
23	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	The Awesome Foundation	Barbara Hawkes	2015 Zombicon Festival: Documentary Video			10/15/2014	10/2/2014						WGPU Public Media, an affiliate of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), in Fort Myers, FL will create a documentary regarding the ZombiCon festival.	
24	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	Bloomberg Philanthropies	Margaret Wuerstle	Painting with Sunlight			12/15/2014	12/15/2014		\$1,275,000.00	\$900,000.00			Each of the six host cities will be provided an application that is unique to their site. The project highlights new opportunities for renewable energy by using solar energy to highlight and promote the arts.	\$61,875.00
25	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	Rauschenberg/SWFLA Community Foundation	Jennifer Pellechio	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Veronica S. Shoemaker Blvd Corridors Retail Market Analysis and			1/6/2015	1/6/2015		\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00			TBD	\$0.00
26	SWFRPC		Pending	FDEP - FL Dept. of Environmental Protection	Jim Beever	Resilient and Consistent Coastal Elements for Florida's Gulf Coast (RESTORE)			1/7/2013	1/7/2013		\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00				
27	SWFRPC		Pending	FDEP - FL Dept. of Environmental Protection	Jim Beever	Environmental Services Provided by the Gulf of Mexico			1/7/2013	1/7/2013		\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00				
28	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	FDEP - FL Dept. of Environmental Protection	Margaret Wuerstle	Implement agriculture BMP in the Caloosahatchee Watershed				4/12/2013		\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00			Grants to growers to implement BMP. Anticipated to assist 20 growers /year for six years or 120 growers	
29	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency	Dottie Cook	Southwest Florida Brownfields Coalition			12/19/2014	12/19/2014		\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00				\$0.00
30	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	Artplace America	Beth Nightingale	Artplace Creative Placemaking	11/3/2014	10/29/2014	3/1/2015							Print and online directories of public art.	
31	SWFRPC	Grant	Pending	USDA - US Dept. of Agriculture	Dottie Cook	Southwest Florida Rural Promise Zone	10/17/2014	10/14/2014	11/21/2014	11/21/2014		\$0.00	\$0.00			Rural designation of a Promise Zone for Immokalee in Collier County, Glades County, and Hendry County	\$0.00
32	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	Sunoco Foundation	Barbara Hawkes	Safety Training for Agriculture-Related Staff (STARS)	Open	10/23/2014				\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00			Eligibility Quiz. Letter of Inquiry (LOI) - If LOI reflects the Foundation's priorities, you will be asked to complete a full application.	
33	SWFRPC	Contract	Pending	NACo - National Association of Counties	Jennifer Pellechio	NACo County Prosperity Summit			10/3/2014	10/3/2014		\$0.00	\$0.00			Summit	\$0.00
34	RC&DC	Grant	Pending	Southwest Florida Community Foundation	Margaret Wuerstle	SWFRPC & RC&DC Collaboration			9/30/2014	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			Provide information to the non-profit community about collaborative models that have succeeded in our area and to share proven effective practices for non-profits working together.	\$0.00
35	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Jennifer Pellechio	Economic Development Plan for Immokalee				10/22/2014	10/1/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			TBD	\$0.00
67	SWFRPC	Grant	No	Elizabeth Dole Foundation	Margaret Wuerstle	Homeless Veterans Camp			10/15/2013	9/9/2013	1/1/2014	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00			Maps of camp locations and documentation of number of homeless veterans	\$0.00
68	SWFRPC	Grant	No	NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Jim Beever	The effects of sea level rise on Total Ecosystem Services Value (TEV) in Southwest Florida	9/10/13	9/10/13	11/14/2013	11/13/2013	5/8/2014	\$208,245.74	\$200,245.74			TEV valuation of southwest Florida in existing and future climate change scenarios	

SWFRPC Grant Summary As Of 1-6-15

#	Agency	Type	Awarded	Funding Agency	Project Mgr.	Project Name	LOI Due Date	LOI Date Submitted	App Due Date	Date Submitted	Date Awarded/Denied	Project Total	RPC Amt	Start Date	End Date	Deliverables	Total Match Amt-RPC
69	SWFRPC	Grant	No	The KEEN Effect	Margaret Wuerstle	Hendry County Big "O" Birding Extravaganza			12/6/2013	12/6/2013	1/14/2014	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00				\$4,000.00
70	SWFRPC	Grant	No	EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency	Jennifer Pellechio	FY14 Brownfields Assessment Grant			1/22/2014	1/22/2014	5/28/2014	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00				\$0.00
71	SWFRPC	Grant	No	NEA - National Endowment for the Arts	Margaret Wuerstle	Our Creative Economy - A Regional Strategy for Southwest Florida's Public Art and Cultural Venues			1/13/2014	1/13/2014		\$400,000.00	\$200,000.00			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Asset Mapping •Regional Strategy for Enhancing Public Art: A SWOT •Southwest Florida's Public Art and Cultural Venues Field and Tour Guide 	\$113,472.00
72	SWFRPC	Grant	No	EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency	John Gibbons	Environmental Job Training for dislocated workers and veterans with employable job skills			2/13/2014	2/13/2014	5/12/2014		\$200,000.00			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Cooperative Agreement Application required •Finalized Budget and Work Plan •Progress Reports •Data Registration electronically •Final Report require 	
73	RC&DC	Grant	No	PNC Foundation	Margaret Wuerstle	Our Creative Economy: A Regional Strategy for Enhancing Public Arts and Cultural Venues				3/14/2014	7/1/2014	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00			A field guide to the public art of Charlotte County.	\$10,000.00
74	RC&DC	Grant	No	Presbyterian Committee	Margaret Wuerstle	A Nutritional Oasis for Marginalized Individuals	Open	2/11/14			8/15/2014	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
75	SWFRPC	Grant	No	EDA - US Economic Development Administration	Jennifer Pellechio	SWFRPC, TBRPC, SFRPC Medical Corridor Initiative			4/14/2014	6/1/2014		\$0.00	\$0.00			Designation	\$0.00
76	RC&DC	Grant	No	Seeds of Change	Margaret Wuerstle	Fort Myers Nutritional Oasis in the Food Deserts	3/31/14	3/18/14			4/23/2014					Training of fifteen individuals to grow produce in the existing community garden.	
77	RC&DC	Grant	No	USDA - US Dept. of Agriculture	Margaret Wuerstle	Mobile Market: A Nutritional Oasis for Food Markets of SWFL			3/31/2014	3/31/2014	10/1/2014	\$599,549.00	\$298,605.00	10/1/2014	9/30/2017	Education Plan	
78	SWFRPC	Grant	No	USDA - US Dept. of Agriculture	Nichole Gwinnett	Opportunity Buy Program Coordinator			4/30/2014	4/30/2014	12/1/2014	\$195,979.00	\$99,848.00			A part-time employee will be assigned to develop and coordinate this program over a two year period. After the program is implemented and stable, it will be turned over to the school districts for their continued usage.	\$42,510.00
79	RC&DC	Grant	No	USDA - US Dept. of Agriculture	Rebekah Harp	The Smart Process Food Hub			4/30/2014	4/30/2014	12/1/2014	\$139,457.00	\$98,729.00			Host regional stakeholder meeting; hire and train two food service processors; secure warehouse rental space; distributing food from HUB to school districts; and completion of project - self sustaining.	\$25,728.00
80	SWFRPC	Grant	No	USDOT - US Dept. of Transportation	Margaret Wuerstle	Public/Private Regional Transportation Connectivity Plan			4/28/2014	4/25/2014	9/12/2014	\$1,378,476.00	\$1,148,476.00			Public/Private Regional Transportation Connectivity Plan	\$70,000.00

SWFRPC Grant Summary As Of 1-6-15

#	Agency	Type	Awarded	Funding Agency	Project Mgr.	Project Name	LOI Due Date	LOI Date Submitted	App Due Date	Date Submitted	Date Awarded/Denied	Project Total	RPC Amt	Start Date	End Date	Deliverables	Total Match Amt- RPC
81	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Jennifer Pellechio	The Zoning Mapping Project - Hendry County			6/6/2014	5/6/2014	8/29/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			<p>This project will update the framework for zoning in Hendry County. The concept is to enhance the existing database and update all parcels with 2015 data, incorporating over 35K parcels depicting specific development as it relates to zoning classification in Hendry County.</p> <p>The County is regulated by the Zoning Ordinance, which controls the overall scale and use of buildings throughout the county. Hendry's zoning is a reflection of ongoing planning work, which helps to guide future growth in the county.</p> <p>The result will be a tangible geodatabase that Hendry County can utilize to create economies of scale in order provide seamless customer service. Immediately, they will share the data sets amongst the county departments and other agencies to the goal to host all maps electronically in the future.</p>	\$0.00
82	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Margaret Wuerstle	OUR CREATIVE ECONOMY -- Asset Mapping			6/6/2014	5/9/2014	9/9/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			A field guide to the Public Art in both electronic and print media.	\$0.00
83	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DOE - US Dept. of Energy	Jennifer Pellechio	Solar Market Pathways			5/21/2014	5/20/2014	6/18/2014						\$20,000.00
84	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Jennifer Pellechio	SWFL - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Incorporates Economic Resiliency			6/6/2014	6/5/2014	9/9/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00		5/31/2015	<p>This project will create an in-depth study analysis based on the federal change requirements to the document incorporating economic vulnerabilities as it related to jobs and employers. The outcome of the integrated technical assistance would be a general framework for considering economic resilience in the CEDS for Southwest Florida.</p> <p>The project would build upon the national model by creating "Resiliency Specific Action Plans" to address the top economic vulnerabilities and strengthen economic resilience. These would include specific economic diversification strategies and projects.</p>	\$0.00
85	RC&DC	Grant	No	USDA - US Dept. of Agriculture	Nichole Gwinnett	Fort Myers Food Desert Farmer's Market			6/20/2014	6/19/2014	9/29/2014	\$97,792.00	\$97,792.00			<p>1. Establish a year-round daily farm stand and weekend Farmer's Market offering affordable, fresh, local produce.</p> <p>2. Support farmers, food producers and value added vendors with training and workshops and provide opportunities for independent entrepreneurs.</p> <p>3. Expand the access of the residents of the surrounding food desert to locally grown and produced food and encourage consumption of nutritious, fresh foods.</p>	\$0.00
86	SWFRPC	Contract	No	Alliance	Rebekah Harp	Consulting Services for Website Development and Maintenance			6/11/2014	6/11/2014		\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00			To maintain the stability of your site, the Alliance would receive dedicated technical support during development, testing, and launch; ongoing assistance with site maintenance; and solution monitoring and customer support.	\$0.00
87	SWFRPC	Grant	No	Florida Humanities Council	Jennifer Pellechio	Develop and refine the Art Field Guide and online Map Viewer for Lee County	7/1/14	7/1/14	8/6/2014		7/2/2014	\$15,000.00					
88	RC&DC	Grant	No	Bank of America	Beth Nightingale	OUR CREATIVE ECONOMY - A Regional Strategy for SW Florida Public Art and Cultural Venues			9/15/2014	9/12/2014	12/16/2014	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00				\$0.00

SWFRPC Grant Summary As Of 1-6-15

#	Agency	Type	Awarded	Funding Agency	Project Mgr.	Project Name	LOI Due Date	LOI Date Submitted	App Due Date	Date Submitted	Date Awarded/Denied	Project Total	RPC Amt	Start Date	End Date	Deliverables	Total Match Amt-RPC
89	RC&DC	Grant	No	Fidelity Foundation	Beth Nightingale	Our Creative Economy - Sarasota County (Sponsorship)				9/24/2014	10/9/2014	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00				\$0.00
90	SWFRPC	Grant	No	DEO - FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity	Margaret Wuerstle	City of Clewiston - Sector Plans and Developments of Regional Impact Database and Website				9/12/2014	12/19/2014	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			Technical Assessment, Final Website, Final Geodatabase	\$0.00
91	SWFRPC		No	John S. and James L. Knight Foundation	Barbara Hawkes	The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council's Retrospective Digital Historical Challenge Archive	9/30/2014	9/25/2014			10/21/2014					Application refined October 21-28, 2014	\$0.00
92	RC&DC	Grant	No	Fidelity Foundation	Margaret Wuerstle	Our Creative Economy - Collier County		9/17/2014			10/1/2014	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00				\$0.00

Agenda Item

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Consent Agenda

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CONSENT AGENDA SUMMARY

Agenda Item #10(a) - Intergovernmental Coordination and Review

There were four clearinghouse items reviewed during the months of November and December. There are currently five projects under review.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Approve the administrative action on the Clearinghouse Review items.

Agenda Item #10(b) - Glades-Hendry Joint Service Area TD Program Membership Certification

Pursuant to Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, Rule 41-2, *Florida Administrative Code*, and at the request of the respective counties, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program in Glades County and in Hendry County, which is now a joint service area. As the Planning Agency, the Council is responsible for the appointment of members to serve on the Local Coordinating Board.

The individuals listed below have been recommended to serve on the Local Coordinating Board. The Planning Agency must certify the Local Coordinating Board membership each fiscal year and any time the Local Coordinating Board membership changes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Appoint and Rescind the following:
 - A. Appoint **Michael Carter** as the member agency representative representing the Public Education Community.
 - B. Re-appoint **Gordon Bryant** for his second 3-year term representing the local Veterans Service Office.
 - C. Appoint **Fred Richards** as the member agency representative representing the Florida Association for Community Action.

- D. Rescind **Tony Howard** as the member representing the disabled in the county due to the lack of participation.
 - E. Rescind both **Patricia Webber** and **Debbie Howell** as Citizen Advocates in the County due to the lack of participation.
 - F. Appoint **Rebecca Meeler** as representing the Workforce Development Board.
 - G. Reappoint **Mary Bartoshuk** for her second 3-year term representing the Local Medical Community.
 - H. Make additional appointments that may be announced.
2. Authorize the Chairman to endorse the LCB certification form for the LCB provided in Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve consent agenda as presented.

01/2015

--- Agenda --- Item

10a

Intergovernmental
Coordination & Review

10a

10a

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 November 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014.

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 FDEP-State Clearinghouse in Tallahassee.

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

01/2015

ICR Council - 2014

SWFRPC #	Name1	Name2	Location	Project Description	Funding Agent	Funding Amount	Council Comments
2014-30	J. Corbett Alday	Guardian Community Resource	Collier County	Habitat for Humanity of Collier County, Inc. - Legacy Lakes Subdivision - CDBG Grant #B-14-UC-12-0016 in Collier County.	HUD	\$7,000,000.00	Not Regionally Significant and Consistent
2014-31	Marco A. Espinar	Collier Environmental Consultants, Inc.	Collier County	Boys & Girls Club of Collier County - CDBG - NEPA Environmental Review.	HUD		Not Regionally Significant and Consistent
2014-33	J. Corbett Alday	Guardian Community Resource	Collier County	Guardian Community Resource Management, Inc. - Bayshore Gateway Triangle CRA - Karen Drive Drainage Improvements - CDBG DRI Grant # 10DB-D4-09-21-01-K09 in Collier County.			Less Than Regionally Significant and Consistent"
2014-34	J. Corbett Alday	Guardian Community Resource	Collier County	Guardian Community Resource Management, Inc. - Bayshore Gateway Triangle CRA - Pineland Avenue Stormwater Improvements - CDBG DRI Grant # 10DB-D4-09-21-01-K09 in Collier County.			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>
2014-05			Charlotte County	EPA - State Revolving Funds - Charlotte County Utilities - The East and West Spring Lake Wastewater Pilot Program."			Review in Progress
2014-17			Lee County	FDEP JCP Application (#0200269-009-JC) for the Captiva and Sanibel Islands Renourishment Project in Lee County.			Review in Progress
2014-18			Sarasota County	FDEP JCP Application #0240984-001-JC - South Siesta Key Beach Restoration Project - Phase 2 in Sarasota County.			Review in Progress
2014-20			Lee County	FDEP - Collier 26-4 Well in Lee County. Permit #1360			Review in Progress
2014-32			Collier County	Department of the Army, Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers – Draft Environmental Assessment, Design Refinements for the Picayune Strand Restoration Project – Collier County, Florida.			Review in Progress

--- Agenda --- Item

10b

Glades-Hendry Joint Service Area TD
Program Membership Certification

10b

10b

MEMBER APPOINTMENTS AND CERTIFICATION FOR THE GLADES AND HENDRY COUNTY JOINT LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

Pursuant to Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, Rule 41-2, *Florida Administrative Code*, and at the request of the respective counties, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program in Glades County and in Hendry County, which is now a joint service area. As the Planning Agency, the Council is responsible for the appointment of members to serve on the Local Coordinating Board.

The individuals listed below have been recommended to serve on the Local Coordinating Board. The Certification form provided in **Attachment A** lists the full membership of the Joint Local Coordinating Board and highlights the new nominees' name or other changes in bold. The Planning Agency must certify the Local Coordinating Board membership each fiscal year and any time the Local Coordinating Board membership changes.

Nominations and applications

Council staff is pursuing nominees to fill existing vacancies on the Local Coordinating Board. Staff may provide additional nominations at the Board meeting. Staff has received assurances from the respective County Commissioners representing the Local Coordinating Board that the appointment process is satisfactory.

About the Local Coordinating Board

The Glades-Hendry Joint Local Coordinating Board typically meets quarterly to guide the functioning of the CTC, Good Wheels, Inc. The next LCB meeting will be held on **March 4, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.** at Janet B. Taylor Auditorium in Clewiston.

