TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members  
AGENDA ITEM 8Q

From: Staff

Date: September 18, 2015 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 or program is consistent with plans and ongoing community initiatives of local governments and the regional planning council. The review process is intended to inform the applicant of potential concerns or inconsistencies regarding the proposed activity. Council’s statutory role is to coordinate the state’s required review process at the local level. Council has requested comments from potentially affected local governments in an effort to avoid duplication of efforts, funding, services, and to ensure the efficient use of resources. The attached Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Log presents a summary and recommendations on the following applications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TCRPC Number</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Federal Funding Requested</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-PB-07-01</td>
<td>Draft Environmental Assessment – Strazzulla Tract</td>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-FL-08-01</td>
<td>Consolidated Plan (FY 2015-2020) and Action Plan (FY 2015-2016)</td>
<td>Palm Beach County</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
<td>$7,804,149</td>
<td>$7,829,149</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$7,804,149</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,829,149</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Recommendation

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

Attachments
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate proposed Strazzulla tract public use recreational opportunities for the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (Exhibit 1). On May 14, 2015, the South Florida Water Management District governing board voted in favor of a land swap, which will give ownership of 2,586 acres known as the Strazzulla tract to the national wildlife refuge. The Strazzulla tract is located in unincorporated Palm Beach County directly south of Wellington and on the east side of the 141,374-acre refuge (Exhibit 2). The Strazzulla tract is a cypress-dominated wetland that provides habitat for a variety of wildlife species. The purpose of the Draft EA is to evaluate the environmental impacts of proposed public use recreational opportunities on the Strazzulla tract, and identify the refuge’s role in administering those potential uses.

The Draft EA evaluated three alternatives: 1) No Action – No Public Use Opportunities; 2) Light Public Use; and 3) Moderate Public Use. The proposed alternative is Light Public Use. The national wildlife refuge is proposing the following public use options: environmental education; wildlife observation; a boardwalk and interpretive trail; a photo blind; and a wildlife observation tower. Additionally, the refuge would carefully consider the potential for a small-scale hunt for deer and feral hog; bike riding on existing trails; limited camping for youth groups in designated areas; and a horseback riding trail. The refuge plans to use existing trails and levees when possible to minimize both environmental impacts and construction costs. Under this alternative, public use recreational opportunities are expected to have negligible impacts to natural communities and endangered and threatened species.

**Funding Agency:** N/A

**Estimated Funding:** N/A

**Recommendations:** No adverse effects on regional resources or facilities and no extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified.

**Agencies Contacted:** Palm Beach County Local Governments  
Palm Beach County Environmental Resource Management  
Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization
Exhibit 2
Strazzulla Tract Location and Boundaries and Approved and Proposed Expansion of the USFWS Acquisition Boundaries
**TCRPC Number:** 15-PB-08-01  
**Applicant:** Palm Beach County  
**Project Description:** Consolidated Plan for FY 2015-2020 and Action Plan for FY 2015-2016  

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires all jurisdictions eligible for funding under Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); HOME Investment Partnerships; and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) programs prepare a Consolidated Plan for community planning no less than every five years, and an Action Plan every year. In order to meet this requirement, Palm Beach County’s Department of Economic Sustainability has prepared the Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-2020 and the Action Plan for FY 2015-2016.  

The county’s Consolidated Plan is a planning document that will guide funding strategies under all Community Planning and Development formula grant programs. The Consolidated Plan identifies priority needs related to affordable housing, homelessness, public services, special needs populations, public improvements, and economic development based on market statistical analysis, needs assessments, and public input through a citizen participation process.  

The Action Plan for FY 2015-2016 identifies nine projects, within which 43 activities will be funded by the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs throughout the county. The projects include code enforcement, public facilities, public infrastructure, public services, homelessness prevention activities, housing related activities, rapid re-housing, and administrative costs. CDBG and ESG activities are shown on the attached map. HOME program activities include tenant-based rental assistance, community housing development organization activities, and program administration.  

**Funding Agency:** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
**Estimated Funding:** $5,750,879  
<table>
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<th>Program</th>
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<td>HOME Program</td>
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<td>ESG Program</td>
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<td>CDBG Program Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Recommendations:** No adverse effects on regional resources or facilities and no extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified.  
**Agencies Contacted:** All Palm Beach County Local Governments