



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

DRAFT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 – 3:45 P.M.

January-December 2019

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Jordan Yates, Chair	P	9	0
Nicholas Kuchova, Vice Chair	P	9	0
Jay Adams	P	4	2
Michael Buonaiuto	P	9	0
Christopher “Kit” Denison	P	7	2
Dudly Etienne-Harvard	P	4	2
Bernice Lee	A	6	3
David Neal	P	9	0

Staff

Michael Chen, City Liaison, Economic and Business Development Manager
Suzy Joseph, Economic Development Program Aide
Joseph Cruz, Representative of Fort Lauderdale Commissioner Heather Moraitis
Tatiana Guerrier, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to the City Commission

None.

I. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

Chair Yates called the meeting to order at 3:51 p.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

II. Approval of August 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Buonaiuto, seconded by Vice Chair Kuchova, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

III. Staff Updates

The Board members and guests introduced themselves as well.

Chair Yates noted that former Board member Steve Buckingham has resigned from the Board. Mr. Chen advised that there are currently three vacant seats on the Board. Prospective members must reside in Fort Lauderdale or participate in a business within the City. He added that the Board is in need of representation from a cross-section of different types of businesses throughout the City to provide varying perspectives to the table. The Ordinance that created the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) provides a full list of the criteria for membership.

Mr. Chen reported that the City is on track to set a new record for annual building permits, with a slightly lower average value per permit. He also provided the members with a second quarter market report from *Collier's International*.

Mr. Chen continued that he had met once more with Broward County Vice Mayor Dale Holness, who addressed the August 14, 2019 Board meeting regarding the proposed Latin American and Caribbean Presidential and Prime Minister Museum and Library. Vice Mayor Holness is leading the County's effort to establish this facility in Fort Lauderdale, where it would be a component of the Greater Fort Lauderdale / Broward County Convention Center expansion.

Mr. Buonaiuto referred to an earlier presentation to the Board by the City's Nighttime Economy Manager, recalling that the Board had requested an overview of the City's daytime and nighttime economies. Mr. Chen noted that the Board had made a formal recommendation to the City Commission in support of an initiative requested by Nighttime Economy Manager Sarah Hannah-Spurlock, with the qualification that the study also consider the economic impact of the City's daytime economy. The City Commission is likely to consider this recommendation with regard to the 2019-2020 budget.

IV. Review / Discuss presentations from past meetings to determine if actions and / or recommendations to the Commission should be considered:

- **Mission-To-Market Subcommittee**

Chair Yates recalled that the Board received approval from the City Commission to form a subcommittee to focus on the Mission-to-Market initiative. The subcommittee will be governed by the same Ordinance that oversees the EDAB and must follow the same rules and regulations as the Board, including public notice and recording of minutes.

Mr. Chen stated that aside from basic rules, the subcommittee will fall under the Board's discretion regarding its size, description, and nature. He pointed out that the subcommittee's membership will include but is not limited to members of the EDAB, and suggested that the members seek to include contacts who may provide valuable input to the subcommittee as members or presenters.

Mr. Chen advised that the Board will need to work with the City's recording service to determine availability. He will also need to locate a meeting space, which may be within the Department of Sustainable Development rather than at City Hall. The Board will also need to determine the hierarchy of the subcommittee and identify the Staff member or members tasked with its oversight. While Mr. Chen will attend subcommittee meetings whenever possible, there may be opportunities for other City Staff members to gain experience through further interaction with the group.

Vice Chair Kuchova suggested that the Board reach out to Florida International University (FIU) for information on how their materials will be archived or made available to the public, as well as on which aspects of the Mission-to-Market program may provide the greatest opportunity for Fort Lauderdale and South Florida.

Mr. Chen suggested that the subcommittee's intent be as broad as possible so it can cover any subject relevant to the Mission-to-Market program and the City's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in relation to this program. Once the subcommittee has met, it can further determine its priorities and boundaries.

Mr. Chen offered to provide copies of the Board's policies and its governing Ordinance for the members' review. He agreed to explore the availability of City Hall or Department of Sustainable Development facilities and bring this information back to the next Board meeting.

Chair Yates, Vice Chair Kuchova, Mr. Buonaiuto, Mr. Denison, and Mr. Neal expressed an interest in serving on the subcommittee. Its purpose and scope would be to support the implementation and growth of the adopted MOU to the benefit of the City of Fort Lauderdale, the state of Florida, and the United States. Mr. Chen pointed out that the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) intends the program to have a national and possibly international reach.