The Local Coordinating Board is established to oversee the appointed Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC), in its role of coordinating the provision of transportation service. Some of the basic duties of the Board include:

- 1) Develop, review and approve the annual Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP), including the Memorandum of Agreement, prior to its submittal to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD);
- 2) In cooperation with the CTC, the Board shall review and provide recommendations to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged on funding applications affecting the transportation disadvantaged;
- 3) Review the coordination strategies of service provision to the transportation disadvantaged in the designated service area;
- 4) Conduct the required annual evaluation of the CTC.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Appoint and Rescind the following:
 - A. Appoint **Michael Carter** as the member agency representative representing the Public Education Community.
 - B. Re-appoint **Gordon Bryant** for his second 3-year term representing the local Veterans Service Office.
 - C. Appoint **Fred Richards** as the member agency representative representing the Florida Association for Community Action.
 - D. Rescind **Tony Howard** as the member representing the disabled in the county due to the lack of participation.
 - E. Rescind both **Patricia Webber** and **Debbie Howell** as Citizen Advocates in the County due to the lack of participation.
 - F. Appoint **Rebecca Meeler** as representing the Workforce Development Board.
 - G. Reappoint **Mary Bartoshuk** for her second 3-year term representing the Local Medical Community.
 - H. Make additional appointments that may be announced.
2. Authorize the Chairman to endorse the LCB certification form for the LCB provided in Attachment A.

GLADES-HENDRY COUNTY JOINT LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION

Planning Agency Name: Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council; 1926 Victoria Ave.; Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Glades-Hendry County Joint Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), *FAC*, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: January 15, 2015
 SWFRPC Chairperson

	The Glades-Hendry LCB has a Representative of:	Voting Member	Term Expires	Alternate Member	Term Expires
1	The MPO or DOPA shall appoint one elected official to serve as the official Chairperson for all Coordinating Board meetings.	Donna Storter-Long (Vice-Chair)	December 2015	Janet Taylor (Chair) Darrell Harris (Alternate to Vice-Chair)	December 2016
2	A. A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT)	Debi Stephens	Agency	Richard Shine	Agency
3	B. A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)	Aaron Stitt	Agency	(Vacant)	Agency
4	C. A local representative of the Public Education Community which could include, but not be limited to, a representative of the District School Board, School Board Transportation Office, or Headstart Program in areas where the School District is responsible	Michael Carter	Agency	Garry Ensor	Agency

	The Glades-Hendry LCB has a Representative of:	Voting Member	Term Expires	Alternate Member	Term Expires
5	D. In areas where they exist, a local representative of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services or the Division of Blind Services, representing the Department of Education	Victoria Aguilar	Agency	(Vacant)	Agency
6	E. A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office, representing Veterans of the county	Gordon E. Bryant	March 2017	(Vacant)	Agency
7	F. A person recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action representing the economically disadvantaged	Fred Richards	Agency	(Vacant)	Agency
8	G. A person over age 60 representing the Elderly in the county	Kristina Rodriquez	Agency	Bill Iffland	Agency
9	H. A person with a disability representing the disabled in the county	(Vacant)		(Vacant)	
10	I--1.[One of Two] Citizen Advocates in the County	Ron Stephens	May 2015	(Vacant)	
11	I--2. [One of two] Citizen Advocates this one must be a person who uses the transportation service(s) of the system as their primary means of transportation.	(Vacant)		(Vacant)	
12	J. A local representative for children at risk	Vanessa Fischel	Agency	Sherry Shupp	Agency
13	K. In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local Mass Transit or Public Transit System's Board, except in cases where they are also the Community Transportation Coordinator.	N/A		N/A	
14	L. A local representative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Theresa Davis	Agency	Angela Wood	Agency
15	M. An experienced representative of the local private for profit transportation industry. In areas where such representative is not available, a local private non-profit representative will be appointed, except where said representative is also the Community Transportation Coordinator	(Vacant)		(Vacant)	

	The Glades-Hendry LCB has a Representative of:	Voting Member	Term Expires	Alternate Member	Term Expires
16	N. A local representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Joe Martinez	Agency	Karen Brooks	Agency
17	O. A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board established in Chapter 445, <i>Florida Statutes</i>	Rebecca Meeler	Agency	Thais Kuoman	Agency
18	P. A representative of the local medical community, which may include, but not be limited to, kidney dialysis centers, long term care facilities, hospitals, local health department or other home and community based services, etc.	Mary Bartoshuk	March 2016	Nancy Acevedo	December 2016

Agenda Item

11

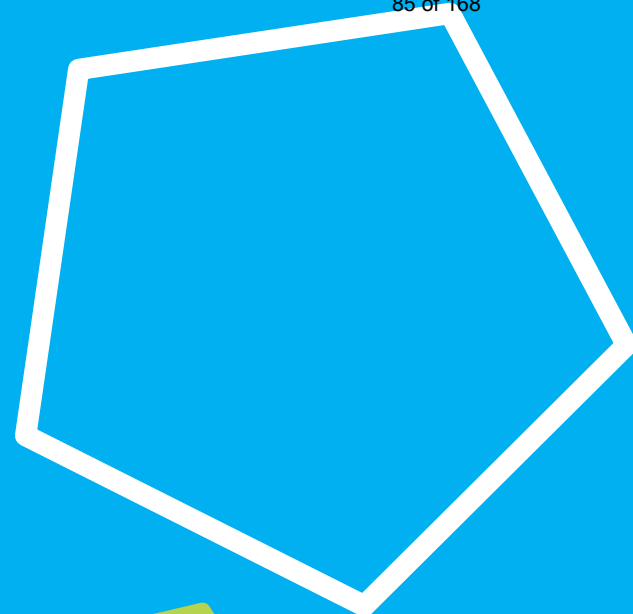
11

Regional Impact

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11

GROWTH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Funding for the reviews that Council will see today was funded through local Jurisdiction Dues and Applicant Fees.

EXPEDITED STATE REVIEW (ESR) PROCESS

Section 163.3184(3) and (5), F.S.

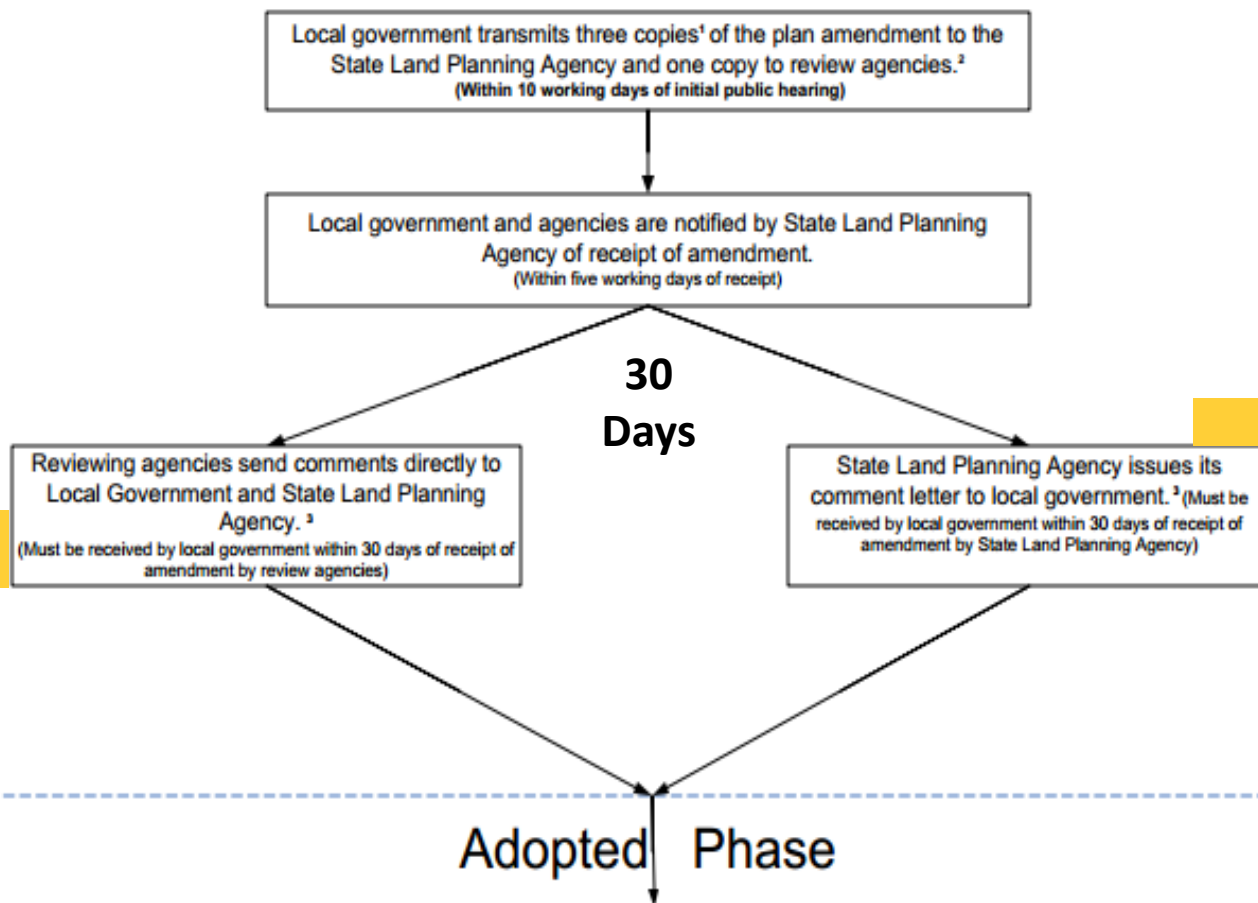
ESR applies to all comprehensive plan amendments except for small scale and state coordinated review amendments.

TWO PHASES:

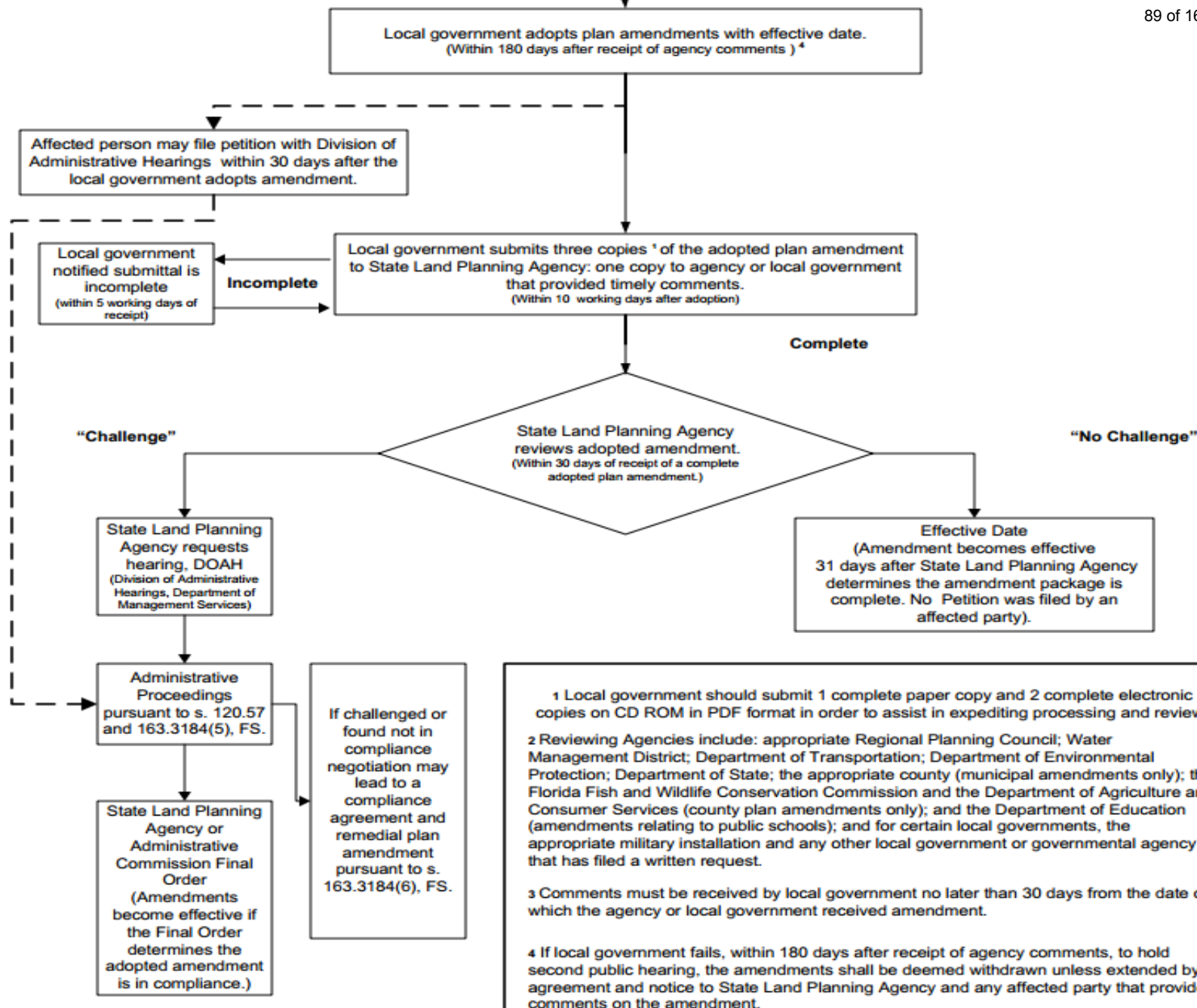
- 1. Proposed Phase** – Reviews Conducted
- 2. Adopted Phase** – Notification, Determination of Completeness
Waiting Period & Amendment Effective

Expedited State Review Amendment Process Section 163.3184(3) and (5), Florida Statutes

