1400 Colonial Blvd., Suite 1 Fort Myers, FL 33907



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#### COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA July 20, 2017

9:00am - 11:00am

#### **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	INVOCATION		
2	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE		
3	ROLL CALL		
4	PUBLIC COMMENTS		
5	AGENDA		
6	UPDAT	UPDATES	
	a)	Opioid Project- VISTA Volunteers	
	b)	CEDS Schedule	
	c)	New Grants Submitted	
	d)	Regional Transportation Map	
	e)	Climate Change Adaptation Plans	
7	NEW BUSINESS		
	a)	Yelp System for Fire Departments	
	b)	Knox Box for Fire Departments	
8	DISCUSSION OF THE RELEVANCY AND FUTURE OF THE SWFRPC		
9	STATE AGENCIES COMMENTS/REPORTS		
10	COUNCIL LEGAL CONSULTANT'S COMMENTS		
11	COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS		
12	ADJOURN		

#### NEXT SWFRPC MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

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.

## \_\_\_\_\_Agenda \_\_\_\_\_Item

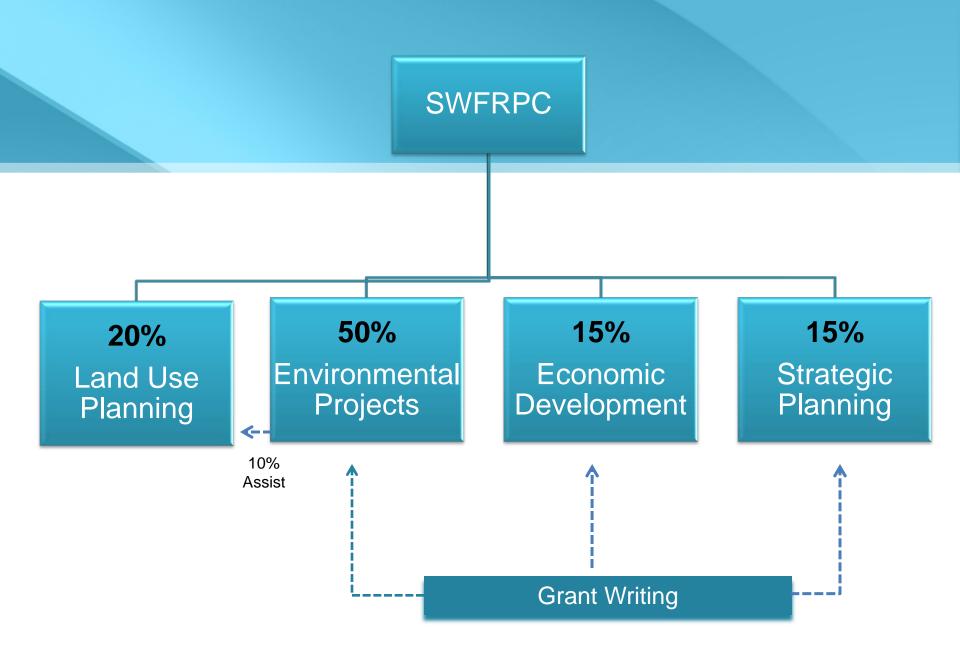
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# Discussion of the Relevancy And Future of the SWFRPC 8

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# SWFRPC FUTURE DIRECTION

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### LAND USE PLANNING

- DRI
- Comprehensive Plans\*

\*Assessment funded

### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS**

- National Estuary Program
- Other grant funded projects
- Technical Assistance\*
- Community Outreach\*

\*Assessment funded, remainder grant or user funded

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Manager of Federal Economic Development District\*
- Creates Comprehensive Economic
  Development Strategy Plan
- Provides technical assistance in grant writing, & partnering project identification\*
- Information Clearing House\*
- Data Collection & Dissemination\*

\*Assessment funded, remainder grant or user funded

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Strategic Regional Policy Plan-State\*
- Collaboration Grant Project
- Federal HUD Sustainable Communities Grant
- Six Pillars Regional Planning Platform

\*Assessment funded, remainder grant or user funded

#### Strategic Regional Policy Plan Community Developed Plan

• Unfunded State Mandate

#### **Affordable Housing**

**Emergency Preparedness** 

**Natural Resources** 

**Economic Development** 

**Regional Transportation** 



### **Collaboration Project**

- \$388,000 two year grant
- Generate template for how to create a community collaboration effort to be used as a tool kit item for projects that require broad community collaboration.



#### **Sustainable Communities Grant**

 HUD Grant to Develop Regional Plan for Sustainable Development through Intense Community Collaboration.

**Transportation Choices** 

Equitable, Affordable Housing

**Economic Competitiveness** 

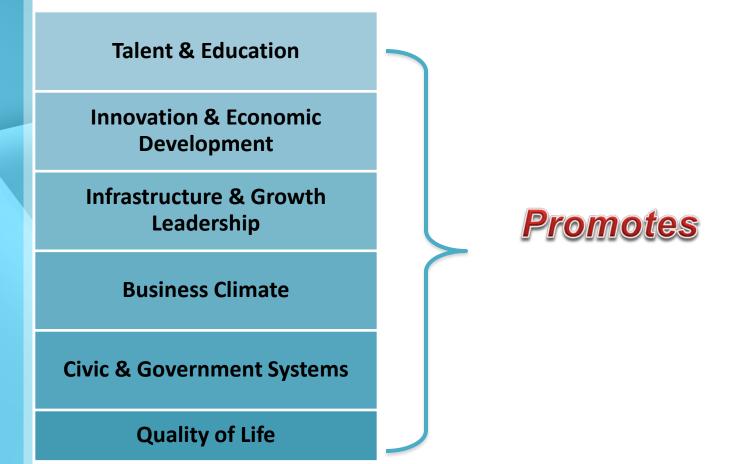
**Enhanced Existing Communities** 

Government Accountability & Effectiveness

Uniqueness of all Communities Rural, Urban, Sub-urban **Promotes** 

### **Six Pillars Regional Platform**

 Promote stronger economy for the State and within Regions. RPC can create/house 501C3.



# CONCLUSIONS

- Land Use Planning is a small part of overall RPC activities, RPC will not go away if DRI and comp plan reviews are discontinued by the State.
- Regional community would like stronger Economic Development function with leadership on Economic Development District management, Comprehensive Strategy Plan creation, data collection / dissemination, and technical assistance in identifying projects and grant writing.
- Communication on RPC functions and role within the region is lacking, strengths are misunderstood. Need better information sharing.
- Regional strategic planning is insufficient and significantly behind other regions in State, grant money is available to expand this function if region has the capability to perform.
- Grant writing is a core competency that needs to be recognized, rewarded and potentially expanded.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase support for economic development activities to meet regional needs.
- Expand strategic planning activities:
  - Continue Collaboration Grant and HUD Sustainable Communities Grant, if awarded
  - Explore implementing Florida Chamber Six Pillars platform in region as lead or through partnering with other organizations.
  - Promote regional plans through community involvement.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Hire executive director with strong communication, leadership, and collaboration skills, who can readily gain respect and trust in the region at all levels.
- Change structure of RPC meetings to better reflect council activities and improve information sharing and communication.
- Continue to support environmental projects related to estuaries, data collection, & outreach projects.