Mr. Chen suggested that the subcommittee could provide proactive outreach to generate a pipeline of candidates to the Mission-to-Market program. While this would not be a separate part of the subcommittee's definition, as it is covered under implementation of the MOU, he urged the members to establish an ongoing program that would provide a meaningful long-term contribution to the overall effort.

Mr. Denison asked if the subcommittee would be constrained from meeting more often than on a monthly basis. Mr. Chen replied there is no such constraint as long as the meetings are publicly noticed and minutes are recorded. Vice Chair Kuchova emphasized the subcommittee's potential role in bringing different facets of the business community, such as businesses, investors, and incubators, together toward the greater goal of the Mission-to-Market program.

Mr. Chen noted that once a Chair has been identified for the subcommittee and the group has met, they can address additional needs and tasks, including a meeting with

one or more FIU representatives to discuss objectives and goals. USDOE will provide funding to FIU to create the foundation of the Mission-to-Market program, while the City is considered an appendage to this relationship to accelerate the accomplishment of the program's objectives. Fort Lauderdale does not have a direct relationship with USDOE.

Mr. Chen recommended delegation of an individual subcommittee member to reach out to candidate businesses and other elements that may wish to participate in the program. Discussion of funding will have greater urgency and feasibility once the program is more clearly defined and candidates are identified for the pipeline. FIU visualizes a four- to six-month training session to prepare companies to be recipients of USDOE technology.

Mr. Chen continued that the program is seeking viable start-up prospects or existing companies with sufficient business experience that suggests they could profit from the Mission-to-Market program over the long term. The goal is to identify these companies' interests and determine how FIU can conduct a focused search of USDOE technologies that will fit their needs. He strongly emphasized the need for participation by women- or minority-owned companies in the program.

Mr. Chen advised that a second factor is the need for the subcommittee to partner with existing entrepreneurial training sources, such as those provided by Nova Southeastern University, Broward College, Career Source, public trade schools, and others. This will coordinate the subcommittee's efforts to create a pipeline for USDOE with existing efforts.

It was determined that the subcommittee would include the five Board members cited earlier, and would follow terms according to City policy, with a location to be determined and the purpose of supporting the implementation and growth of the Mission-to-Market MOU to the direct benefit of the City, County, state, and the U.S. and international communities.

Motion made by Vice Chair Kuchova, seconded by Mr. Denison, as stated above. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

- **Proposed Latin American and Caribbean Presidential Library**

This Item was not discussed.

- **Junior Achievement Presentation**

This Item was not discussed.

Russell Weaver, representing Sister Cities International, reported the following upcoming events:

- September 18: Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce at Tower Club
- October 2: Fire Expo Reception at Harbor Beach Marriott

- October 23: United Kingdom and Irish Chambers of Commerce at Tower Club
- December 16: Azul Airlines begins service to Belo Horizonte, Fort Lauderdale's Sister City in Brazil
- February 19, 2020: United Arab Emirates/Dubai at Tower Club

Mr. Chen advised that he represents the City on Sister Cities International's Board of Directors.

V. New Business

The next Economic Development Advisory Board meeting will be October 9, 2019.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]

ECI BUSINESS PIPELINE

September 2019		Subject(s) Discussed
1	FIU / DOE (x 3)	Discussing next steps with FIU on the M2M initiative - Initiated discussions with potential recipients of DOE tech.
2	Comprehensive Plan	Open house presentation of draft comprehensive plan.
3	New ED webpages	ECI has been providing the City "story board" and data, photos, etc. to re-build the ECI webpages.
4	New ED video	ECI has been working with Multi-Media to revise/update the ED video for the new webpages.
5	New ED video - BEAMs	ECI is working with Multi-Media to produce a new video dedicated to BEAMs for the new webpages. This will include student and faculty testimonials.
6	Webinar on International Trade	
7	CoStar Meeting	Update on the features of this real estate software.
8	Crane company	Working with an international crane/hoist company to establish a US subsidiary in Ft
9	GFL Chamber - Washington Summit	Briefing to be provided.
10	Sister Cities Board meeting	Introduced them to MIASF.
11	Alliance, Broward Workshop, Aero, SCI, Chmaber	Attending committee meetings/events to support partners