Proposed Phase



Adopted Phase



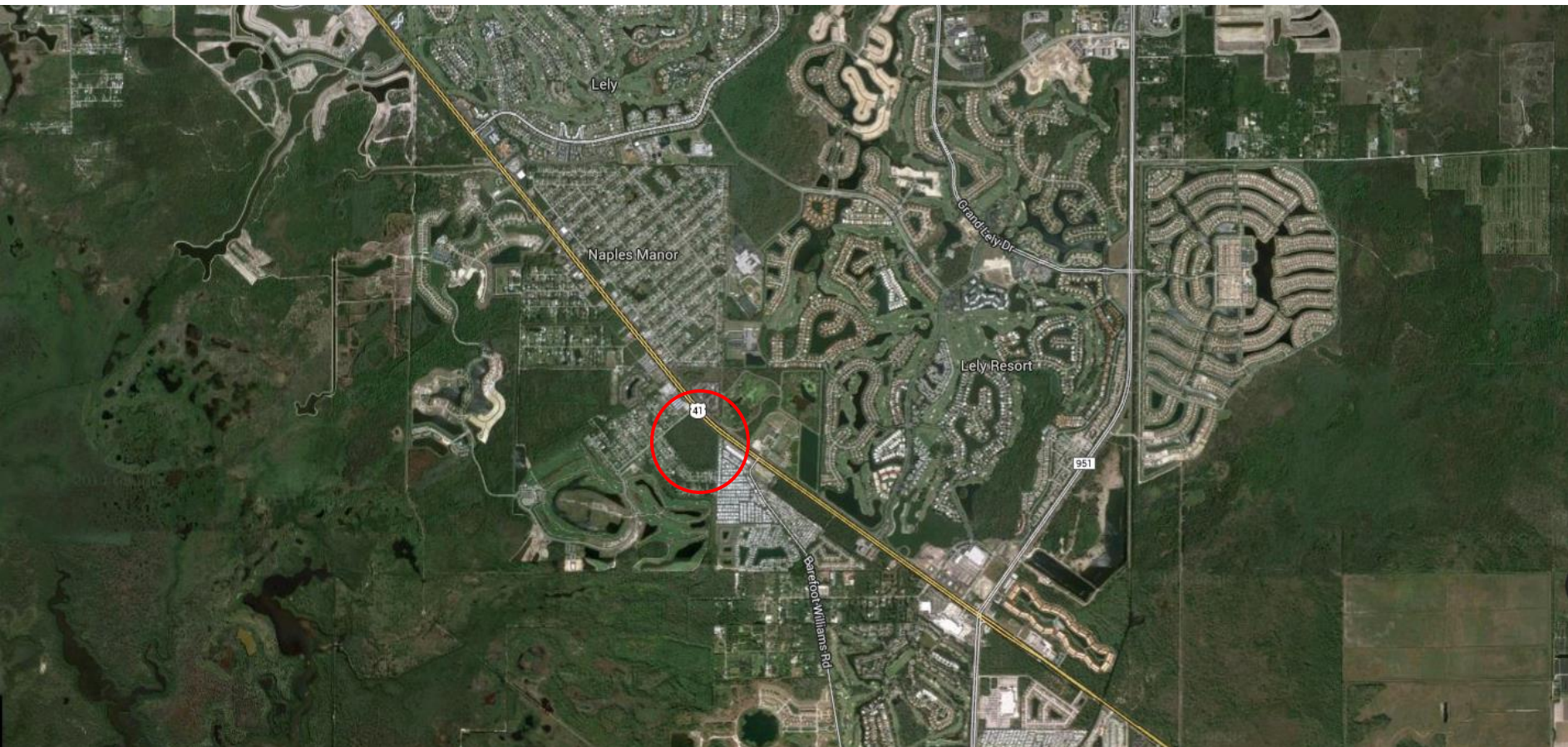
COMP PLAN AMENDMENTS



COLLIER COUNTY

DEO 14-5 ESR

Vincentian^{9 of 168} Mixed Use Sub- District



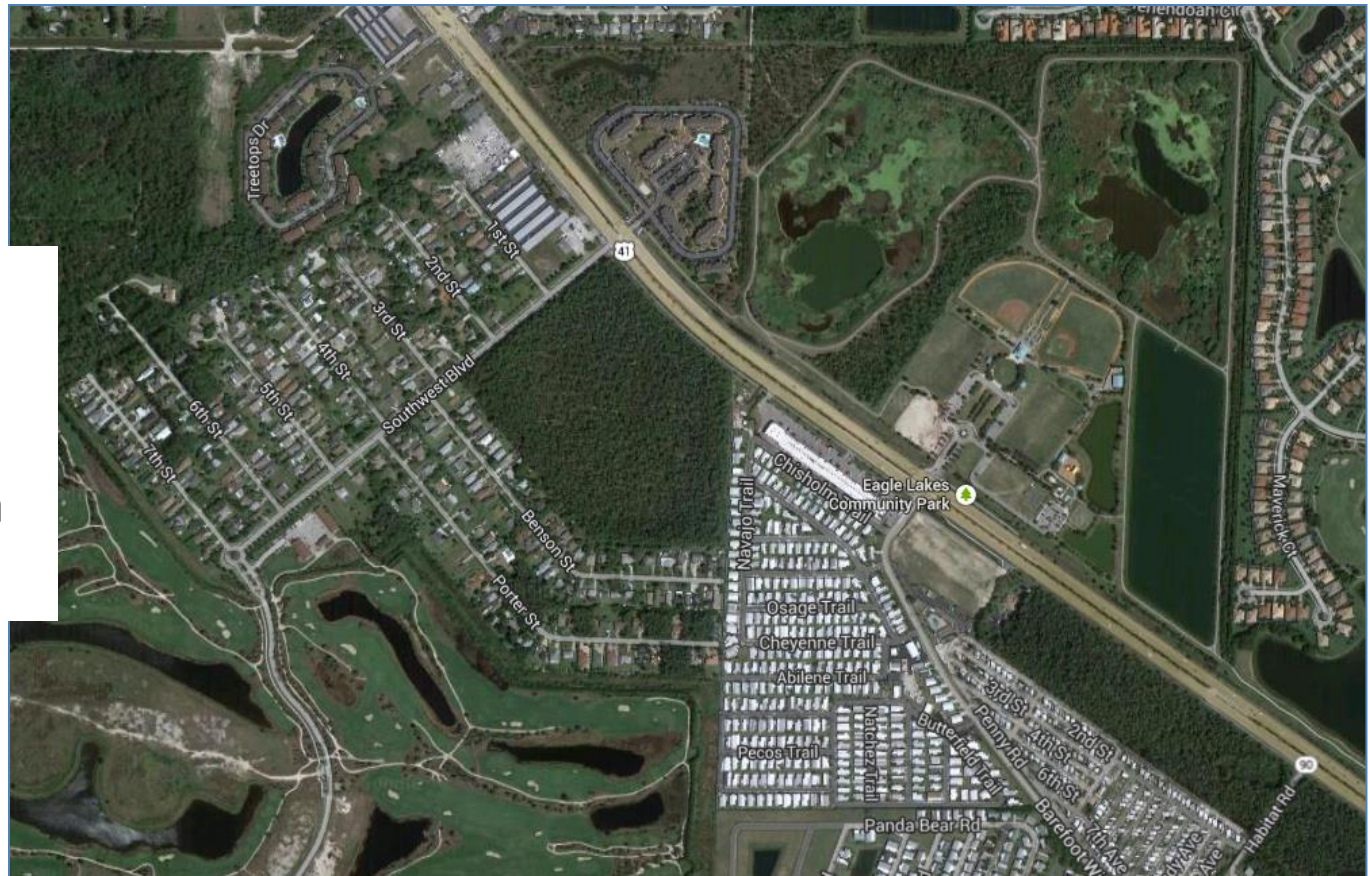
COLLIER COUNTY

DEO 14-5 ESR

Vincentian^{9 of 168}

Mixed Use Sub-District

The site is comprised of 30.7 undeveloped land, in the Coastal High Hazard Area.



COLLIER COUNTY

DEO 14-5 ESR

Vincentian Mixed Use Sub- District

Description:

Privately-initiated, requesting an amendment to re-designate the 30.7 acre subject site from the Urban Mixed Use District, Urban Coastal Fringe Sub-District to the **Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District**.

If adopted by the County, the amendment would allow the site to develop entirely as commercial (250,00 square feet and 150 unit hotel, and assisted living facility at 0.6 FAR), entirely as residential (224 dwelling units or 7.3 DU/A), or as a mixture of residential and commercial uses.

COLLIER COUNTY

DEO 14-5 ESR

Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District

Analysis:

- Does not significantly impact regional resources or facilities; not regionally significant; and flow ways are retained.
- Opportunity to encourage growth along a US 41 corridor, where any of the options for development; residential, commercial or mixed use, would benefit the county. Residential multi-family would bring needed workforce housing and commercial would bring better services to the surrounding communities.
- SFWMD has found no regionally significant water resource issues.

COLLIER COUNTY

DEO 14-5 ESR

Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District

Recommendation:

Council staff has found that the requested changes are not regionally significant in location, magnitude and character, and are consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Note: Collier County Emergency Management recommended that the developer provide a one-time contribution of a generator to mitigate impacts from hurricane evacuation concerns.

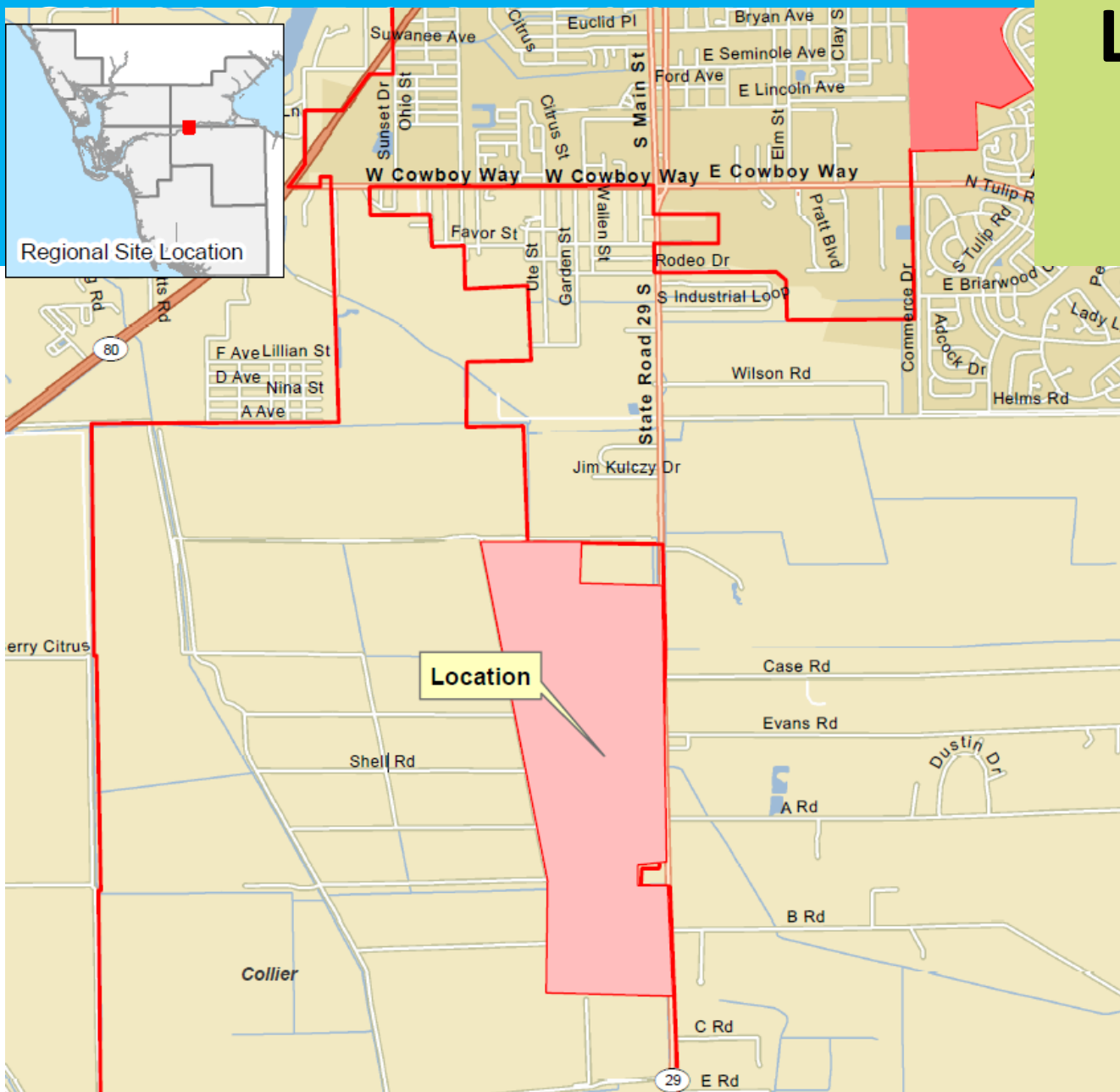
CITY OF LABELLE

DEO 15-1 ESR

Two amendments included in DEO 15-1 ESR

1. Private initiated City of LaBelle **Reso. 2014-21**
2. City initiated City of LaBelle **Reso. 2014-22**

LaBelle Reso. 2014-21



Site comprised of 650 acres with 1.75 miles of highway frontage.

Currently, the site is in agricultural use.

CITY OF LABELLE

DEO 15-1 ESR

LaBelle Reso. 2014-21

Description

- Large-Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment increasing the acreage of industrial lands within the South LaBelle Community Land Use designation.
- Amends the various land uses within the site from Urban Residential, Civic, Village Residential and Town Center in the South LeBelle Community to Commercial/Workplace, South LaBelle Community.
- Text revisions to comprehensive plan to address buffering, access, general industrial use and PUD exemption.

CITY OF LABELLE

DEO 15-1 ESR

LaBelle Reso. 2014-21

Analysis

Requested changes will not produce any significant impacts on the regional resources or regional facilities that are identified in the SRPP.

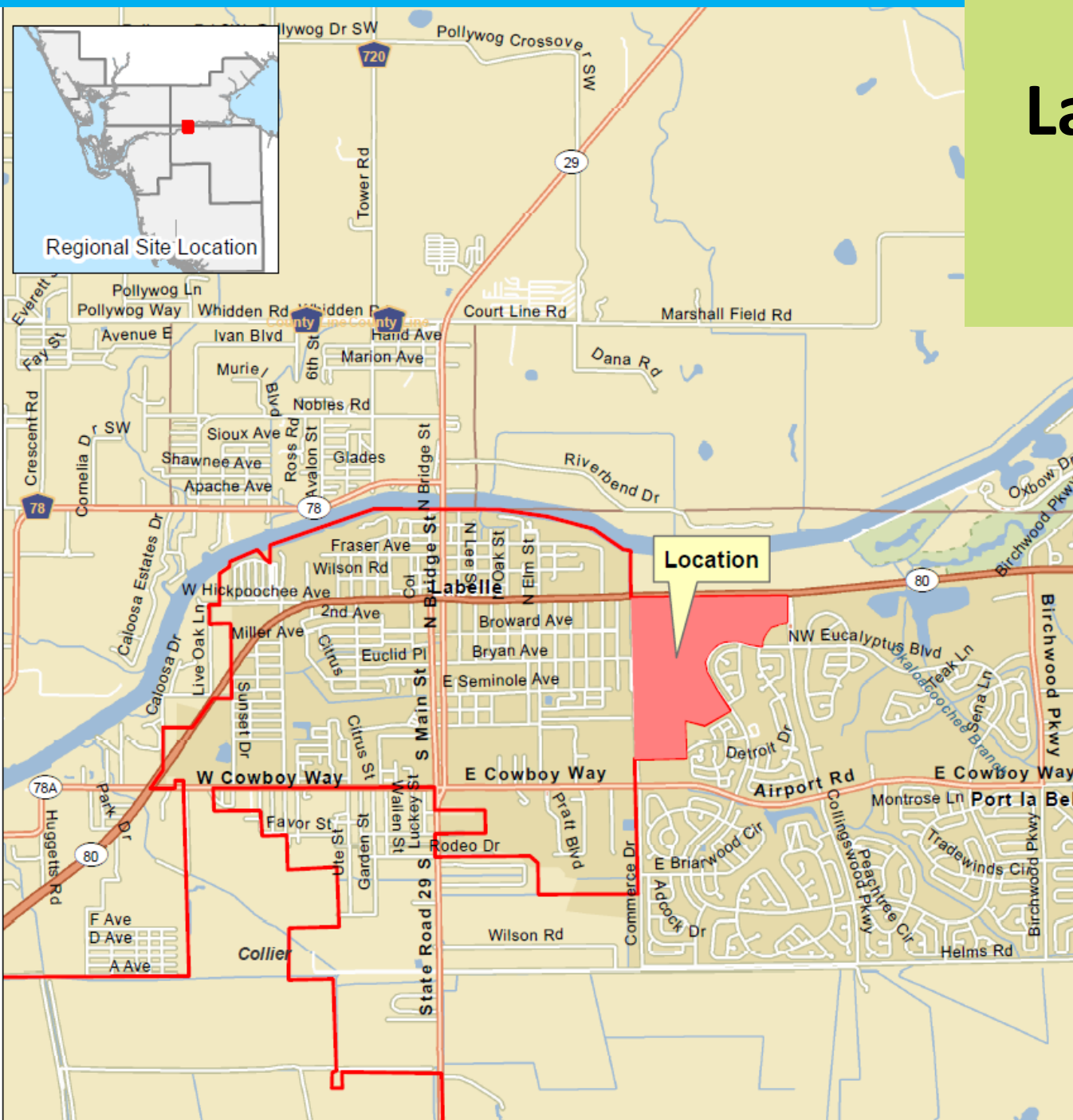
Some of the amendments proposed are procedural in nature.

Any increase in commercial and/or industrial intensity realized through this amendment would be balanced by the traditional slow growth of the city.

Recommend

Council staff has found that the requested changes are not regionally significant in location, magnitude and character, and are consistent with the SRPP.

LaBelle Reso. 2014-22



Site is comprised of
approximately 126
acres.

CITY OF LABELLE

DEO 15-1 ESR

LaBelle Reso. 2014-22

Description

- 16 acres is being developed as a sports complex by the Park & Recreation Board.
- 110 acres are in negotiations with the city & a private entity to develop the property as a public golf course with residential and commercial component.
- The amendment is to designate this parcel *as Outlying Mixed Use, sub-category Regional Center*, so as to allow for the privately-owned residential and commercial property as part of the overall site's development. (Current FLUE restricts these lands to have facilities that accommodate the public.)

CITY OF LABELLE

DEO 15-1 ESR

LaBelle Reso. 2014-22

Analysis

Requested changes will not produce any significant impacts on the regional resources or regional facilities that are identified in the SRPP.

Council staff supports the city's assessment that the scale of the development and the public recreational component will serve as an economic driver for the area.

Recommend

Council staff has found that the requested changes are not regionally significant in location, magnitude and character, and are consistent with the SRPP.

Agenda Item

11a

11a

Collier County Comprehensive Plan Amendment – DEO 14- 5ESR

11a

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS COLLIER COUNTY

The Council staff has reviewed proposed changes to the Collier County Growth Management Plan DEO 14-5ESR. The changes were developed as a result of the 2013 Cycle 3 Growth Management Plan amendments. 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>Location</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>		
		<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Consistent</u>
DEO 14-5ESR (CP-2013-10/ PL20130001767))	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 Economic Opportunity and Collier County.

Attachment I

COMMUNITY PLANNING 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 at any time during the calendar year. Six copies of the amendment are sent to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) 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.

The proposed amendments will be reviewed by DEO in two situations. In the first, there must be a written request to DEO. The request for review must be received within forty-five days after transmittal of the proposed amendment. Reviews 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, DEO can decide to review the proposed amendment without a request. In that case, DEO must give notice within thirty days of transmittal.

Within five working days after deciding to conduct a review, DEO may forward copies to various reviewing agencies, including the Regional Planning Council.

Regional Planning Council Review

The Regional Planning Council must submit its comments in writing within thirty days of receipt of the proposed amendment from DEO. 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.

After receipt of comments from the Regional Planning Council and other reviewing agencies, DEO has thirty days to conduct its own review and determine compliance with state law. Within that thirty-day period, DEO 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) FOR DETAILS.

Attachment II

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Collier County

DATE AMENDMENT RECIEVED:

November 12, 2014

DATE AMENDMENT MAILED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE:

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

Collier County Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District GMP

2. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT(S):

This petition was submitted by Collier County staff at the Board of County Commissioners direction to amend the County's Growth Management Plan (GMP). The amendment would change the, Future Land Use Element, and Future Land Use Map. The specific the change to the Collier County GMP follows.

Growth Management Plan Amendment (CP-2013-10) Future Land Use Element (FLUE) and the Future Land Use Map (FLUM)

This petition was submitted by Christopher Shucart, c/o Global Properties of Naples, LLC, and is requesting an amendment to the County's Future Land Use Element (FLUE) and Future Land Use Map (FLUM) to re-designate the 30.7 acre subject site from the Urban Mixed Use District, Urban Coastal Fringe Sub-District to the Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District.

The site is comprised of 30.7 undeveloped land, located South of US-41, East of Southwest Boulevard, West of the Hitching Post Mobile Home Park and North of a single family

subdivision. The existing land uses in the area immediately surrounding or directly opposite the site are predominately residential in nature.

The subject site will be served by Collier County Water District potable water treatment and distribution system, Collier County Sewer District wastewater collection and treatment system, and by Collier County Solid Waste Management.

If adopted by the County, the amendment would allow the site to develop entirely as commercial (250,00 square feet and 150 unit hotel, and assisted living facility at 0.6 FAR), entirely as residential (224 dwelling units or 7.3 DU/A), or as a mixture of residential and commercial uses. This amendment would allow new rights to the property which is located in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) to develop with residential density not presently allowed by the FLUE.

