MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members  AGENDA ITEM 5L
From: Staff
Date: December 9, 2011 Council Meeting
Subject: Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Log

The Intergovernmental Coordination and Review process serves, in part, as an early warning system for the federal government to determine if a federally funded project is consistent with plans and ongoing community initiatives of local governments and the regional planning council. By coordinating with and requesting comments from affected local governments on applications, a duplication of efforts, funding and services can be avoided. This enables the tax dollars to be more effectively used to carry out local/regional initiatives in the region.

The attached Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Log presents two applications for federal funding of projects or programs. The Review Log contains the applicant’s name, project location, project description, federal funding source, and the amount of funds requested, as well as designation of Notification of Intent if it is a preliminary application. Staff recommendations are provided on the consistency of funding applications with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

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<th>TCRPC Number</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
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<td>11-PB-11-02</td>
<td>TIGER III Grant Application - Port of Palm Beach - Slip #3 Reconstruction and Expansion Project</td>
<td>The Port of Palm Beach District</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Transportation</td>
<td>$20,000,000</td>
<td>$46,375,984</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$23,608,894</td>
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Recommendation

Council should approve the comments in the attached report and authorize their distribution.

Attachments
TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND REVIEW LOG

TCRPC Number: 11-PB-11-01

Applicant: Pioneer Growers Cooperative

Project Description: Rural Business Cooperative Service Business and Industry Loan Guarantee Request

The Pioneer Growers Cooperative (PGC) is requesting the Rural Business Services division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to guarantee seventy percent of its proposed loan from the Florida Federal Land Bank Association (an affiliate of Farm Credit of Florida) to expand and renovate its packing and processing facility in Belle Glade.

The PGC was organized by a group of vegetable farmers over 50 years ago to handle and market their fresh vegetables produced in Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties. The PGC is owned by eleven members with over 20,000 acres of crops, which include sweet corn, green beans, radishes, celery, and cabbage. The PGC is one of the largest distributors of sweet corn in the world, as well as an industry leader in tray pack corn. The PGC partners with chain stores, wholesalers, and terminal markets around the world.

Currently, the PGC employs 25 year-round employees and 175 seasonal employees. The expansion is expected to increase seasonal employment by 40 and add five year-round positions.

It has become increasingly more difficult for the PGC to meet the Food Safety Requirements of the USDA. The requested loan will finance the replacement of a portion of the existing 50-year old building, including a new, more efficient hydro-cooler. Additionally, the cooler compressors will also be changed from Freon to a nitrogen based system which will increase efficiency. Without these renovations, the facility is at risk of a shut down.

Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development

Loan Amount: $3,608,894
**Recommendations:** The proposal is not in conflict or inconsistent with the **Strategic Regional Policy Plan.**

**Agencies Contacted:** Palm Beach County  
City of Belle Glade  
City of Pahokee  
City of South Bay
Applicant: The Port of Palm Beach District

Project Description: TIGER III Grant Application - Port of Palm Beach - Slip #3 Reconstruction and Expansion Project

The Port of Palm Beach is located on the east coast of Florida, within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Riviera Beach and unincorporated Palm Beach County. The port consists of three main slips and several connecting wharves and supports both passenger and cargo business. The port has rail and highway access and has 156-acres of freight storage and handling areas, including tanks, warehouses, container yards and intermodal yards.

The proposed project includes widening of existing Slip 3 to allow simultaneous docking at the north and south slip, facilitate more efficient use of on-dock rail, relocation of existing sugar gantry infrastructure and demolition of a deteriorated warehouse, construction of a roll on/roll off ramp to support cargo movement on the west wharf, and construction of a new berth to the south of the slip to expand capacity. The entire replacement of aged and failing bulkheads is proposed, and underground pipelines for other bulk commodities (fuel, asphalt, and molasses) will be replaced, as will the existing sugar gantry.

Slip 3 was originally constructed in the 1950s and currently supports approximately thirty-six percent of the port’s existing commodity movements. The slip is approximately 224’ wide and consists of three main berthing areas: the north, south and west bulkheads.

Deficiencies in Slip 3 were first identified in 2005 as part of the Port Master Plan update. It was determined that the slip configuration and associated aprons were not sufficient to support modern vessel sizes and freight movement needs.

The Port has secured a total of $20,106,988 in Florida Department of Transportation allocations and $6,268,996 in port funds, which will fund fifty-seven percent of the project. This application is to request $20 million to cover the remaining forty-three percent of the funding needed to enable project construction.

Employment associated with the freight that moves through the port impacts some of the most economically distressed communities in the
region. It is expected that 376 short-term construction jobs will be created by the project during the two-year construction period, and over 511 jobs will be created in the long-term relative to the maintenance and repair activities. The City of Riviera Beach, as well as the three cities in the Glades, will benefit from the employment opportunities that will be created by expanded and improved port facilities.

**Funding Agency:** U.S. Department of Transportation

**Estimated Funding:**
- $20,000,000 Federal
- $6,268,996 Applicant
- $20,106,988 State
- $46,375,984 Total

**Recommendations:** The proposal is not in conflict or inconsistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan. The proposed reconstruction of Slip 3 will further Regional Goal 3.1, which calls for an improved economy for the Region’s distressed communities; and Regional Goal 3.5, improved transportation and education linkages throughout the Region.

**Agencies Contacted:**
- Palm Beach County
- City of Belle Glade
- City of Pahokee
- Town of Palm Beach
- City of Riviera Beach
- City of South Bay
- City of West Palm Beach
EXISTING CONDITIONS

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO SLIP #3