**Economic Development Advisory Board
FY 2019 (YTD) Building Permit Activity**

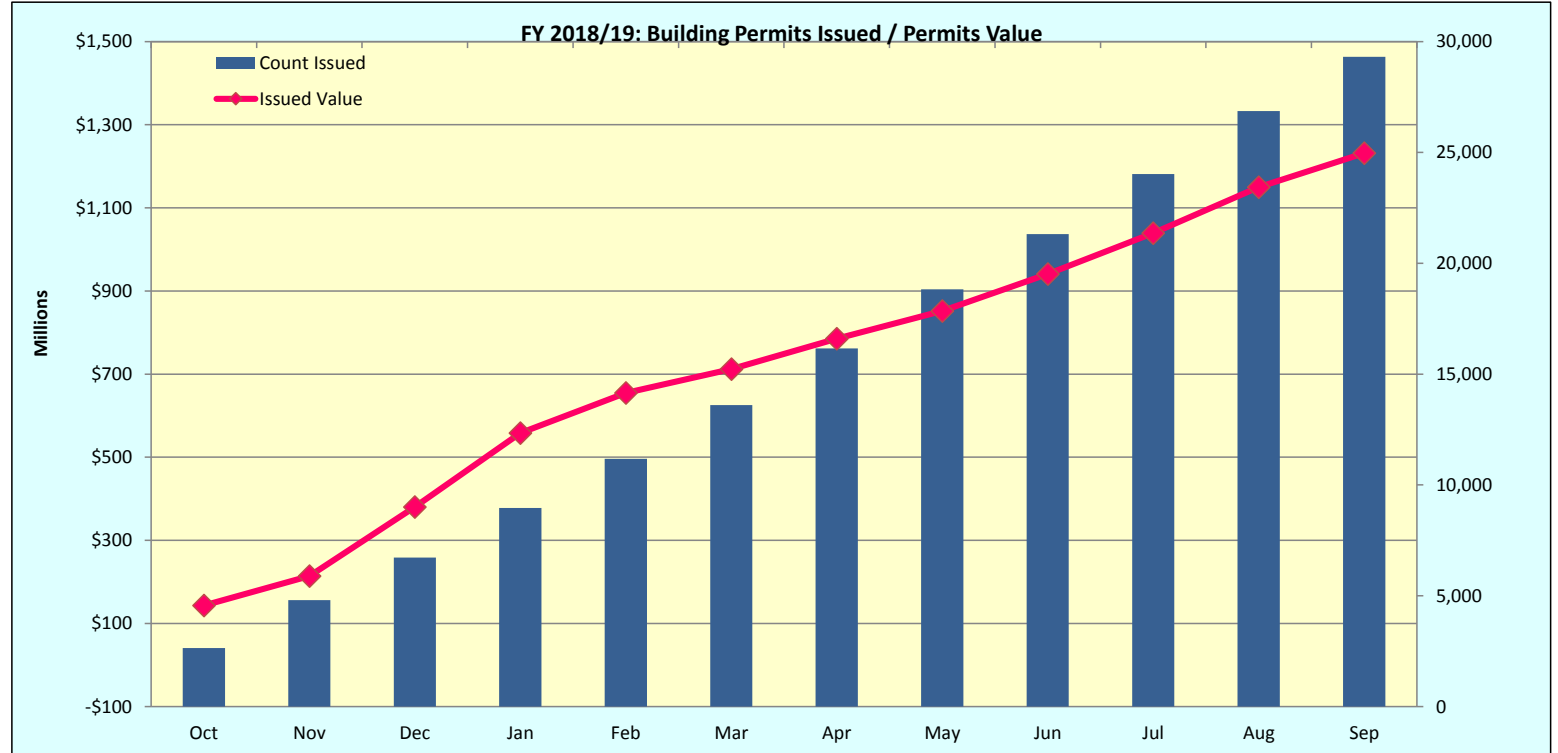
Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year-To-Date
Count Issued	2,636	2,172	1,917	2,231	2,220	2,431	2,552	2,666	2,492	2,712	2,835	2,452	29,316
Value	\$143,253,753	\$70,600,464	\$166,144,391	\$178,105,786	\$96,576,895	\$57,144,607	\$73,393,201	\$66,568,005	\$89,186,813	\$98,142,713	\$110,643,327	\$81,898,334	\$1,231,658,289
Cumulative													
Count Issued	2,636	4,808	6,725	8,956	11,176	13,607	16,159	18,825	21,317	24,029	26,864	29,316	
Value	\$143,253,753	\$213,854,217	\$379,998,608	\$558,104,394	\$654,681,289	\$711,825,896	\$785,219,097	\$851,787,102	\$940,973,915	\$1,039,116,628	\$1,149,759,955	\$1,231,658,289	

NOTE: The data that comprise the totals in this summary is constantly being updated. Therefore, these total do not necessarily match the total from the monthly data.