Council staff reviewed the proposed amendment request and found that the request was not regionally significant due to its lack of magnitude, location and character; that the proposed development would not substantially impact any regional resources or facilities; and that the proposed changes would not impact any adjacent jurisdiction. Staff further supports the recommendation of the Collier County Emergency Management to require that the developer provide a one-time contribution of a generator, meeting county specifications, to mitigate impacts from hurricane evacuation concerns.

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

The requested change to the GMP is determined by the Council staff to be consistent with the Goals of the SRPP. Council staff finds that the proposed amendment does not adversely affect any significant regional resources or facilities that are identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

4. EXTRA-JURISDICTIONAL IMPACTS INCONSISTENT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN THE REGION

Council staff has reviewed the proposed amendments with respect to extra-jurisdictional impacts on surrounding local government Comprehensive Plans and finds that the proposed amendment does not negatively impact and is not inconsistent with adjacent local governmental Comprehensive Plans.

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

Attachment III

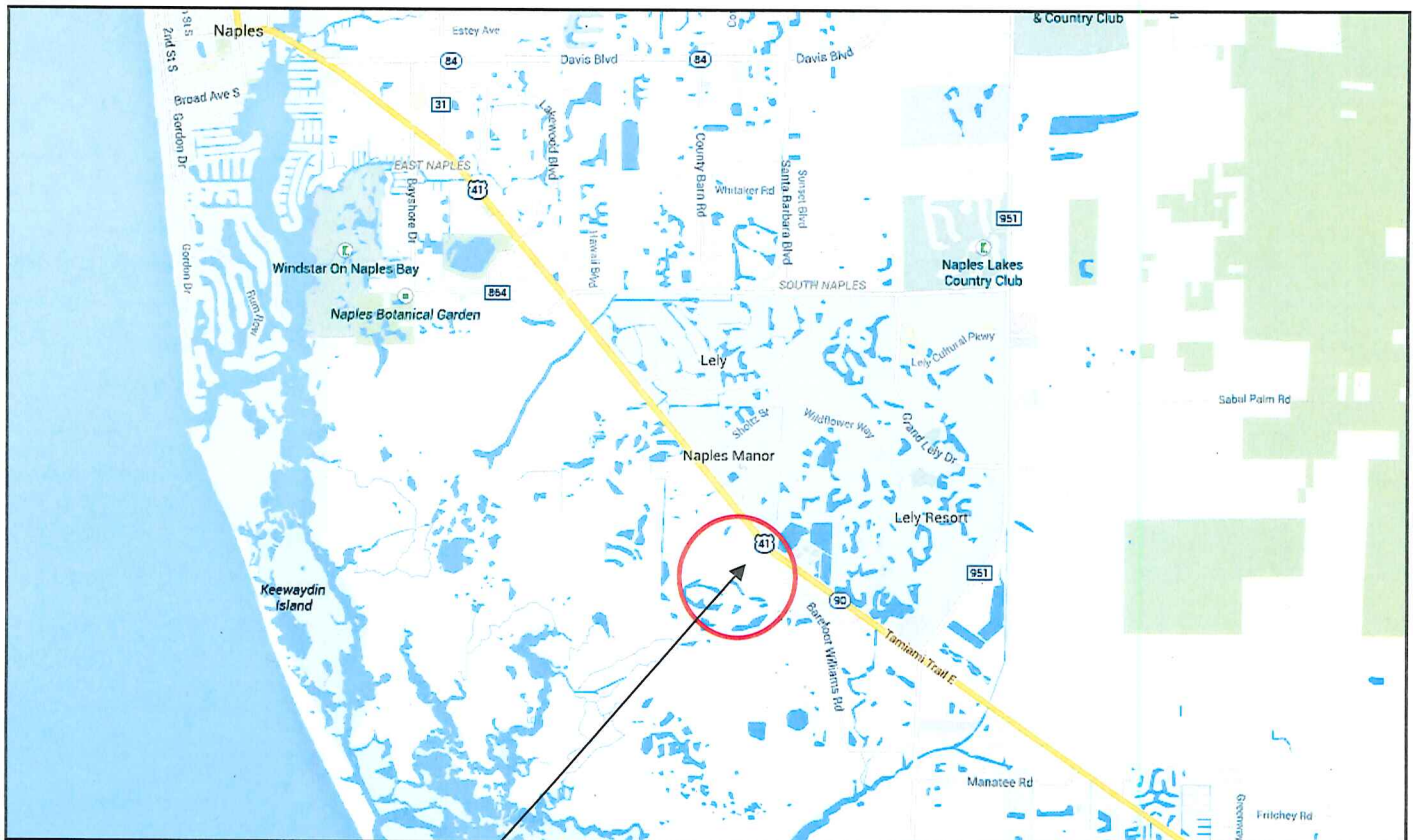
Maps

**Collier County
DEO 14-5 ESR**

**Growth Management Plan
Comprehensive Plan Amendment**

Attachment III

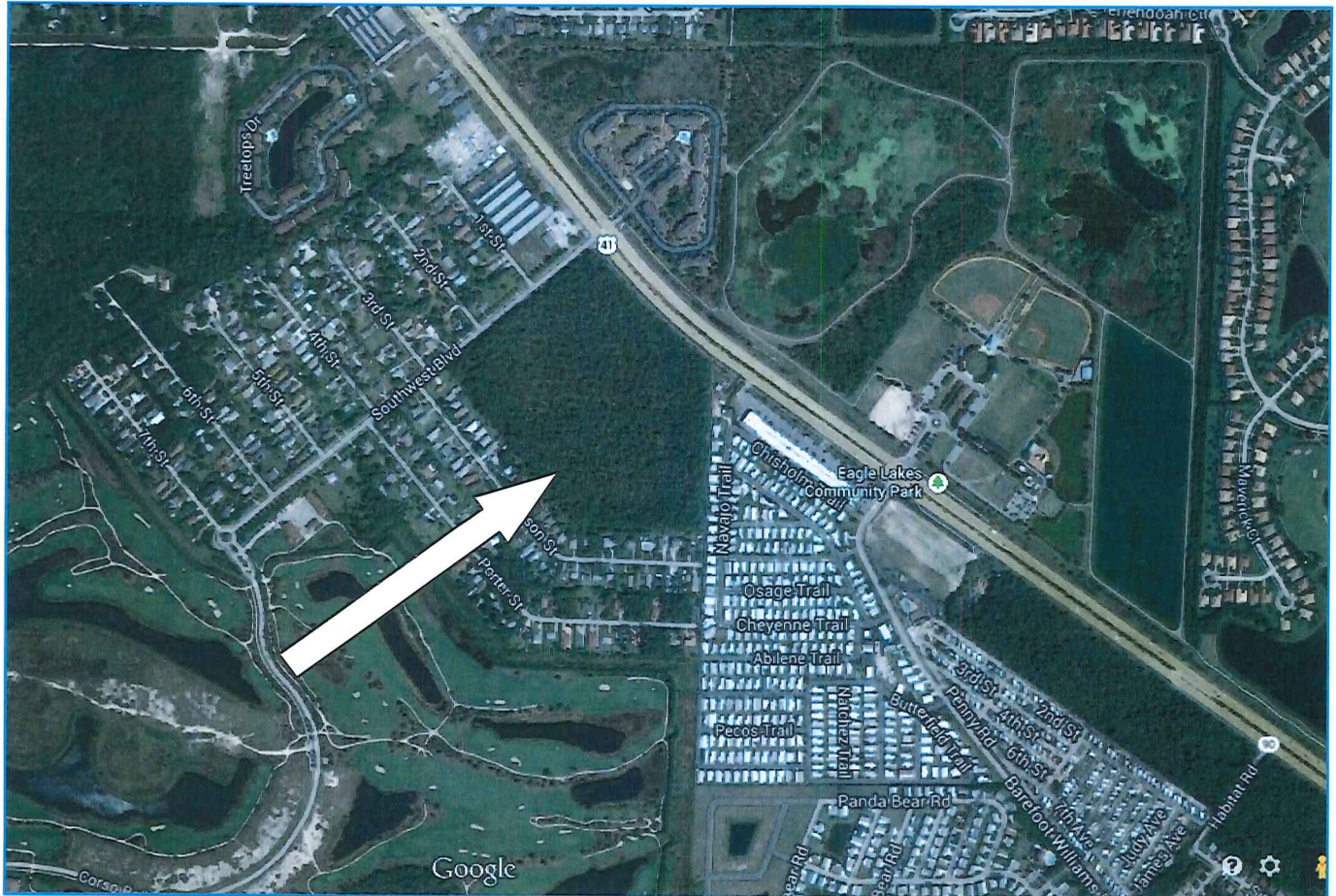
Collier County
DEO 14-5ESR



Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District

Attachment III

Collier County
DEO 14-5ESR



Vincentian Mixed Use Sub-District

Agenda Item

11b

11b

Hendry County Comprehensive Plan Amendments – DEO 15- 1ESR

11b

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS HENDRY COUNTY

The Council staff has reviewed proposed changes to the Hendry County Growth Management Plan (DEO 15-1ESR). 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>Location</u>	<u>Factors of Regional Significance</u>		
		<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Consistent</u>
Jack Paul Properties DEO 15-1ESR City of LeBelle Resolution No.2014-21	no	no	no	(1) procedural; (2) not regionally significant; and (3) consistent with SRPP
City-Initiated DEO 15-1ESR City of LeBelle Resolution No.2014-22	no	no	no	(1) procedural; (2) not regionally significant; and (3) consistent with SRPP

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

Attachment I

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

A local government may amend its plan at any time during the calendar year. Six copies of the amendment are sent to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) 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.

The proposed amendments will be reviewed by DEO in two situations. In the first, there must be a written request to DEO. The request for review must be received within forty-five days after transmittal of the proposed amendment. Reviews 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, DEO can decide to review the proposed amendment without a request. In that case, DEO must give notice within thirty days of transmittal.

Within five working days after deciding to conduct a review, DEO may forward copies to various reviewing agencies, including the Regional Planning Council.

Regional Planning Council Review

The Regional Planning Council must submit its comments in writing within thirty days of receipt of the proposed amendment from DEO. 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.

After receipt of comments from the Regional Planning Council and other reviewing agencies, DEO has thirty days to conduct its own review and determine compliance with state law. Within that thirty-day period, DEO 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) FOR DETAILS.

Attachment I**COMMUNITY PLANNING 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

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

City of LeBelle, Hendry County

DATE AMENDMENT RECIEVED:

November 25, 2014

DATE AMENDMENT MAILED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE:

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.

December 25, 2014

1. AMENDMENT NAME:

Application Number: LaBelle DEO 15-1 ESR

2. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT(S):

Two separate amendments are included in the DEO 15-1 Expedited State Review (ESR).

a. Jack Paul Properties Comprehensive Amendment (City of LaBelle Resolution 2014-21)
and

b. City-Initiated Comprehensive Amendment (City of LaBelle Resolution 2014-22).

a. Jack Paul Properties Comprehensive Amendment

This amendment encompasses approximately 650 acres and is located on the east side of South LaBelle Community abutting S.R.29 with approximately 1.75 miles of highway frontage. Currently, the site is in agricultural use. This amendment is a privately-initiated and is considered a Large-Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment increasing the acreage of industrial lands within the South LaBelle Community Land Use designation. The proposal amends the various land uses within the site from Urban Residential, Civic, Village Residential and Town Center in the South LeBelle Community to Commercial/Workplace, South LaBelle Community. The adjustment of assigned acreage in these categories offers the

City of LaBelle larger parcels of industrial designated property that would expand the city's economic development opportunities to attract significant industry and associated jobs.

The proposed amendment also includes text revisions to the policy language addressing buffering, access and to the Workplace sub-category that will allow for industrial uses generally, rather than only light industrial uses. In addition to the applicant's requested text changes, staff is recommending that industrial development be exempt from requirements for PUD zoning approval as cited in Policy 1.3.9.3.

City of LaBelle water and wastewater is available and has adequate capacity to service development of the site.

Council staff finds the proposed amendments are procedural in nature and do not adversely affect any significant regional resources or facilities that are identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan. Staff's review further found that the request was not regionally significant due to its lack of magnitude, location and character; and that the proposed changes would not impact any adjacent jurisdiction. Additionally, staff's review found that the increase in commercial and industrial intensity realized through the amendment within the South LeBelle Community designation would be balanced by the historically slow growth within Hendry County.

2b. City-Initiated Comprehensive Amendment

This amendment encompasses approximately 126 acres located on the east side of the City of LaBelle at the southeast corner of S.R. 80 and Forrey Drive. The majority of the surrounding property is comprised of developed and undeveloped residential lots and agricultural uses (pasture). Approximately 16 acres of the site is currently being developed as a sports complex by the Park and Recreation Board. The remaining 110 acres are undeveloped and the City of LeBelle is in negotiations with a private entity to develop the property as a public golf course with a residential and commercial component. Currently the Future Land Use designation is characterized as lands that are both public and privately owned but are limited to facilities that accommodate the public. The amendment is to designate this parcel as Outlying Mixed Use, sub-category Regional Center, so as to allow for the privately-owned residential and commercial property as part of the overall site's development.

Council staff reviewed the proposed amendment request and found that the request was not regionally significant due to its lack of magnitude, location and character; that the proposed development would not substantially impact any regional resources or facilities; and that the proposed changes would not impact any adjacent jurisdiction. Staff further supports the city's assessment that the scale of the development and public recreational component will serve as an economic driver attracting other services to the area.

The City of LaBelle, in partnership with the developer is applying for funding for extension of water and wastewater facilities to the site.

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

Council staff has reviewed the requested amendment. Based on the review, Council staff has found that the requested changes will not produce any significant adverse effects on the regional resources or regional facilities that are identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

3. EXTRAJURISDICTIONAL IMPACTS INCONSISTENT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN THE REGION

Council staff has reviewed the requested changes and finds that the requested Comprehensive Plan amendments do not produce any significant extra-jurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of any other local government within the region.

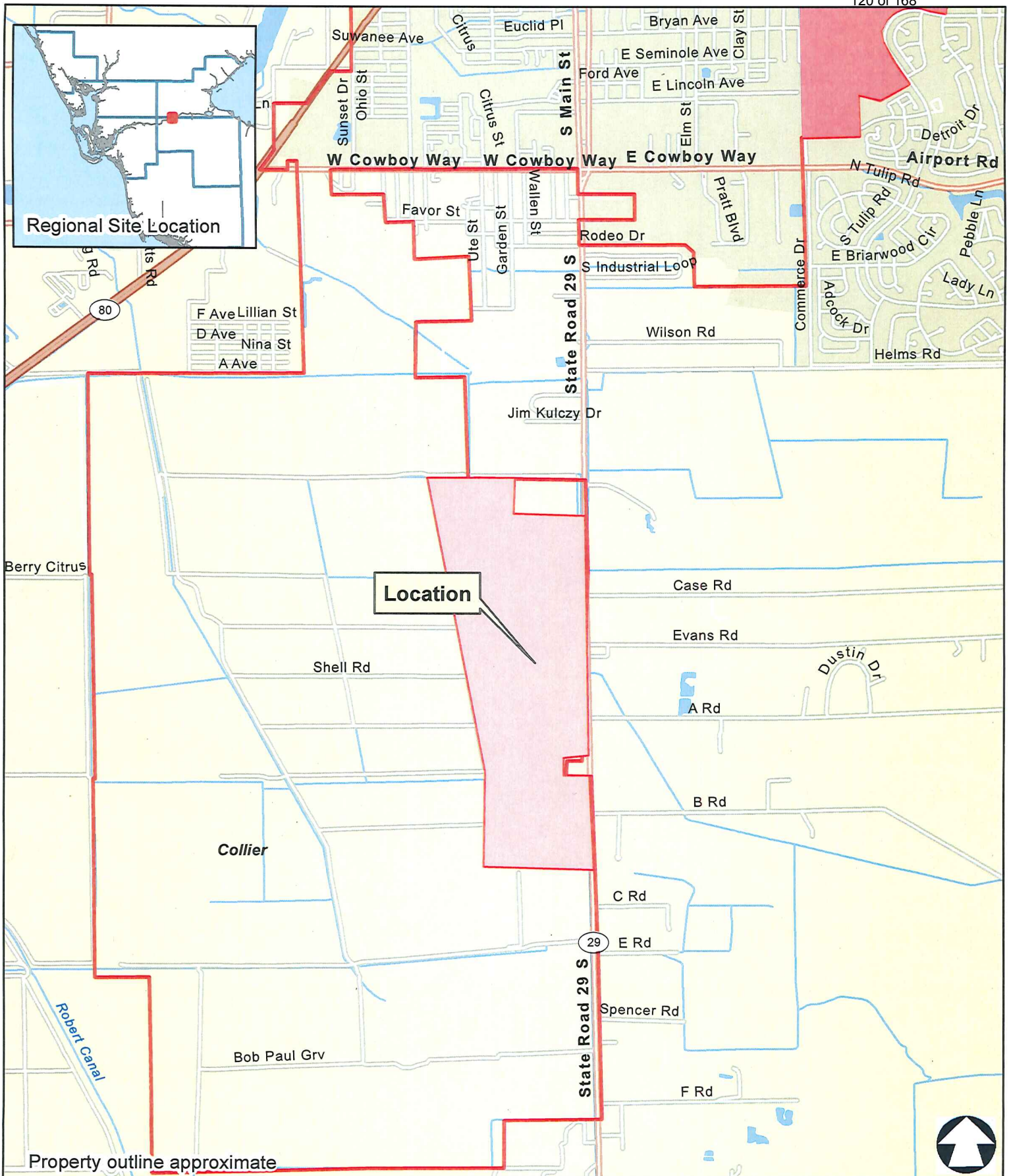
Request a copy of the adopted version of the amendment? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Attachment III

