Introduction

Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council has received Resolution No. 2014-003 adopted by the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners on January 7, 2014 (attached). This resolution requests that the name of the Seven50 resource document be changed and any future documents accurately reflect the number of counties participating in the process. The resolution indicates that Seven50 is supposed to stand for “seven counties, 50 years,” but this is now a misrepresentation of the facts given that three counties have withdrawn from the process. Also, the resolution indicates that use of the name Seven50 ignores the decisions of the region’s elected representatives that have voted to withdraw from Seven50. This report presents background and analysis related to this request.

Background

The Seven50 SE Florida Prosperity Plan is the result of a comprehensive planning effort that was made possible by a $4.25 million Sustainable Communities Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This grant was awarded to the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC), in partnership with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC), and more than 130 additional members of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership. The Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI) grant was formally in effect from February 21, 2011 to February 21, 2014.

The Southeast Florida Regional Partnership was established during the application process for the SCI grant. SFRPC and TCRPC created the Partnership by entering into memoranda of understanding with 130 organizations. Additionally, 70 other organizations provided letters and resolutions of support for the Partnership. The Partnership includes public, private, non-profit, and civic stakeholders. The Partnership was created to establish a collaborative regional effort to prepare and carry out the SCI grant application and work program. A subset of the Partnership members also agreed to participate in the Sustainable Communities Grant Consortium, which was organized to form the core team to carry out activities related to the grant.
The SCI grant application also included the creation of an Executive Committee that provided advice and guidance to SFRPC and TCRPC regarding the completion of grant work products and management of the grant. The Executive Committee assisted in: 1) selecting the project director and project manager; 2) setting bylaws; 3) developing the work plan and budget; 4) receiving and approving subcommittee recommendations; and 5) reviewing proposals associated with implementation of tasks and deliverables.

At the time of the SCI grant application, the Partnership recognized that grant resources would be used to create a shared regional vision and investment plan for Southeast Florida. Initially, the plan was referred to as “The Southeast Florida Regional Vision and Blueprint for Economic Prosperity.” However, on June 1, 2012, the Executive Committee adopted a new project identity: Seven50, SE Florida Prosperity Plan. The new name was adopted to provide a strong, clear, easy to remember identity to the program. Seven50 is an acronym referring to the seven counties within the South Florida and Treasure Coast regions, and a 50-year timeframe for the plan. The geographic area addressed by the Seven50 project is the “Southeast Florida Region,” made up of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties.

The first draft of the Seven50 report was released on October 11, 2013. The report was updated on January 14, 2014 after extensive input from members of the public, members of the Partnership, both regional planning council boards, and the Executive Committee. The report identifies future trends and planning strategies to help ensure stronger communities, create jobs and a more resilient economy, establish short and long-term regional infrastructure needs, and protect the fragile ecosystems in Southeast Florida. The report is intended as a resource document to assist local governments in determining if they are positioned to take advantage of future trends in their efforts to strengthen and protect the economy, natural environment, and unique character of their individual communities. The report may be downloaded as a PDF file from the website, www.seven50report.org. Also, this website has an online version of the report, which will continue to be updated as new information becomes available.

Analysis

After the SCI grant was awarded in 2011, the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership grew to more than 150 members. However, starting in late 2012, several members withdrew their support of the program. The following table shows the organizations that stopped participating in the Seven50 planning effort after initially joining the Partnership:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Effective Date of Withdrawal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indian River County</td>
<td>12-18-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vero Beach</td>
<td>01-08-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Indian River Shores</td>
<td>01-30-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian River County School District</td>
<td>05-30-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Lucie County</td>
<td>11-07-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian River County Metropolitan Planning Organization</td>
<td>12-11-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Port St. Lucie</td>
<td>01-27-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Boca Raton</td>
<td>02-12-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin County</td>
<td>02-21-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Stuart</td>
<td>02-21-2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following organizations from the counties that withdrew continue to remain as members of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership:

- City of Fellsmere
- City of Sebastian
- Habitat for Humanity – Indian River County
- Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County
- Jacobs Engineering LLC
- St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization
- Children’s Services Council of Martin County
- Economic Council of Martin County
- Martin County Community Redevelopment Agency
- Martin Metropolitan Planning Organization
- United Way of Martin County
- Indian River State College
- Workforce Solutions (Treasure Coast)

The following organizations from the counties that withdrew submitted letters and resolutions in support of the Partnership:

- Cultural Council of Indian River County
- Indian River Citrus League
- Indian River County Chamber of Commerce
- Indian River Economic Development Council
- RCL Development
- Arts Council of Martin County
- Business Development Board of Martin County
- Economic Development Council of Martin County
- Martin Soil and Water Conservation District
- Workforce Solutions (Martin County)
- American Institute of Architects Treasure Coast Chapter
- Florida’s Research Coast
- Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments
- Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities

Martin County and the City of Stuart continued to participate in the Partnership until the SCI grant period officially ended on February 21, 2014. All three counties that withdrew from the Partnership contributed to the SCI planning process while they were members of the Partnership by attending planning meetings, workshops, and providing information that was used to create the Seven50 plan. Elected county commissioners from all seven counties, including the three that withdrew, served on the Executive Committee throughout the planning process.
Conclusion

The name Seven50 provides an accurate description of the seven-county planning area addressed by the SCI project. The name reflects the geographic area identified as the Southeast Florida Region, which includes Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties. The Seven50 plan includes a seven-county transportation model; seven-county sea level rise inundation assessment; and seven-county leadership assets map. The Seven50 data warehouse and other planning tools apply to the entire seven-county area. The Seven50 project has Partnership members and supporting organizations in all seven counties. Over 145 organizations remain as members of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, and over 65 public, private, and civic organizations continue to support the Partnership (lists attached).

Recommendation

Council should continue to support use of the name Seven50. The Seven50 website should maintain an updated list of the Partnership members and those that withdrew from the process.

Attachments
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA REQUESTING ALL SEVEN50 DOCUMENTS ACCURATELY REFLECT THE NUMBER OF COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PROCESS; INSTRUCTING THE CLERK TO THE BOARD TO MAIL COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND REQUESTING A VOTE BY THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, among the core values of the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) of Indian River County are representative democracy, fiscal responsibility, local decision making, limited government and Liberty; and

WHEREAS, the Seven50 plan is based not on the core values of Indian River County, but on HUD’s Six Livability Principles; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Indian River County believes that any plan for Indian River County should take its direction from the citizens of Indian River County, and not from an unelected bureaucracy in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the Seven50 plan undermines representative democracy and local decision making by calling for unelected regional boards that “transcend geographic boundaries and local political considerations”; and

WHEREAS, the Seven50 plan ignores economic reality and fiscal responsibility by calling for multiple subsidies and this Board recognizes that neither a county nor a region can subsidize its way to prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Indian River County recognizes that the way to foster local decision making is to support home rule and keep decision making in the communities affected by the decisions and away from unelected bureaucracies be they in Stuart, Miami or Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the only way for Liberty to prosper is to keep and maintain a limited government, close to the people, and to avoid the creation of bureaucracies, which are not representative of the people, and

WHEREAS, the people of Indian River County in a great example of self-government, have made clear to their elected representatives that the Seven50 plan is not consistent with their views of Liberty and limited government, and

WHEREAS, Seven50 is supposed to stand for “seven counties, 50 years”, it is now a misrepresentation of facts given that three counties have withdrawn from the process and ignores
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-003

the decisions of the regions elected representatives elected by the citizens of their Counties, have voted to withdraw from Seven50.

Section 1. The Board of Indian River County requests that the Seven50 bureaucracy change the name of the resource document and any future documents to accurately reflect the number of Counties that are still participating in the process.

Section 2. The Board of Indian River County directs the Clerk of the Board of Indian River County to mail a certified copy of this resolution to Samuel Ferreri, the Chair of the Executive Committee of Seven50, to Michael Busha, the Executive Director of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and to James Murley, the Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council.

Section 3. The Board respectfully requests that this matter be placed on the agenda for a vote at the March 21st Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council meeting.

The foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Commissioner Solari, and seconded by Commissioner Flescher, and, upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Peter D. O'Bryan
Vice Chairman Wesley S. Davis
Commissioner Joseph E. Flescher
Commissioner Bob Solari
Commissioner Tim Zorc

Nay
Aye
Aye
Aye
Aye

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of January, 2014.

ATTEST: Jeffrey R. Smith, Clerk of Court and Comptroller

By: Deputy Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

BCC approval date: January 7, 2014

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

By: Dylan Reingold, County Attorney
Southeast Florida Regional Partnership Members