FY 2019 YTD Permits Issued by Trade		
Trade	Issued	Value
Building	11,834	883,790,614
Electrical	6,152	71,855,541
Engineering	1,050	8,148,206
Flood	26	2,150,012
Landscaping	850	2,191,921
Mechanical	3,396	59,826,139
Plumbing	5,554	99,671,071
By Affidavit	13	102,594,117
Grand Total	28,875	1,230,227,621

Peak Building Permit Activity: FY05/06
 Applications: 35,681
 Permits Issued: 31,870
 Permit Value: \$1,446,456,647

NOTE: Hurricane Wilma hit in Oct of 2005. This caused an abnormally high volume of permit applications and permits issued.



Economic Development Advisory Board Building Permit Activity - Year To Year Comparison

Issued	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
FY 18/19	2,636	2,172	1,917	2,231	2,220	2,431	2,552	2,666	2,492	2712	2,835	2452	29,316
FY 17-18	2,335	2,050	2,043	1,436	2,187	2,610	2,324	2,550	2,265	2,340	2,446	2,221	26,807
FY 16-17	2,029	2,050	2,198	1,933	1,831	2,554	2,074	2,567	2,572	2,244	2,622	1,485	26,159
FY 15-16	2,364	1,913	2,144	1,934	1,895	2,011	2,152	1,979	2,411	2,166	2,684	2,151	25,804
FY 14-15	2,320	1,720	2,165	1,928	2,182	2,454	2,404	1,969	2,359	2,352	2,282	2,207	26,342
FY 13-14	2,158	1,671	1,693	1,886	1,783	2,042	2,078	2,065	2,028	2,222	1,912	2,043	23,581

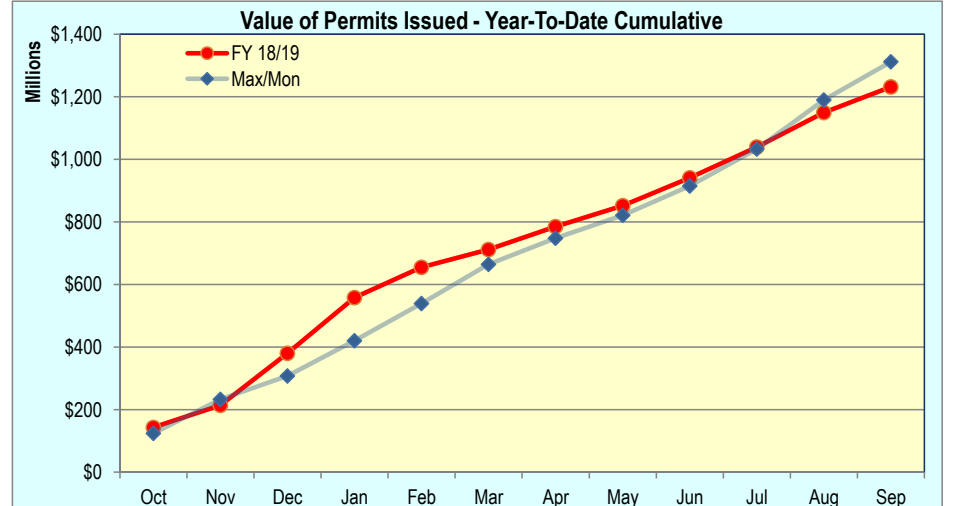
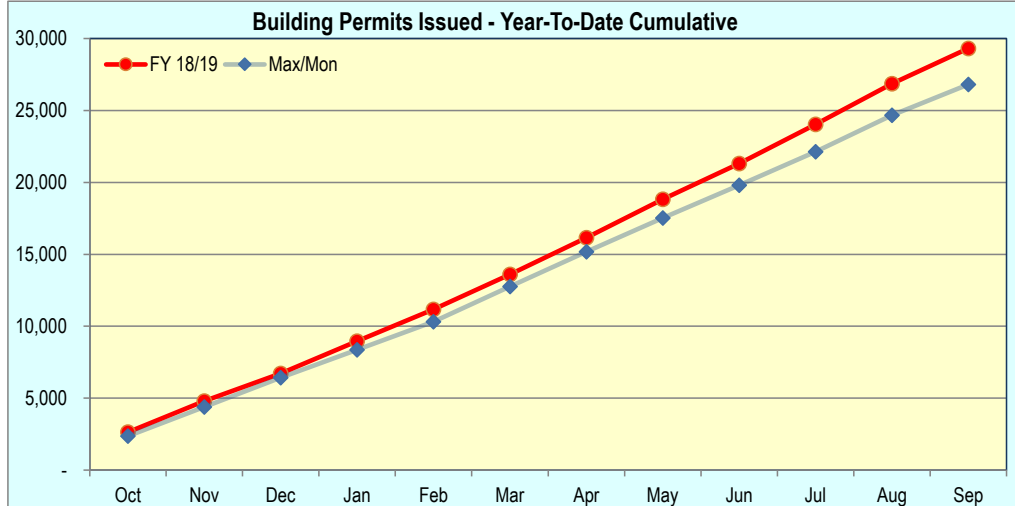
Value	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
FY 18/19	\$143,253,753	\$70,600,464	\$166,144,391	\$178,105,786	\$96,576,895	\$57,144,607	\$73,393,201	\$66,568,005	\$89,186,813	\$98,142,713	\$110,643,327	\$81,898,334	\$1,231,658,289
FY 17-18	\$55,661,618	\$152,958,665	\$59,740,113	\$104,002,784	\$166,456,881	\$125,893,691	\$83,165,944	\$73,267,651	\$93,544,442	\$118,108,562	\$157,473,439	\$121,357,825	\$1,311,631,615
FY 16-17	\$123,921,353	\$108,563,274	\$75,270,124	\$112,116,500	\$94,746,424	\$122,726,209	\$64,674,735	\$93,242,310	\$74,129,480	\$150,244,475	\$111,698,782	\$142,682,256	\$1,274,015,922
FY 15-16	\$67,511,481	\$41,287,431	\$55,726,954	\$51,741,512	\$117,489,505	\$63,955,076	\$60,652,318	\$108,422,328	\$98,494,053	\$95,107,284	\$52,612,981	\$56,908,667	\$869,909,590
FY 14-15	\$62,631,335	\$44,325,918	\$66,895,725	\$37,769,253	\$134,708,176	\$53,122,983	\$40,303,422	\$88,610,251	\$104,410,391	\$85,687,521	\$43,890,285	\$58,245,665	\$820,600,925
FY 13-14	\$49,569,089	\$57,617,057	\$49,464,796	\$38,609,216	\$80,585,113	\$50,258,813	\$67,893,253	\$69,968,615	\$41,056,018	\$101,347,490	\$77,109,091	\$54,555,381	\$738,033,932