Maps

**Hendry County
DEO 15-1ESR**

**Growth Management Plan
Comprehensive Plan Amendments**

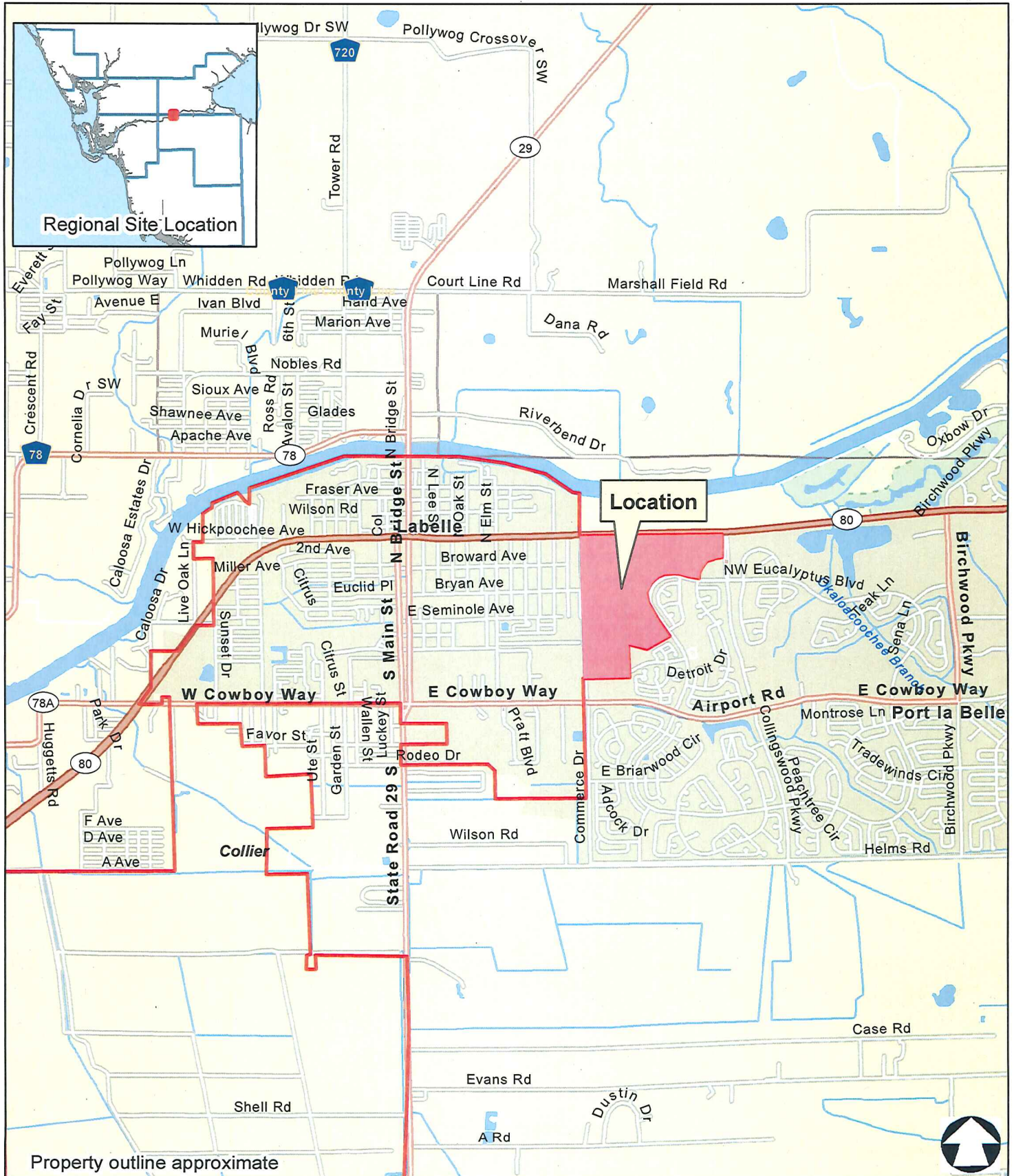


Labelle 15-1ESR
Resolution No. 2014-21

0 950 1,900 3,800 5,700 Feet



Southwest Florida
 Regional Planning
 Council



Property outline approximate



Labelle 15-1ESR Resolution No. 2014-22

0 1,150,230 4,600 6,900 Feet



Southwest Florida
Regional Planning
Council

www.swrpc.org (Name: LOCATION_Labelle) Last updated by: twalker on 12/23/2014

Agenda Item

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SWFRPC Committee Reports

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Agenda Item

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Budget & Finance Committee

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Agenda Item

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Energy & Climate Committee

12c

12c

Agenda Item

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Estero Bay Agency on Bay
Management Committee

12d

Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management

The regular meeting of the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management was held on December 15, 2014. The meeting initially scheduled for December 8, 2014 was cancelled due to lack of quorum; principally caused by conflict with another at the same time.

A new slate of officers was elected, including: Dr. Win Everham as Chair, Ms. Patty Whitehead as Vice Chair, and Mr. Wayne Daltry as Secretary.

Mr. Jim Beever, SWFRPC reported on the 2014 State of the Bay Report. The presentation is available at

[http://www.swfrpc.org/content/Natural Resources/ABM/StateoftheBay2014PowerPoint.pdf](http://www.swfrpc.org/content/Natural%20Resources/ABM/StateoftheBay2014PowerPoint.pdf)

and the Report itself is at

[http://www.swfrpc.org/content/Natural Resources/ABM/2014StateoftheBayUpdateFinal20150105.pdf](http://www.swfrpc.org/content/Natural%20Resources/ABM/2014StateoftheBayUpdateFinal20150105.pdf)

The 2015 EBABM Work Plan (attached) was reviewed and adopted.

A review committee for the EBABM Principles was formed to review and suggest updates to the Principles of the EBABM which were last revised in 2002.

A letter on the EBABM recommendations for the Estero Bay Marina (attached) was approved for transmission.

Next Meeting Time and Place, for EBABM is Monday, January 12, 2015 – 9:30 A.M, at the SWFRPC and for the IAS is Monday, January 26, 2014 – 1:30 P.M at FGCU.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of Officers and 2015 EBABM Work Plan

01/2015

ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT (EBABM) PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2015

1. Provide Comments and Report to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) and others on relevant Items of Review such as: Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Developments of Regional Impact, update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review projects, etc.
2. Develop strategies and recommend actions to reduce impairment to Estero Bay waters. This will include comment on important initiatives including Surface Water Improvement Management (SWIM), development of TMDLs, establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels, Pollution Load Reduction Goals (PRGs), Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), Numeric Nutrient Criteria (NNC), and refinement of the Southwest Florida Special Basin Rule.
3. Seek continuing funding support from EBABM partners and external grant sources for special projects, event, and staff support of the EBABM.
4. Coordinate activities with the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP) and the Southwest Florida Watershed Council.
5. Provide Comments and Report to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) and others on relevant Items of Review such as: Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Developments of Regional Impact, update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review projects, etc.
6. Collect and maintain a data library for Estero Bay at the offices of the SWFRPC and contribute to the CHNEP water atlas.
7. Review and comment to regulatory and infrastructure agencies on issues affecting Estero Bay and its watershed.
8. Review and participate as appropriate on other current issues affecting Estero Bay.
9. Complete the 2015 Cela Tega entitled "Sea Level rise adaption and resiliency planning in the Estero Bay watershed."
10. Assure effective dissemination recommendations and findings to decision makers and the public.
11. Support land acquisitions and protections in the Estero Bay Watershed including participation in the implementation of the Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative, (Amendment 1)



129 of 168
Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management
C/O Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
1926 Victoria Ave.
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

December 15, 2014

Mr. James Ink
Inkwerks, Inc.
2055 West First Street
Fort Myers, FL 33901

RE: Estero Bay Marina

Dear Mr. Ink,

We would like to thank you for taking the time to present information about the proposed development at the Estero Bay Marina. We believe this is a better proposal than the prior designs we have reviewed.

As you know the waters of Estero Bay provide a tremendous resource for local residents and tourists who enjoy fishing and appreciate the local vegetation and wildlife. Due to the forthcoming increase in population the ABM makes strong and clear recommendations the preservation and restoration of this rare and unique ecosystem based on our principles.

We believe the following modifications to the current proposal will better conserve our natural resources, afford better protection of: water quality, rare and unique habitats, listed wildlife and ecosystem. We encourage you to formally adopt them as you move forward through the zoning and development process.

1. Restrict mangrove trimming so that it will not occur in the proposed preserve area irrespective of exemption or general permits that are available from the State.
2. Improve the marking of the existing channel including notification of the controlling depth of the channel with a measurement scale on a marker pole indicating to departing and visiting boaters the current water depth in the channel.
3. Implement noise reduction and Dark-Sky principles.
4. Provide for a perpetual funding mechanism for the management of the conservation lands.

The Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management (ABM) is a non-regulatory advisory body whose charge is to make comments and recommendations for the management of Estero Bay and its watershed. The ABM is dedicated to the preservation and sustained productivity of this natural resource. The membership of the ABM includes local, state, and federal government officials, and representatives of special interest groups such as developers, civic associations, builders, environmental groups, chambers of commerce and marine trade associations, and citizen representatives.

The following principles of the ABM are the basis for the above suggestions:

- I. A. The ABM will be cognizant of the "big picture" and to the concept of "ecosystem management" and sustainable development.

III. B. (1) Natural, native vegetation versus non-native invasive vegetation within flow ways and natural systems will be retained to the greatest extent possible.

III. E. (1) No special accommodations will be made for boats (e.g. no cutting of over story vegetation, no removal of oxbows, no dredging or filling except for permitted maintenance of navigation channels).

IV. B. (1) No further alteration of Estero Bay bottom shall occur, except as proven necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the natural resources of Estero Bay and of the people in the watershed.

IV. E. (1) Regulatory agencies and boaters will make special effort to maintain the bay as a major natural resource for fishing and appreciation of vegetation and wildlife.

We hope the developer will endeavor to execute an overall development plan that truly expresses an appreciation and a sensitivity of the unique aquatic environment that sites this marina project. Accordingly we look forward to the developer adhering to innovative design and planning principles that incorporate the protection of the natural resources of Estero Bay through thoughtful building layout, design choices that complement rather than clash with the ecological values of the Estero Bay and choices of methods and materials that are both sustainable and aesthetically appropriate to a watershed that has been designated Florida's first aquatic preserve and an "Outstanding Florida Waterway because of exceptional ecological significance.

Sincerely,

ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT



Lisa Beever

Chairperson

CC: SWFRPC

12e

12e

Executive Committee

12e

12e

--- Agenda --- Item

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Legislative Affairs Committee

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Agenda Item

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Quality of Life & Safety
Committee

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--- Agenda --- Item

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Regional Transportation
Committee

12h

Agenda Item

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New Business

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--- Agenda --- Item

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13a

Caloosahatchee Watershed –
Regional Water Management
Issues White Paper

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SWFRPC Resolution #2015-01

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND ENDORSING THE “CALOOSAHATCHEE WATERSHED – REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT ISSUES” REPORT DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2014, WHICH SETS FORTH SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS TO ADDRESS WATER STORAGE AND TREATMENT WITHIN THE KISSIMEE, LAKE OKEECHOBEE AND CALOOSAHATCHEE WATERSHEDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Lee County and the five municipalities within Lee County share common interests and concerns with respect to water quality within the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee watersheds; and

WHEREAS, a document entitled “Caloosahatchee Watershed – Regional Water Management Issues” has been developed and prepared to concisely set forth a comprehensive strategy to address water storage and treatment within the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee watersheds, as well as to identify land and infrastructure needed to convey excess water south into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay where it is needed; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for the governing bodies of Lee County and the five municipalities within Lee County to generally agree upon the comprehensive goals and strategies to address the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee water resource issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, that:

SECTION 1. The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council hereby accepts and endorses the “Caloosahatchee Watershed – Regional Water Management Issues” document dated November 18, 2014, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Attachment “A”, and which is intended to be revised and updated periodically to address current best practices and approaches with respect to water quality and water resource protection.

SECTION 2. The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council encourages the governing bodies of Lee County, the City of Fort Myers, City of Cape Coral, Town of Fort Myers Beach, City of Bonita Springs and City of Sanibel to accept and endorse the “Caloosahatchee Watershed – Regional Water Management Issues” document attached hereto in order to provide general agreement on a collaborative and comprehensive approach to the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee watershed resource issues that are of paramount importance to the residents and visitors to Lee County and Southwest Florida.

SECTION 3. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DULY PASSED AND ENACTED by the Southwest Florida Planning Council, this **15th** day of **January**, 2015.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Robert Mulhere, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret Wuerstle, Executive Director

CALOOSA HATCHEE WATERSHED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT ISSUES

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Short- and Long-term Solutions for Storage and Treatment



Revised: December 16, 2014

Caloosahatchee Watershed Regional Water Management Issues

ENDORSEMENTS

Prepared by:



Endorsed by:

Community Foundation of Southwest Florida
Center of Biological Diversity
Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Ding Darling Wildlife Society
Florida Clean Water Network
Florida Defenders of the Environment
Responsible Growth Management Coalition
Sanibel, Captiva Conservation Foundation

CALOOSAATCHEE WATERSHED — REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT ISSUES

STORAGE & TREATMENT PROGRESS SUMMARY DECEMBER 16, 2014

Introduction

The coastal communities of Lee County were devastated by the freshwater discharges from Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee watershed during the summer of 2013. For more than four months a dark-colored freshwater plume blanketed Lee County's beaches. This event impacted the ecology of our waters, the quality of life of our citizens, area businesses, and it continues to have a lasting effect on our local economy. These discharges occurred as a direct result of inadequate water storage within the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, and Caloosahatchee watersheds and the ability to convey water south into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay.

Flood control projects, channelization, and other land use changes that have occurred throughout Central and South Florida over the past century have resulted in a water management system that is very different from its original state. The system that we have today delivers water to the coast very quickly, with little to no water treatment. This has resulted in the Caloosahatchee estuary receiving too much water during the wet season and not enough during the dry season. The water that we do receive is laden with excessive nutrients that can stimulate harmful algal blooms.

What is at Stake?

In Lee County, tourism generates more than \$2.7 billion annually. Real estate tax revenue in Lee County is more than \$293 million annually. A recent poll by the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau indicated that 94% of all visitors to Lee County identified our beaches as our most attractive asset. Local water quality can have a tremendous influence on consumer confidence and can greatly impact tourism and our local economy. In addition to impacts on our local economy, too much or too little freshwater delivered to the coast can effect critical estuarine resources such as seagrasses, oysters and fishes. The combined impacts on the local economy and the ecology of our waters can greatly influence the quality of life of Lee County residents.

What is needed to address the Problem?

A comprehensive strategy is needed to address water storage and treatment within the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, and Caloosahatchee watersheds. In addition, land and infrastructure are needed to convey excess water south into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay where it is needed.

What are Lee County and the five municipalities of Lee County doing to address the problem?

Lee County and the five municipalities of Lee County are working together to address the Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee water resource issues. Recognizing that the problem originates in the Kissimmee watershed, just south of Orlando, and includes Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee watersheds, the County and municipalities are working with federal and state agencies responsible for water management and are working in their local watersheds to advocate for and implement projects that will address the problem. Collectively, the County and municipalities have developed a list of short-term, low-cost strategies, as well as a longer-term list of state and federal priorities to address water storage and treatment throughout the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, and Caloosahatchee watersheds. The goal is to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water to the coast of Lee County and restore historic flows to the Everglades and Florida Bay.

Short-term, Low-Cost Strategies for Water Storage

1. *Revisit the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule (LORS 2008) risk assessment to determine if there are any opportunities to provide more storage to reduce discharges to the estuaries in light of recent improvements in the Herbert Hoover Dike. Evaluate the Lake Okeechobee Minimum Flow and Level (MFL) to determine if Lake levels can be maintained lower to increase storage capacity without ecological impacts. Reevaluate how flows to the Caloosahatchee are measured under the LORS 2008 schedule (S-77 instead of S-79 in higher bands) to make regulatory releases more equitable.*
 - a. On September 17, 2013, the Lee County municipalities sent a joint letter to Governor Scott and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) requesting support for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to reevaluate the risk assessment for the Lake

Okeechobee Regulation Schedule, LORS 2008. On July 8, 2014, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation sent a letter on behalf of 24 individuals representing several local governments and organizations to Assistant Secretary of the Army, Jo-Ellen Darcy, requesting that the Corps accelerate the risk assessment for the Herbert Hoover Dike. Over the past year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been working on the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project and Dam Safety Modification Study. As part of that study, the Corps will be assessing progress to date on the Herbert Hoover Dike and will evaluate the risk assessment for LORS 2008 in light of progress made on dike repairs to date. The report is scheduled to be completed in March 2015.

2. *Maximize flows through the Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) and Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) to the fullest extent possible to convey water south during the wet season to reduce high-flow impacts to the coastal estuaries.*
 - a. During the 2013 wet season, approximately 72,000 acre-feet of water was released to the WCAs through the STAs. During the 2014 wet season, approximately 216,000 acre-feet of water was released to the WCAs through the STAs. The increase in the volume of water conveyed south in 2014 was the result of: 1.) continued legislative funding for increased pumping and maintenance; 2.) additional capacity due to differences in regional rainfall; 3.) increased capacity in STA-1 East, STA-1 West and STA-3/4; 4.) suitable conditions and canal levels within the Everglades Agricultural Area; and 5.) improved coordination between the SFWMD and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
 - b. One of the major challenges to moving water south in the short-term is the lack of storage, treatment, and conveyance infrastructure south of Lake Okeechobee. Projects like Modified Water Deliveries (MOD Waters), the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP), and the structural improvements along the Tamiami Trail are needed in order to increase the capacity and eliminate impacts to tribal and agricultural lands south of the Lake. *It is important to note that these are long-term projects, not short-term low-cost strategies.