1000 Friends of Florida*
79th Street Corridor Neighborhood Initiative
Advanced Green Technologies
Advanced Roofing
Audubon of Florida
Barry University
Beacon Council
Broward College*
Broward County League of Cities
Broward County*
Broward Housing Partnership
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization*
Broward Workshop
Builders Association of South Florida
Business Development Board, Palm Beach County
Business Forum of Palm Beach County
Business Loan Fund of the Palm Beaches, Inc.
Carras Community Investment, Inc.
Catalyst Miami*
Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce*
Children’s Services Council of Martin County
Citi Community Development*
City of Dania Beach
City of Deerfield Beach*
City of Delray Beach*
City of Fellsmere
City of Fort Lauderdale*
City of Hollywood
City of Key West*
City of Lake Worth
City of Lauderdale Lakes
City of Lauderdale Lakes CRA
City of Margate
City of Miramar*
City of North Lauderdale
City of Oakland Park
City of OpaLocka
City of Pompano Beach*
City of Sebastian*
City of Sunrise
City of Sweetwater
City of West Palm Beach*
City of Weston
Clean Water Fund
Consolidated Credit Counseling Services, Inc.
Coordinating Council of Broward
Credit Card Management Services, Inc.
Delray Beach CRA
Delray Beach Housing Authority*
Dover Kohl & Partners
Drawing Conclusions LLC
Dream Home Organization, Inc.
Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company
Economic Council of Martin County
Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County
Enterprise Development Corporation of South Florida
Enterprise Florida
Florida Atlantic University*
Florida Department of Transportation Dist. IV*
Florida Department of Transportation Dist. VI*
Florida Housing Coalition
Florida International University*
Florida Public Health Institute
Florida Redevelopment Association*
Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition
Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance*
Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Habitat for Humanity – Greater Miami
Habitat for Humanity – Indian River County
Health Council of South Florida
Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.
Hollywood Council of Civic Associations
Housing Leadership Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.*
Indian Creek Village
Indian River State College
Jacobs Engineering LLC
Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County Inc.
Little Haiti Housing Organization, Inc.
Liberty City Community Revitalization Trust*
Life Sciences South Florida*
Mark Buchbinder Consulting
Martin County CRA
Martin Metropolitan Planning Organization*
Miami Dade Affordable Housing Foundation, Inc.
Miami Dade College*
Miami Dade Expressway Authority*
Miami Downtown Development Authority
Miami-Dade County*
Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization*
Miami-Dade Public Housing Agency
Monroe County*
Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida
North Dade Regional Chamber of Commerce
OIC of Broward County, Inc.
Okeechobee County Schools
OpaLocka Community Development Corporation
Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc.
Palm Beach County Resource Center
Palm Beach County*
Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization*
Palm Beach State College
Palms West Chamber Foundation*
PNC Community Development Banking
Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center*
Smart Growth Partnership
Social Compact Inc.
South Florida Community Development Coalition
South Florida Cultural Consortium*
South Florida Regional Business Alliance*
South Florida Regional Planning Council*
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority*
Southeast Florida Transportation Council*
St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization*
St. Thomas University*
Sustain-a-Village
The Center for Technology Enterprise & Development
The State Road 7 / US 441 Collaborative
The Trust for Public Lands
Town of Cutler Bay
Town of Davie
Town of Jupiter
Town of Lake Park
Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea
Town of Wellington
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council*
Tropical Audubon Society
United Way of Martin County
Univ. of Florida / Shimberg Center for Housing Studies
Univ. of Florida/IFAS Extension
University of Miami
Urban Health Solutions, LLC
Urban Health Partnership, Inc.
Urban Land Institute – National and Southeast Florida / Caribbean Chapters
Urban Land Institute – Southeast Florida / Caribbean Chapter*
Urban League of Broward County
Urban League of Greater Miami
Urgent, Inc.
West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency*
West Palm Beach Housing Authority*
Westgate/Belvedere Homes CRA
Workforce Alliance (Palm Beach)
Workforce Solutions (Treasure Coast)
Zyscovich

* Consortium Partner

Letters and Resolutions in Support of the Partnership

American Institute of Architects Treasure Coast Chapter
Arts Council of Martin County
Broward Cultural Council
Business Development Board of Martin County
City of Belle Glade
City of Boynton Beach
City of Coral Gables
City of Florida City
City of Greenacres
City of Hialeah
City of Lauderhill
City of Miami Gardens
City of Miami Springs
City of North Miami
City of Pembroke Pines
Clean Water Fund
Cultural Council of Indian River County
Department of Children and Families, Circuit 17
Economic Development Council of Martin County
Economic Council of Palm Beach County
Enterprise Florida
Everglades Foundation
Farm Credit of South Florida
Florida Brownfields Association
Florida Departments of Community Affairs, Elder Affairs, Health, and Transportation
Florida Poison Information Center - Miami
Florida Power & Light (FPL)
Florida’s Research Coast
Gate House Home & Estate Services
Girl’s Club
Hollywood Council of Civic Associations
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
Indian River Citrus League
Indian River County Chamber of Commerce
Indian River Economic Development Council
Latin Chamber (Broward County)
Marine Industries Association of South Florida
Martin Soil and Water Conservation District
Miami-Dade Climate Change Advisory Task Force
Miami Dade College Earth Ethics Institute
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Miami-Dade League of Cities
Museum of Discovery and Science (Fort Lauderdale)
National Parks Conservation Association
Northern Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce
Nova Southeastern University
Palm Beach County School Board
PNC Community Development Banking
Port Everglades (Broward County)
RCL Development
School Board of Broward County
Seminole Improvement District
South Florida Water Management District
Southeast Florida State Legislative Delegation
Southeast Florida Utilities Council
St. John’s Water Management District
The Miami Foundation
Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments
Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities
Tropical Audubon Society
United States Congressional Delegation for Southeast Florida
United States Senator Bill Nelson - Florida
United States Senator George Le Mieux
Urban Environmental League
Urban Land Institute – National
US Green Building Council South Florida Chapter
Village of Islamorada
Workforce One (Broward County)
Workforce Solutions (Martin County)