To: Council Members

From: Staff

Date: September 19, 2014 Council Meeting

Subject: Amendment to Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for Professional Services Relating to Land Use, Planning, and Technical Assistance

Introduction

The purpose of this item is to request Council approve a resolution to amend an existing Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) between Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The amendment to the JPA is to provide additional professional services relating to land use and planning assistance in support of transportation projects, including the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Study (formerly referred to as the South Florida East Coast Corridor, or SFECC Study).

Background

For the past several years, Council staff has assisted FDOT with land use planning and public outreach regarding major transportation projects, including the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Study, which is evaluating opportunities to reintroduce passenger transit along the FEC Corridor from Palm Beach County south to Miami-Dade County. Council staff has been requested by FDOT to assist in the evaluation of station area planning conditions along the corridor, identify opportunities to improve the transit-supportive framework in comprehensive plans, and provide assistance directly to local governments for related comprehensive plan amendments. The assistance includes working sessions with FDOT and local governments, review of plans, and public workshops. Council’s current JPA with FDOT for land use and planning assistance would be increased by $50,000 to a total amount of $726,500 for this effort. Completion of this JPA is anticipated by June 30, 2015.

Conclusion

Improving the relationship between land use patterns and transportation planning will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the transportation network, create better opportunities for
multi-modal success, and enhance quality of life throughout the Region. Additional funding will allow TCRPC to provide additional assistance to local governments to enhance the transit-supportive policy framework along the FEC Corridor, and further implement the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

**Recommendation**

Council should approve the attached resolution and authorize the Executive Director to execute the supplemental Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation.

Attachment
RESOLUTION #14-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR LAND USE, CONCURRENCE, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties form the four county region represented by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC); and

WHEREAS, TCRPC is responsible for the implementation of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) to help guide land use decisions in the Region; and

WHEREAS, the SRPP emphasizes the need to improve the relationship between land use and transportation planning in new development and redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is the state agency responsible for planning, constructing, and maintaining the state-wide transportation system; and

WHEREAS, FDOT and TCRPC act as partner agencies to improve the relationship between land use and transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, FDOT seeks additional assistance from TCRPC for land use, planning, and technical assistance in support of FDOT projects, particularly as related to a multi-modal perspective and for South Florida East Coast Corridor Study and the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council authorizes execution of a Supplemental Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation in the continuation of services identified in the original agreement dated July 24, 2007, pertaining to land use, concurrency, and other technical assistance as needed. Other types of assistance to be provided include support of public outreach, public education, and related tasks regarding station area planning for the South Florida East Coast Corridor Study and the Tri-Rail Coastal Link.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption hereof.

DULY ADOPTED by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council this 19th day of September 2014.

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Peter O’Bryan                  Michael J. Busha
Chairman                       Executive Director