- c. Another option to addressing high-flow impacts to the estuaries is to seek emergency temporary deviations from federal and state water quality criteria and restrictions that limit discharges south into Everglades National Park during extreme wet conditions and events. This engages a “shared adversity” doctrine that does not pit one ecosystem against another.
- 3. *Maximize storage on all private lands currently under contract with the SFWMD for the dispersed water management program. Investigate the potential for additional projects based on cost/benefit analysis (e.g., Alico Corporation 75,000 acres in eastern Caloosahatchee basin). Explore additional economic incentives for water storage on private lands within the Caloosahatchee basin.*
 - a. Over the past year a significant volume of additional dispersed water storage has become available. As of October 11, 2014, the SFWMD was reporting 86,257 acre-feet (annual average) of dispersed storage being utilized. The Nicodemus Slough dispersed water management project has been constructed, is being tested, and is expected to be fully operational by next rainy season. This project is estimated to store an additional 34,000 acre-feet of water within the Caloosahatchee watershed and will reduce wet season flows to the Caloosahatchee. The SFWMD is continuing to explore other dispersed water storage projects, including a proposal from Alico Corporation to store additional water within the Caloosahatchee basin. In order for this program to be viable and compete with regional storage facilities, these projects must be cost-effective and their performance verified. An overall analysis needs to be completed to verify effectiveness, along with a plan to meet a designated amount of managed storage to provide the desired outcome.
- 4. *Utilize emergency storage on all public lands within the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee basins. Secure permits and/or authorizations now in preparation for the spring recession in Lake Okeechobee and free up storage capacity for wet season. The C-43 West Reservoir/Berry Groves site is a good example of where there are opportunities for water storage on public lands. These sites should be utilized prior to exceeding the high flow ecological targets in the Caloosahatchee (>2,800 cfs 30-day moving average).*

- a. During the 2014 wet season, the SFWMD utilized publicly owned pre-project lands and other District-owned lands for emergency water storage throughout the water management system. SFWMD emergency storage efforts for 2014 included 9,169 acre-feet on pre-project lands and the use of approximately 148,771 acres of natural lands for water temporary water storage. This estimate includes a portion of the C-43 West Basin Reservoir Project lands. The SFWMD secured permits and authorization to utilize the site for temporary storage prior to the 2014 wet season. The west coast stakeholders were persistent in requesting that all permits and authorizations were in place prior to this year's rainy season.
- 5. *Provide adaptive flexibility for water level management in the Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes regulation schedules to allow more water storage by holding lake levels higher earlier than November for the benefit of water supply, water quality, and wildlife habitat.*
 - a. To date there has not been any substantive progress on this issue. The Corps continues to manage water levels within the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes at their current schedules and no deviations from these schedules have occurred over the past year. However, throughout the 2014 rainy season the Corps has maintained levels within the Chain of Lakes close to the top of their specified schedules. This has marginally helped reduced the rate at which water flows into Lake Okeechobee.
- 6. *Reassess the Adaptive Protocols for Lake Okeechobee to ensure that the Caloosahatchee receives ecologically beneficial flows to meet established salinity targets during the dry season when other water users are not experiencing water shortage cutbacks and no other ecosystems are being harmed.*
 - a. On March 3, 2014, the Lee County municipalities sent a joint letter to the SFWMD requesting that the Adaptive Protocols for Lake Okeechobee be reassessed to ensure that water flows to the Caloosahatchee are not reduced or eliminated when the needs of all other water users are being met. On June 18, 2014, the municipalities of Lee County sent a similar letter to the SFWMD regarding Adaptive Protocols highlighting that there are inherent flaws in the Protocols that reduce flows to the Caloosahatchee when there is no risk of water shortage and no other water users

are being cut back. In July 2014, the SFWMD Governing Board approved a staff recommendation to evaluate whether or not there were opportunities for additional operational flexibility within the Adaptive Protocols in the middle and upper bands of the Lake Regulation Schedule. SFWMD staff is currently evaluating the data to determine if operational changes can provide additional water for all water users. This exercise could identify additional water in the middle and upper bands of the LORS to supplement dry season flows to the Caloosahatchee. Lee County is a participant on the technical team that is investigating additional storage options in the middle and upper bands.

7. *Settle the Lykes Brothers Basinger Grove dike/floodplain storage issue between the SFWMD and USACE, which is preventing 70% of the Kissimmee River restoration storage and treatment benefits for work already completed.*
 - a. This issue has been resolved. Additional storage is now available within the Kissimmee River floodplain as a result of this agreement. This should provide additional storage and treatment benefits to the Caloosahatchee. Total storage and treatment numbers are forthcoming.
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FEDERAL PRIORITIES

1. *Fully support the 2014 Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) bill, which includes authorization for the Caloosahatchee C-43 West Basin Reservoir Project; and appropriate the necessary funds to implement the C-43 Reservoir Project. The reservoir will provide 170,000 acre-feet of storage within the Caloosahatchee basin and help address high and low flow issues.*
 - a. The WRRDA bill was signed into law by President Obama on June 10, 2014. The bill authorizes several important Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP) projects, including the C-43 West Basin Reservoir, the C-111 Spreader Canal, Broward County Water Preserve Area, and the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands projects. The next step is for Congress to appropriate the funds needed to construct the various projects in WRRDA. This will require

a great deal of work to ensure that our legislators hear from us and understand the importance of funding the C-43 Reservoir Project. This year the Florida legislature appropriated \$18 million to help fund the C-43 Reservoir Project. It is estimated that we will need \$300 million in federal appropriations to match state funds to complete the project. According to the South Florida Water Management District, work on the project is scheduled to begin in winter 2015. Lee County and several of the municipalities passed resolutions urging congress to pass WRRDA. Representatives from Lee County and its municipalities traveled to Washington D.C. to advocate for WRRDA and to promote projects that would create additional water storage and treatment.

2. *Obtain federal authorization and funding for the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP). The project will move approximately 210,000 acre-feet of water south of Lake Okeechobee and will address some of the damaging flows to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries.*
 - a. The Corps' Project Implementation Report (PIR) was not completed in time for the project to be included in the 2014 WRRDA bill. However, the report was later approved by the Army Corps Civil Works Review Board and the public comment period for the Final PIR ended on October 3, 2014. CEPP continues to be one of the region's top priorities. We are hopeful that this project will be authorized in the next WRRDA bill or sooner. On September 16, 2014, Senator Bill Nelson and Congressman Patrick Murphy sponsored a bill to authorize the Central Everglades Planning Project. This bipartisan bill is supported by Senator Rubio and other members of the Florida delegation. Full support of the Florida delegation will be critical for this bill to get traction.
3. *The Federal Government needs to fund their share of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and implement the projects agreed to in the plan. A majority of the lands needed for the projects have already been purchased by the State and need Federal funding to move forward with the projects.*
 - a. Through authorization of WRRDA, the Federal government will have the opportunity to appropriate funds for several very important CERP projects, including the C-43 West Basin Reservoir. We need to

keep pressure on our Federal legislative delegation to ensure that funds are appropriated for our priority projects.

4. *Continue to keep pressure on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to move as quickly as possible to rehabilitate the Herbert Hoover Dike. The project will protect the communities around Lake Okeechobee and possibly provide additional storage in the lake to reduce peak flows to the estuaries.*
 - a. On September 17, 2013, the Lee County municipalities sent a joint letter to Governor Scott and the SFWMD requesting support for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reevaluate the risk assessment for the Lake Okeechobee Regulations Schedule, LORS 2008. On July 8, 2014, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation sent a letter on behalf of 24 individuals representing several local governments and organizations to Assistant Secretary of the Army, Jo-Ellen Darcy, requesting that the USACE accelerate the risk assessment for the Herbert Hoover Dike. Over the past year, the USACE has been working on the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project and Dam Safety Modification Study. As part of this study, the Corps will be assessing progress to date on the Herbert Hoover Dike and will evaluate the risk assessment for LORS 2008 in light of progress on dike repairs. The report is scheduled to be completed in March 2015. It is hopeful that the assessment will determine that improvements made to date have reduced the risk of dam failure to the point where the current cap on lake elevation can be raised, thereby providing more available storage. It is not our desire to maintain the lake at higher elevations but only to expand the operating range. Lowering of the lake for the benefit of its ecosystem can continue but at a rate that is less harmful to the estuaries.
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STATE PRIORITIES

1. *Construct the first Cell of the C-43 West Basin Reservoir Project. As currently planned, the C-43 Reservoir will store up to 170,000 acre-feet of basin storm water and overflow from Lake Okeechobee. The C-43 Reservoir is expected to supply enough water to meet the existing Minimum Flow and Level for the Caloosahatchee River 80% of the time. The project, with an estimated cost of more than \$600 million, was designed with two large*

cells, a single 1,500 cfs pump station and a number of gated overflow and discharge structures. Under CERP, the State of Florida and South Florida Water Management District are responsible for 50% of the total project costs. Historically, the State has generally satisfied their cost share through land acquisition. In this case, however, most of the land was purchased using federal dollars. As a result, the State will be responsible for paying for at least 50% of the construction costs. The first cell is expected to provide approximately 85,000 acre-feet of storage and is estimated to cost approximately \$300 million.

In addition to the land needed to construct the reservoir, there is an additional 1,500 acres of land on the site that was purchased as part of the Berry Groves acquisition. This land should be used to construct a stormwater treatment area (STA) adjacent to the reservoir to treat water before it is discharged into the Caloosahatchee.

- a. The State appropriated \$18 million for moving forward with an interim project for the C-43 reservoir site. Work is scheduled to begin in winter 2015. The SFWMD is evaluating options for cell one construction on the site. Additional funds will be needed from the Legislature in 2015 to move forward with construction of the first cell.
 - b. As part of the Caloosahatchee Visioning process, the water quality treatment component for the C-43 Reservoir (STA) has been one of the top-ranked priorities (to date) for the stakeholders participating in the process. This project could get momentum if there is continued support from the stakeholders.
2. Construct the C-43 Water Quality Treatment and Demonstration Project (BOMA Property). The objective of this project is to demonstrate and implement cost effective wetland-based strategies for reducing Total Nitrogen (TN) load, and other constituents including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS), to the Caloosahatchee River and its downstream estuarine ecosystems. This is a multi-phased project involving bioassays, mesocosms, test cells, and field-scale cells to test, optimize, and demonstrate effectiveness of wetland-based technology, ultimately leading to implementation of a full-sized treatment facility.
 - a. In late 2012, a conceptual design for a testing facility was completed. Full engineering design and permitting of the testing

facility is contingent upon funding. The SFWMD will be performing the bioassays and mesocosms study in 2015 and 2016.

3. *Move forward with the Lake Hicpochee Restoration Project. Funds are needed to complete planning and construction on north and south sides of Lake Hicpochee to increase storage and treatment. Estimated cost for planning and construction is \$20-30 million. Project will result in increased water storage and treatment within the Caloosahatchee basin.*

- a. Northern Lake Hicpochee restoration is in progress. 5,300 acres of land are already in State ownership and the SFWMD acquired an additional 640 acres north of Lake Hicpochee to be used for shallow storage. The project will provide shallow water storage of approximately 1,917 acre-feet. The State has an option to purchase an additional 2,454 acres of land to expand the project. Acquisition of this land would greatly enhance storage and treatment opportunities for this project. The Lake Hicpochee South Project is currently in a holding pattern. According to the SFWMD, cost/benefit data from the project on the south side of Lake Hicpochee suggest that, as designed, the project is not cost-effective. A redesign of the project may be necessary to make this project more feasible.

4. *Purchase additional lands south of Lake Okeechobee at fair market value, acquire private easements, or swap existing State-owned lands for the critical lands needed to facilitate storage, treatment and conveyance of water south into Everglades National Park. The State currently owns 26,790 acres of land that was purchased for \$197,396,088 (\$7,400/acre) from U.S. Sugar Corporation as part of the Reviving the River of Grass Project, with an option to purchase an additional 153,209 acres. The State should acquire the critical lands needed to store, treat and convey water south through purchase from willing sellers, acquisition of private easements, or by swapping for existing non-essential State-owned lands to acquire the footprint needed to effectively store, treat and convey water south through the Everglades Agricultural Area.*

- a. Under the State's contract with U.S. Sugar Corporation the "Initial Non-Exclusive Option", which includes approximately 46,800 acres of land, expires in October 2015. The "Entire Option Property Non-Exclusive Option", which includes 153,209 acres, or the balance of

that if the Initial Non-Exclusive Option is exercised, will expire in October 2020.

- b. The University of Florida has been contracted to conduct a study to evaluate the feasibility of moving water south through the EAA to Everglades National Park. This study is scheduled to be completed in March 2015.
 - c. The Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) will provide the initial infrastructure for conveying water south. A phased approach, building on the CEPP project, would be an alternative to a Plan 6 flowway concept and would further the goal of increasing flows south, reducing the harmful high-flow discharges to the estuaries.
- 5. *Increase distributed storage in Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, and Caloosahatchee basins. Additional funds are needed for the State to partner with large land owners in the Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee basins to store more water on the land so that it is not discharged to Lake Okeechobee or to the Caloosahatchee River. Investigate the potential for additional projects based on cost/benefit analysis.*
 - a. Over the past year, a significant volume of additional dispersed water storage has become available. As of October 11, 2014, the SFWMD was reporting 86,257 acre-feet (annual average) of disbursed storage being utilized. The District is continuing to explore other dispersed water storage projects. In order for this program to be viable and compete with regional storage facilities, these projects must be cost-effective and their performance must be verified. An overall analysis needs to be completed to verify effectiveness, along with a plan to meet a certain volume of managed storage to provide the desired outcome.
- 6. *Implement projects and programs funded under State legislative appropriations for the Caloosahatchee basin including the following:*
 - a. Establish new monitoring sites to assess environmental impacts to the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary. An objective of the Senate Select Committee on Indian River Lagoon and Lake Okeechobee Basin (IRLOB) funding was to identify scientifically based solutions to improve the water quality and quantity in the St. Lucie Estuary, Indian River Lagoon, and Caloosahatchee River and estuary.

Information generated through the monitoring and research efforts will help support potential changes in the design and operation of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries system. To achieve this, Lee County in partnership with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Marine Laboratory is seeking funding to deploy two new RECON/LOBO sensors in the Caloosahatchee estuary; upgrade the original nitrogen and phosphorus sensors with current technology on three existing LOBO units and cost share 8 flow monitoring stations with the USGS. This suite of projects will provide documentation and enable us to better inform and focus local and state TMDL and BMAP assessments. Total cost for the additional monitoring is estimated at \$615,260.

- b. Begin oyster and seagrass restoration within the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary. The Northern Estuaries Resource Recovery pilot program was designed to re-establish vital estuarine habitats of shellfish and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds within the Northern Estuaries; St. Lucie/Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee Estuary. The Senate Select Committee recommended, and the Legislature approved, appropriating \$500,000 for each estuary to support the program, for a total of \$1 million. The intent of this program is to replace critical ecosystem components such as oyster reefs and SAV that were lost by the high volume 2013 discharges to the northern estuaries. Tasks 2 and 4 seek to replace (restore) habitats damaged beyond repair to a pre-2013 level. Tasks 3 and 5 of this program seek to build resiliency by providing a source of healthy reefs and SAV for future restoration projects.

OTHER REGIONAL PROGRESS

1. *Caloosahatchee Visioning Program/Community Forum Update. Progress towards developing a regionally-supported list of restoration projects within the Caloosahatchee basin.*
 - a. The SFWMD is sponsoring a program referred to originally as the Caloosahatchee Visioning Process, which was aimed at identifying a restoration "vision" for the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary. The process began with a series of stakeholder interviews. The goal of

these interviews was to collect information from local stakeholders on what they thought were the restoration priorities for the Caloosahatchee and the process that should be followed to implement restoration. Following the interviews a science-based Caloosahatchee Ecological Indicators workshop was convened. This workshop was organized by the SFWMD and the Consensus Building Institute (CBI), under contract with the SFWMD for the Caloosahatchee Visioning Program. The purpose of the Indicators Workshop was for scientists and resource managers to discuss past, present and future ecological indicator species that may help to guide restoration of the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary. A final report of the proceedings was submitted to the SFWMD by the Florida Gulf Coast University Watershed Institute. The Caloosahatchee Visioning Program has now morphed into an interagency group made up of state and local agencies, utilities, and other effected parties that have been tasked with developing consensus on a list of priority projects to address water storage and water quality within the Caloosahatchee basin. The SFWMD and CBI held the first of several Caloosahatchee Community Forums on August 8, 2014 to bring in other local stakeholders to get input on priority projects. The community forum and the interagency working group have been directed to focus specifically on restoration projects. Discussion of policy-related issues of how the Caloosahatchee is managed has been precluded.

- b. The interagency team has developed a preliminary list of Caloosahatchee River Watershed Priority Projects. Two lists of projects were created, a Regional Project list and a Local Project list. The Regional Project list includes large-scale projects that are perceived to provide regional benefits. The local project list includes projects that will have more localized benefits, but cumulatively will benefit water storage and treatment within the Caloosahatchee watershed. See attached lists at bottom for details.
2. *Lee County Tidal Caloosahatchee Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Basin Management Plan (BMAP) Compliance*
 - a. Lee County and other stakeholders (Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), City of Ft Myers, Cape Coral, East County Water Control District (ECWCD), Lucaya CCD, Charlotte County) are required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to reduce total nitrogen levels (TN) in the Caloosahatchee estuary by

140,853 lbs/yr for the first five-year Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). Lee County's Conservation 2020 lands buying program has a total of 12,313 acres within the Caloosahatchee River watershed. Lee County in partnership with other local government agencies has constructed water quality treatment amenities on conservation lands. The Conservation 2020 water quality projects account for 22,152 lbs/yr (16%) TN pollution reduction credit. Lee County receives 2,222 lbs/yr TN reduction credit for structural stormwater and hydrologic restoration projects not associated with conservation lands and 196 lbs/yr TN reduction credit for street sweeping within the Caloosahatchee River watershed.

The Lee County Division of Natural Resources (LCDNR) in partnership with the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension Services has implemented public education programs for do-it-yourself landscapers as well as the professional landscape community to prevent vegetative waste and fertilizer runoff pollution. Under our National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, LCDNR provides public education and regulatory enforcement for development-related activities within Lee County. Lee County receives 20,445 lbs/yr (15%) total nitrogen reduction credit toward the BMAP obligations for public education programs and existing fertilizer ordinance.

Caloosahatchee River Watershed Projects List

Information contained in the attached tables (one for regional projects, the other for local projects) reflects project data developed for the 2012 update of the Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan and information provided by local governments. The information has been updated to reflect project status as of summer 2014. It has also been updated to include results from implementers’ individual assessments of each project’s relative importance.

Project Phase has been categorized as: Near-term to reflect projects anticipated to be completed within the next 5 years, Long-term to reflect projects that are anticipated to be completed in 5 years or longer, and Ongoing to reflect activities that are anticipated to span both near- and long-term.

Category Projects which are located in or will affect more than one county have been categorized as Regional. The remaining projects are categorized as Local.

Agency reflects the principle agency(s) responsible for the implementation of the project.

Estimate Cost reflects the most current estimate provided by the agency and reflects the costs needed to complete the project.

Estimated Nutrient Removal is based on preliminary load reduction estimates from the 2012 CRWPP Update, modified as appropriate, or as provided by the agency. Estimates in the CRWPP were calculated using Southwest Florida Feasibility Study reductions for project types (i.e. filter marsh, STA, shallow water reservoir, restored wetlands etc.).

Unless otherwise noted, estimates for Nitrogen and Phosphorus removal are in metric tons per year.

Estimated Storage is described in acre-feet.

Caloosahatchee River Watershed Projects
REGIONAL PROJECTS

CRWPP ID	Project/Activity	Description	Project Status	Phase	Category/ Agency	Estimated Cost	Estimated Nutrient Removal (source)	Estimated Storage (ac-ft)
		IMMEDIATE REGIONAL PRIORITIES						
CRE-W Res	C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir Project	<p>CERP component involves an above-ground reservoir (170,000 ac-ft capacity) located south of the CR and west of the Ortona Lock (S-78); this will comprise a significant portion of total water storage requirement for the C-43 Basin.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, recreation, habitat enhancement and water recharge.</p> <p>The project will provide for timed releases of water to the estuary and will have O&M costs associated with the pumping operations.</p>	<p>In April 2011, a Record of Decision was issued by the USACE and an approved Project Implementation Report was submitted to the U.S. Congress. Project was authorized in June 2014.</p> <p>Funding to construct an interim project at the site was appropriated by the Florida Legislature in 2014.</p>	Long-term	Regional State	\$452.1m (const.)	97 mt/yr TN 8 mt/yr TP (agency)	170,000
CRE 04 CRE 05 CRE-LO 40	Lake Hicpochee North Hydrologic Enhancement Project	<p>The channelization of the Caloosahatchee River in the 1800's drained the lake and bisected it into two distinct parts, north and south. The objective of this project is to enhance the hydrology of Lake Hicpochee North with ancillary benefits of habitat restoration and water quality improvements. Phase I involves construction of a shallow storage feature on approximately 640 acres of land and construction of a spreader canal to deliver water to Lake Hicpochee North. Phase II involves the acquisition of an additional 2,454 acres for use as a flow equalization basin.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement and water recharge.</p>	<p>Design activities for Phase I are ongoing and construction is scheduled to begin by June 2015.</p> <p>Phase II requires land acquisition and the design and construction of the flow equalization basin.</p> <p>Project has linkages to Nicodemus Slough water storage project.</p>	Short-term (Phase I)	Regional SFWMD	Phase I \$17,200,000 (funded) Phase II \$16,600,000 (acq.)		
CRE 10	C-43 Water Quality Treatment and Demonstration Project (BOMA Property)	<p>The objective of this project is to demonstrate and implement cost effective wetland-based strategies for reducing TN load, and other constituents including TP and TSS, to the Caloosahatchee River and its downstream estuarine ecosystems. Special attention will be given to reducing dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) as it constitutes the most abundant and recalcitrant form of TN in the Caloosahatchee River. This is a multi-phased project involving bioassays, mesocosms, test cells, and field-scale cells to test, optimize, and demonstrate wetland-based technology effectiveness ultimately leading to implementation of a full sized treatment facility. It is envisioned that information gained from this project will be applicable to other South Florida Systems.</p>	<p>In late 2012, a conceptual design for a testing facility was completed. Full engineering design and permitting of the testing facility is contingent upon funding. The District will be performing the bioassays and mesocosms study in FY15 and 16.</p>	Long-term	Regional SFWMD, Lee County	\$8,000,000 (des. & const.)	23% TN min. reduction goal (agency)	
	Babcock Ranch Preserve Water Storage Project	<p>Project purpose is to reduce stormwater runoff to the Caloosahatchee River originating from approximately 4,220 acres of watershed located in the southwest portion of the Babcock Ranch State Preserve. The project will provide shallow water storage by improving existing berms, constructing new berms, modifying existing water control structures and installing new water control structures.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement and water recharge.</p>	<p>Design to be conducted in FY14/15; funded by DACS. Construction funding will be required in FY15/16.</p> <p>Project has linkages to Jacks Branch/County Line Ditch project.</p>	Near-term	Regional TBD	\$1,200,000 (des. & const.)		1,500

		NEAR-TERM REGIONAL PRIORITIES						
CRE 13	West Caloosahatchee Water Quality Treatment Area (C-43 reservoir site)	<p>Project consists of a water quality facility in association with C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir site to treat reservoir water to reduce nutrient concentrations from the CRE and nutrient pollutant loading downstream.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including habitat enhancement, recreation and water quality improvements.</p> <p>The project is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.</p>	<p>Project was included in the Southwest Florida Comprehensive Watershed Plan; however there has not been any additional design or funding.</p> <p>1,500 acres was retained in ownership by the SFWMD for potential future water quality treatment.</p> <p>Funding to initiate a conceptual design study is required.</p>	Long-term	Regional TBD			
	Lake Hicpochee South Project	<p>The purpose of this project is to enhance the hydrology of Lake Hicpochee South by redirecting storm water through upland and wetland areas rather than a canal.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, and water quality improvements.</p> <p>The project is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.</p>	<p>In 2008 a conceptual design report was completed that had a high implementation cost for the project. In 2013 a conceptual re-evaluation report was completed in cooperation with the Flaghole Drainage District and Hendry Hilliard Water Control District to refine portions of the 2008 report in order to integrate existing infrastructure where possible to maximize the cost-effectiveness of the project.</p> <p>Project requires funding for design and construction.</p> <p>Land is in public ownership. Will require collaboration with local 298 Districts to implement.</p>	Long-term	Regional TBD	\$4,5000,000 (const.)		
		CONCEPTUAL REGIONAL PROJECTS NEEDING FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OR ADDITIONAL FEASIBILITY WORK						
	Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Initiative	<p>The Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Initiative is a multi-phased regional hydrologic restoration effort with the overall goal to restore historic flows to Charlotte Harbor. The project involves the development of regional water storage and treatment facilities, establishment of conveyance systems and restoration of habitat to restore sheetflow across five watersheds encompassing approximately 90 square miles. It will establish linkages between Cecil Webb WMA and Yucca Pens WMA.</p> <p>Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, recreation opportunities, water quality improvements and water recharge.</p> <p>The project is expected to provide timed releases of water to enhance hydroperiods, have limited O&M costs and can be modified to meet future needs.</p>	<p>Potential land acquisition of 670 acres in conjunction with I-75 improvements is anticipated in 2014. Funding for final design and construction of storage facility is required</p> <p>Funding for conceptual design is expected to be provided by SWFWMD and FDOT and to begin in winter 2014. Construction funding will be required.</p> <p>Funding for the design and construction of conveyance systems will be required.</p> <p>Project is supported by over a dozen state, federal and local agencies.</p>	Long-term	Regional Multiple	\$4,000,000 (acq) \$10,000,000 (des. & const.)		
CRE 128	East Caloosahatchee Storage Project	<p>Project includes constructing distributed reservoirs on 7,500 acres of private properties, with the potential to create 100,000 ac-ft of above ground storage.</p> <p>Project could be designed to allow for dry season releases. It is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.</p>	Further study required to develop project(s). Assumes the acquisition of approximately 7,500 acres.	Long-term	Regional TBD		69 mt/yr TN 5.2 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	100,000
CRE 128a	Caloosahatchee Storage – Additional Project	<p>Project creates 50,000 ac-ft of aboveground storage in Caloosahatchee River Watershed.</p> <p>Project could be designed to allow for dry season releases. It is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.</p>	Further study required to develop project(s). Assumes the acquisition of approximately 3,500 acres.	Long-term	Regional TBD		58 mt/yr TN 4.3 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	50,000
CRE 11	Caloosahatchee Ecoscape Water Quality Treatment Area Project	Project consists of a constructed wetland designed for optimal removal of TN from the CRE. Conceptual project developed to reduce nutrient pollutant loading downstream. Strategy of this effort was to formulate both structural and non-structural features.	Project was included in the Southwest Florida Comprehensive Watershed Plan (formerly Southwest Florida Feasibility Study), which is in the process of being completed; however, there has not been any additional design or funding work performed.	Long-term	Regional TBD		50.0 mt/yr TN 12.0 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	

CRE-LO 41	C-43 Distributed Reservoirs Project	Project involves construction of multiple storage reservoirs to capture excess runoff for use to meet both environmental flows to the CRE and agricultural demands. Project could be designed to allow for dry season releases. It is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.	Further study required to develop project(s). Assumes the acquisition of approximately 6,600 acres.	Long-term	Regional TBD		39.4 mt/yr TN 2.6 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	85,410
CRE 01 CRE 02	Recyclable Water Containment Areas Project	Project uses agricultural or other lands to provide temporary storage, remove nutrients, and treat agricultural stormwater runoff which will help reduce nutrient loading to the CRE. Involves the construction of earthen berms to retain up to two feet of water storage. Would remain operational approximately 5 years, then returned to agricultural production. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including water reuse and water recharge. It is expected to have O&M costs.	Project was included in the Southwest Florida Comprehensive Watershed Plan (formerly Southwest Florida Feasibility Study), which is in the process of being completed. Funding for design and construction will be required. Additionally, partnerships will be required to implement.	Long-term	Regional TBD		67.5 mt/yr TN 14.3 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
	Lee-Charlotte County Border Area Hydrologic Improvement	This project involves reconnecting and improving the hydrology of the area through the construction of a series of filter marshes and weirs within and adjacent to the FPL transmission line. The project will create a conveyance system that during the rainy season will function to connect multiple watersheds within the corridor. It will allow excess water from one watershed to flow to the next watershed via a series of filter marshes providing water treatment and storage before entering the CRE. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	A conceptual design study is required. It is unknown at this point if land acquisition will be required. The project will require collaboration with FPL and multiple land owners. It is anticipated to take 15 years to fully implement, but could be constructed in phases.	Long-term	Regional Lee County	\$400,000 (feas.) \$2,000,000 (design) \$5,000,000 (acq.) \$12,600,000 (cons.)		
	ASR on Public Lands	Development of Aquifer Storage and Recovery arrays on public lands to capture surplus water flow in watershed. Potential locations include BOMA property and Babcock Ranch Preserve. It is expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.	Further study required to develop project(s).	Long-term	Regional TBD			
	Carlos Waterway Conveyance	A conceptual project to use an existing waterway owned by East County Water Control District to convey water from C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir into the Caloosahatchee. Project is expected to provide habitat enhancement, and water quality improvements.	A conceptual design study is required.	Long-term	Regional TBD			
		REGIONAL RESTORATION PROJECTS						
CRE 150	Tape Grass (<i>Vallisneria americana</i>) Plantings Upstream of S-79 Project	District study helps reestablish viable tape grass seed stock for future populations in the upper CRE. The goal is to create a viable tape grass seed stock in the upper CRE; test two genetic strains of South Florida tape grass for survival, growth, and flower and seed production for two years; and determine how long enclosures need to remain in place to ensure survival.	In 2011, cages were monitored weekly in June and bimonthly in July and August; to date, cages are holding up well. The Lake Trafford plants/cages are showing significantly more growth at both sites compared to those in Lake Kennedy. In August, spread outside of the cages and new growth in the cages was observed at Site 2 for Lake Kennedy treatments. Funding for additional planting and monitoring was appropriated for FY14-15.	Near-term	Regional SFWMD, Lee County			
	Oxbow Restoration	Project involves the restoration of remnant oxbows within the Caloosahatchee River. Project would involve limited dredging of the former river channel and restoration/preservation of adjacent littoral vegetation. Approximately 40 oxbows have been identified for restoration. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including recreation, habitat enhancement, and water quality improvements.	Several oxbows are publicly owned. Could involve collaboration with multiple public and private entities. Project budget for Oxbow24 was \$500,000. Estimated nutrient removal cost was \$140/lbs TN, \$3,500/lbs TP	Long-term	Regional TBD	\$500,000 per oxbow		

	Tape Grass Plantings below S-79	Involves the restoration and enhancement of +/-1,200 acres of historic submerged aquatic vegetation (tape grass) in the oligohaline littoral zones of the Caloosahatchee River below S-79. The project will involve the planting and establishment of between 16-20 large "founder colonies" in the upper estuary and tributaries to restore fish and wildlife habitat and serve as a seed bank for recovery of historic distribution and density of tape grass.	There is no local sponsor for this project. Project was submitted for RESTORE funding.	Long-term	Regional TBD	\$2,312,900		
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Caloosahatchee River Watershed Projects
LOCAL PROJECTS

CRWPP ID	Project/Activity	Description	Project Status	Phase	Category/ Agency	Estimated Cost	Estimated Nutrient Removal (mt/yr)	Estimated Storage (ac-ft)
		LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR THE NEAR TERM						
CRE 142	Harns Marsh Improvements – Phase III (West Marsh) Project	Project involves an existing 578-acre ECWCD stormwater treatment facility. Phase III includes designing the West Marsh (additional 202+/- acres) to expand the marsh treatment facility. This will reduce freshwater discharges to the Caloosahatchee River (via the Orange River) and provide water quality treatment. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, recreation, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	All necessary lands have been acquired. Project design is currently underway. The project involves collaboration with multiple agencies including FDOT as a potential source for construction funding.	Near-Term	Local ECWCD	\$6,000,000	0.91 mt/yr TN 0.24 mt/yr TP (agency)	400-800
CRE 147	Nalle Grade Stormwater Park Project	Lee County project proposes to restore/modify an existing degraded marsh system and design a stormwater retention facility to minimize flooding in the Bayshore Creek Watershed. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Project is in design and permitting. \$500,000 in Legislative funding was appropriated. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2016.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$3,300,000 (design & cons.)	0.54 mt/yr TN 0.14 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
CRE 139	Ford Canal Filter Marsh (Ford Street Preserve) Project	City of Fort Myers project creates a filter marsh to improve overall quality of storm water discharging into Billy Creek; marsh is intended to work collectively with other treatment areas along Billy Creek and its tributaries. Project creates a treatment marsh designed to divert and treat low flows from low-level rain events using a diversion weir.	Phase 1 complete, Phase 2 awarded with construction to begin in August 2014 and Phase 3 is being permitted.	Near-term	Local Ft. Myers	\$2,000,000	0.54 mt/yr TN 0.21 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
CRE 140	Fichter's Creek Restoration Project	Project provides ecosystem restoration through hydrologic and water quality improvements in Fichter's Creek, and provides flood protection for neighboring areas; components include 3.2 acres of lakes, three dry detention areas (7.1 acres), culvert installation/ replacement, filter marsh creation, and berm work. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement and water recharge.	No land acquisition is required. Project has been permitted; construction is planned to begin in FY16.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$1,400,000 (const.)	0.09 mt/yr TN 0.02 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	6
CRE 30	Aquifer Benefit and Storage for Orange River Basin (ABSORB) Project	Project involves increasing stormwater storage capacity and groundwater recharge in the Southwest area of Lehigh Acres by constructing 27 weirs. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Project is designed and permitted. Scheduled to begin construction by the end of 2014. Partial funding is in place (FDEP \$1.2m) and the rest is being worked on with an agreement from FDOT for the SR 82 widening project.	Near-term	Local ECWCD	\$2,400,000 (const.)	3.72 mt/yr TN 0.37 mt/yr TP (agency)	800-1,200
CRE 135	Hickey Creek Canal Widening Project	Project includes the canal widening and construction of littoral zones along three miles of Hickey Creek Canal. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water storage.	No land acquisition is required. Project is designed and permitted. Construction is waiting on funding and a project source to take the fill material removed.	Near-term	Local ECWCD		0.2 mt/yr TN 0.05 mt/yr TP (agency)	420
CRE 22	Hendry Extension Canal Widening Project	Project provides additional water quantity storage within existing canal right-of-way to help provide more stormwater storage in the 5.5 mile section of Hendry Extension Canal. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control and water recharge.	Project permitted and designed, construction projected in FY2015. FDOT providing funding through SR82 expansion.	Near-term	Local ECWCD	\$6,000,000 (const.)	0.36 mt/yr TN 0.1 mt/yr TP (agency)	190

CRE 44	Hydrologic Restoration of Bob Janes Preserve	Project will serve to restore the natural sheet flow and possibly impound water within the abandoned farm fields to allow aquifer recharge, reduce high flows in a manmade ditch (Lighter Canal) during the wet season. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Phase I involving the restoration of former agricultural fields was completed in 2014. The second phase is awaiting construction funds. No land acquisition is required.	Near-Term	Local Lee County	\$600,000 (const.)		
	Hydrologic Restoration of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve - North	The historical site hydrology and ecosystem have been significantly altered. Water from portions of the preserve has been diverted north into the Orange River, rather than south into Six Mile Cypress Slough. Restoration of historic flows could benefit Six Mile Cypress Slough and reduce the amount of water flowing into the Orange River and ultimately the Caloosahatchee River. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, recreation, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Phase I, the impoundment, is permitted and will undergo construction during 2014. Additional construction funds will be needed to complete the project phase. Phase II, the rehydration of the western cypress dome, is being permitted and will be constructed with financial help by the Florida Department of Transportation. Phase III, will require the design, permitting and construction of a flowway which will bring water to Phase 1 of the project.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$1,000,000		
CRE 53	Hydrologic Restoration of Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve	The project area is a former marsh that was disturbed when covered with fill during the dredging of the Caloosahatchee River in the 1950s. The project will cut a meandering stream channel through the spoil in the location near a historic channel and rehydrate former wetlands. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	No land acquisition is required. The project has been designed and permitted.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$650,000 (cons.)		
	Hydrologic Restoration of Telegraph Creek Preserve	This project will help to restore the natural sheet flow from the 800-acre palmetto prairie and wet prairie/hydric flatwoods system into Telegraph Creek where ditches were installed by previous owners to help drain this portion of the preserve. Geowebbing and/or culverts will be installed along existing management trails that are eroding into the creek. The existing swale where the water formerly would have flowed to the creek will be graded and cleaned out. The washouts will be recontoured and plantings will be installed to reduce further soil erosion into the creek. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	No land acquisition is required. The project requires further design.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$500,000 (cons.)		
	Ft. Myers Central Sewer Expansion	Septic tank conversion to central sewer to reduce nutrient loading in the watershed and expand reclaimed water from 6 MGD to 11 MGD. The project area is located within the city limits east of I-75.	The project is tentatively scheduled for FY 2016-2017 based on funding availability	Near-Term	Local Ft. Myers	\$11,000,000		
	Ranch Lakes Estates Central Sewer Project	Septic tank conversion to central sewer located at Ranch Lakes Estates in Moore Haven. Involves the construction of additional gravity sewer collection system in the Moore Haven downtown and Ranch Lakes Estates area adjacent to the Caloosahatchee River to homes now served by individual private old and failing septic systems. This project will reduce nutrient loading to the Caloosahatchee Basin.	The wastewater improvement project includes the preliminary engineering services, design, permitting and construction.	Near-term	Local Glades County	\$350,000		
CRE 44	Jacks Branch/County Line Ditch	Project involves improvement of water flow within Jacks Branch watershed and modification of the County Line Ditch by widening the ditch and providing weirs for increased water storage and treatment. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, water quality improvements and water recharge.	All necessary land has been acquired. The project has been designed and permitted. Requires construction funding. Could be constructed in conjunction with Babcock Ranch Preserve Project.	Near-Term	Local Hendry County	\$3,600,000 (const.)		

CRE 121	City of LaBelle Stormwater Master Plan Implementation	Project includes stormwater conveyance and water quality storage improvements in the City of LaBelle.	The C-5 portion of the city's 2004 Master Stormwater Plan was completed in 2010. These stormwater management improvements included retrofitting stormwater catch basins and adding vegetative swale treatment. Funding required to continue design and construction of additional projects.	Near-Term	Local LaBelle		34.8 mt/yr TN 5.8 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
CRE 123	North Ten Mile Canal Stormwater Treatment System Project	Project provides stormwater storage and treatment for an urban and commercial area with the City of Ft. Myers. It is intended to minimize peak flows and enhance water quality within Manuel's Branch and Carrell Canal.	FDEP permit is being reviewed for a modification. Project scheduled to begin in next five years	Near-term	Local Ft. Myers	\$4,500,000	0.82 mt/yr TN 0.33 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
	Sunniland/Nine Mile Run Drainage Improvements	Project involves the restoration of historical flows to Buckingham Trails Preserve. Consists of the rehydration of the preserve through the removal of manmade alterations to correct the natural sheetflow and hydrology. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement and water recharge.	Requires land acquisition. Project design scheduled during FY14/15 with construction in FY15/16.	Near-term	Local Lee County	\$50,000 (acq.) \$100,000 (des.) \$300,000 (con.)		
CRE 64	Yellow Fever Creek/Gator Slough Transfer Facility Project	Project involves the hydrologic restoration of the historical flows to the headwaters of Yellow Fever Creek. Project includes the construction of an interconnection facility between Gator Slough Canal and Yellow Fever Creek to transfer surface waters during high flow. Flows are currently intercepted by Gator Slough Canal and redirected to Matlacha Pass.	Conceptual design is complete. Permitting to begin in FY15 pending further coordination between Lee County and City of Cape Coral.	Near-term	Local Lee County Cape Coral	\$671,000 (design & cons.)	0	0
	Billy Creek Restoration Dredging	Removal of exotic vegetation and dredging of Billys Creek.	Project is permitted. Project to begin in FY2016.	Near-term	Local Ft. Myers	\$680,000		
	Moore Haven Canal Dredging	Deepening and widening of Moore Haven Canal. Will provide sediment reduction, an increase in wetland habitat, and water quality benefits to the Caloosahatchee River	State and federal permits have been approved. Partially funded in FY13-14.	Near-term	Local Glades County	\$12,000,000		
		LONG-TERM LOCAL PROJECTS						
CRE 143	Greenbriar Preserve Project	Project involves modifications within Greenbriar Swamp and to the connecting canal/swale system to increase surface water connectivity and storage within the swamp, thereby reducing freshwater discharge to the Caloosahatchee River via Hickey's Creek. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement and water recharge.	Project is included in the ECWCD FY2014-FY2018 Capital Improvement Plan. Project requires further design work.	Long-term	Local ECWCD Lee County		1.45 mt/yr TN 0.36 mt/yr TP (agency)	600
CRE 144	Section 10 Storage Project	Project includes modifying an existing mine pit to allow for additional surface water storage in the ECWCD Water Management System; also, includes improvements to the connecting canals, control structures, and a pump station.	Requires land acquisition. Project requires further design work.	Long-term	Local ECWCD	\$6,500,000	1.63 mt/yr TN 0.41 mt/yr TP (agency)	1,200
CRE 21	Hendry County Storage Project	Project consists of the construction of shallow water storage facility to help reduce nutrient loading to the CRE. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge. The project is expected to have the capability of providing timed releases of water to the estuary. It will be expected to have O&M costs associated with pumping operations.	Project was included in the ECWCD FY2010-FY2014 Capital Improvement Plan. ECWCD has evaluated three sites for possible acquisition. Funding will be required for land acquisition, design and construction.	Long-term	Local ECWCD		2.72 mt/yr TN 0.68 mt/yr TP (agency)	

CRE 44	Spanish Creek Preserve Restoration	Project involves the acquisition of agricultural lands to create shallow water storage and wetland flow-way to rehydrate the Ruby Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Phase 1 involving the rehydration of a portion of Ruby Daniels Preserve was completed in 2014. Design and acquisition of approximately 640 acres land is required to construct the storage and complete rehydration of Spanish Creek.	Long-Term	Local Lee County	\$14,800,000 (acq. des. const.)		
	Lehigh Wetland Restoration	Undeveloped lots will be purchased to restore remnant wetlands through the construction of one weir. Project is approximately 710 acres located in the Greenbriar Swamp area. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Funding needed to initiate the project.	Long-term	Local Multiple	\$70,000,000 (acq. des. & const.)	0.34 mt/yr TN 0.10 mt/yr TP (agency)	1,500
CRE 122	Mirror Lakes Storage/Rehydration Project	Multi-phase project intended to rehydrate Mirror Lakes (aka Halfway Pond), reduce peak flow discharges to the Orange River, and restore flows to the headwaters of the Estero River. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Phase I (rehydrate Mirror Lakes) completed October 2012 to include a pump station and approximately 1,000 acre-ft of storage. Phase II and III involves moving water south under SR 82, and is in the planning and preliminary design stage.	Long-term	Local ECWCD FDOT SFWMD	Phase II: \$300,000 (const.) Phase III: TBD	Phase II & III: 0.24 mt/yr TN 0.03 mt/yr TP (agency)	100-500
CRE 77	Cape Coral Canal Stormwater Recovery by Aquifer Storage and Recover (ASR) Project	Project uses ASR wells in Cape Coral to overcome water shortfall in the dry season and provide flood attenuation in the wet season. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, water quality improvements and water recharge.	Three ASR wells were constructed in 2007; however, cycle testing has not started and construction of pumping stations and associated connections is not anticipated until 2015 due to budgetary constraints.	Long-term	Local Cape Coral		4.13 mt/yr TN 0.82 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
	Stumper Jumper Ranch Land Acquisition	Project involves the acquisition and restoration of 149 acres of disturbed land located within the Spanish Creek watershed in northeast Lee County. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control, habitat enhancement, water quality improvements and water recharge	Project design and acquisition required. Former Lee County Conservation 20/20 nomination.	Long-term	Local Lee County	\$1,482,250 (acq.)		
CRE 29	Lehigh Acres Wastewater Treatment and Stormwater Retrofit Project	Project involves installing stormwater treatment features in Lehigh Acres, updating current stormwater management system, and converting high-density septic tanks to centralized wastewater treatment. Includes the conversion of 12,666 septic tank systems to central sewer. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including flood control and water quality improvements. The project is expected to have O&M costs associated with the central sewer system.	Nearly 100 single family homes in Lehigh Acres have been connected to the centralized wastewater treatment plant since 2009. Project requires funding to continue.	Long-term	Local Multiple	\$197,238,350 (sewer component)	48.66- 87.59 mt/yr TN (agency)	
CRE 126	Fort Myers-Cape Coral Reclaimed Water Interconnect Project	Project includes installing a 20-inch diameter transmission line from Fort Myers Treatment Plant to Cape Coral Reclamation Treatment Plant. This is intended to help prevent discharging 9 mgd treated water into the CRE.	The feasibility study completed in 2010 found that constructing a disposal well was a less expensive near-term option; however, project is still desirable as a long-term option. Legislative funding for additional study was appropriated for FY14-15.	Long-term	Local Cape Coral Ft. Myers			
CRE 69	Cape Coral Wastewater Treatment and Stormwater Retrofit Project	City of Cape Coral utility expansion project to convert septic systems to gravity sewers and replace older stormwater inlets with newer inlets designed to assist stormwater management. Includes improvements to existing sewer system and incorporation of roadside swale into drainage system. Project is expected to provide multiple benefits including water quality improvements, water reuse and water recharge.	Project on-going. Next scheduled area is located in Northwest Sector outside of Caloosahatchee watershed.	Long-term	Local Cape Coral		27 mt/yr TN 5.4 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	

CRE 125	Shoemaker-Zapato Canal Stormwater Treatment Project	Project includes installing weir/water control structures to increase channel storage and provide peak flow attenuation. It will enhance water quality and reduce erosion and siltation into Billy Creek.	Additional study required	Long-term	Local Ft. Myers		0.54 mt/yr TN 0.14 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	
CRE 141	Winkler Canal Treatment Marsh Project	Project creates a treatment marsh designed to divert and treat low flows from low-level rain events using a diversion weir.	Project has been permitted but is on-hold pending funding for land acquisition.	Long-term	Local Ft. Myers		0.2 mt/yr TN 0.08 mt/yr TP (CRWPP)	

**Caloosahatchee River Watershed Projects
ON-GOING PROGRAMS**

CRWPP ID	Project/Activity	Description	Project Status	Phase	Category/ Agency	Estimated Cost	Estimated Nutrient Removal (mt/yr)	Estimated Storage (ac-ft)
CRE 149	Northern Everglades – Payment for Environmental Services (NE-PES) Program	NE-PES solicitation is an innovative approach that allows cattle ranchers to deliver environmental services for water and nutrient retention. The goal is to establish relationships via contracts with private landowners to obtain water management services of water and nutrient retention to reduce flows and nutrient loads to Lake Okeechobee and the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers.	First solicitation: 8 projects under contract, none within the Caloosahatchee Watershed. Second solicitation: 2 projects are within the Caloosahatchee Watershed. The Mudge Ranch project, located in Glades County north of the Caloosahatchee River, is operational. The Babcock Property Holdings project, located in Charlotte County, is being negotiated.	Ongoing	Regional Dispersed Water Mgmt. SFWMD	\$2,000,000 Both Projects Combined		1,610
CRE 152	Dispersed Water Management Water Farming Assessment	Utilize fallow/out-of-production citrus lands to store water and attenuate nutrients. To determine the overall feasibility of the water farming concept, information with respect to environmental benefits gained compared to the cost estimates associated with on-site construction, infrastructure improvements, environmental assessments, and facility maintenance needs to be evaluated.	The District entered into a cooperative agreement with Gulf Citrus Growers Association to assess the feasibility of water farming. The feasibility study was completed in December 2013. Funding for further implementation is not available at this time.	Ongoing	Regional Dispersed Water Mgmt. SFWMD	TBD		
CRE 153	Dispersed Water Management Interim Sites	Parcels scheduled to become regional restoration projects present an opportunity to provide water retention through interim, low-cost alterations to the existing surface water management systems. These parcels would then provide an interim role of contributing to the watershed restoration effort while the final designs are completed and approved. If the public lands are being leased, then water management strategies will be jointly developed with the lessees to reduce discharges while not adversely affecting flood protection (including adjacent properties) and water quality.	Interim lands in the Caloosahatchee Watershed include BOMA and C-43 reservoir site.	Ongoing	Regional Dispersed Water Mgmt. SFWMD	\$700,000		1,316
CRE-LO 03 CRE-LO 05 CRE-LO 63	Urban BMPs: Urban Fertilizer Rule [Lake Okeechobee Estuary and Recovery (LOER)] & Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program	The Urban Fertilizer Rule is an FDACS rule that regulates the content of phosphorus and nitrogen in urban turf fertilizers to improve water quality. The Florida Yards and Neighbors Program provides education to citizens by promoting land use designs to minimize pesticides, fertilizers, and irrigation water.	Since 2009, the UF/IFAS Florida Yards and Neighborhood Program has expanded from a homeowner approach to cover a broader audience (e.g., builders, developers, architects).	Ongoing	Regional Source Control Multiple			

CRE-LO 01,02,49	Agricultural BMPs – Owner Implemented, Funded Cost-Share, and Cost-Share Future Funding	Implements agricultural BMPs and water quality improvement projects to reduce the discharge of nutrients from the watershed.	Total agricultural acreage in the Caloosahatchee Watershed is approximately 476,568 acres. Approximately 71 percent of this acreage is enrolled in owner implemented BMPs and have cost-share type BMPs in place. Goal is 100% coverage	Ongoing	Regional Source Control DACS			
CRE-LO 09	Coastal & Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)	Established in 2002 by NOAA, CELCP protects important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that may be converted from their natural or recreational state to other uses (CELCP Final Guidelines, 2003). In Florida, CELCP is coordinated through FDEP's Coastal Management Program.	The primary purpose of the program is to acquire property in coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that are threatened by conversion from a natural or recreational state to other uses. The program provides up to \$3 million dollars for each eligible project.	Ongoing	Regional DEP			
CRE-LO 91	Farm and Ranchland Partnerships	There are two USDA-NRCS farm and ranchland partnership programs: Farm and Ranchlands Protection Program, and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Under these programs, landowners sell development rights to land and place it in a conservation easement that permanently maintains land as agriculture and open space.	The District executed a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2010 to assist USDA-NRCS by providing technical assistance in implementing their WRP projects.	Ongoing	Regional Dispersed Water Mgmt. SFWMD			
CRE-LO 63	Wastewater & Stormwater Master Plans	Master Plans outline implementing urban stormwater retrofit or wastewater projects to achieve additional nutrient reductions and water storage basin-wide by working with entities responsible for wastewater/stormwater programs in the service area.	See the CRWPP Construction Project for the implementation status of urban stormwater retrofits and wastewater projects.	Ongoing	Local Source Control			

--- Agenda --- Item

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Southwest Florida's Visitors
Center – I-75 Rest Area

13b



For Immediate Release
December 29, 2014

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Jones Loop Rest Area in Charlotte County Closes After Easter 2015

Fort Myers --- The Florida Department of Transportation is closing the Jones Loop Road rest area east of I-75 at exit 161 in Charlotte County at the end of the day (midnight) on Monday, April 6, 2015. FDOT has extended the time the rest area remains open from January to April.

In recent years, this off-system rest area has experienced low use, with private businesses increasingly providing services motorists need. FDOT plans to demolish the building and will fence the property, which may be leased or sold.

“Our evaluation indicated, on average, about 750 vehicles a day stopped at the Jones Loop rest area in 2012. That’s under three percent of our average daily interstate traffic in this vicinity,” said FDOT District Secretary Billy Hattaway.

FDOT’s decision to close the rest area is an opportunity both to save taxpayers money and to support the local economy. I-75 travels through an urbanized region near Jones Loop Road, and drivers are using local businesses near the interchanges.

Later in March 2015, message signs at the Jones Loop Road interchange will advise drivers about the upcoming rest area closure.

www.dot.state.fl.us

Consistent, Predictable, Repeatable



Jones Loop Rest Area Charlotte County

0 450 900 1,800 2,700 Feet

www.swfpc.org



Southwest Florida
Regional Planning
Council

(Name: jones_loop) Last updated by: twalker on 1/9/2015