Cumulative

NOTE: For the purpose of comparison, each value represented for FY13 through FY17 is the highest monthly value recorded for any given year during the period.

Issued	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY 18/19	2,636	4,808	6,725	8,956	11,176	13,607	16,159	18,825	21,317	24,029	26,864	29,316
FY 17-18	2,335	4,385	6,428	7,864	10,051	12,661	14,985	17,535	19,800	22,140	24,586	26,807
FY 16-17	2,029	4,079	6,277	8,210	10,041	12,595	14,669	17,236	19,808	22,052	24,674	26,159
FY 15-16	2,364	4,277	6,421	8,355	10,250	12,261	14,413	16,392	18,803	20,969	23,653	25,804
FY 14-15	2,320	4,040	6,205	8,133	10,315	12,769	15,173	17,142	19,501	21,853	24,135	26,342
FY 13-14	2,158	3,829	5,522	7,408	9,191	11,233	13,311	15,376	17,404	19,626	21,538	23,581
Max/Mon	2,364	4,385	6,428	8,355	10,315	12,769	15,173	17,535	19,808	22,140	24,674	26,807

Value	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY 18/19	\$143,253,753	\$213,854,217	\$379,998,608	\$558,104,394	\$654,681,289	\$711,825,896	\$785,219,097	\$851,787,102	\$940,973,915	\$1,039,116,628	\$1,149,759,955	\$1,231,658,289
FY 17-18	\$55,661,618	\$208,620,283	\$268,360,396	\$372,363,180	\$538,820,061	\$664,713,752	\$747,879,696	\$821,147,347	\$914,691,789	\$1,032,800,351	\$1,190,273,790	\$1,311,631,615
FY 16-17	\$123,921,353	\$232,484,627	\$307,754,751	\$419,871,251	\$514,617,675	\$637,343,884	\$702,018,619	\$795,260,929	\$869,390,409	\$1,019,634,884	\$1,131,333,666	\$1,274,015,922
FY 15-16	\$67,511,481	\$108,798,912	\$164,525,866	\$216,267,378	\$333,756,883	\$397,711,959	\$458,364,277	\$566,786,605	\$665,280,658	\$760,387,942	\$813,000,923	\$869,909,590
FY 14-15	\$62,631,335	\$106,957,253	\$173,852,978	\$211,622,231	\$346,330,407	\$399,453,390	\$439,756,812	\$528,367,063	\$632,777,454	\$718,464,975	\$762,355,260	\$820,600,925
FY 13-14	\$49,569,089	\$107,186,146	\$156,650,942	\$195,260,158	\$275,845,271	\$326,104,084	\$393,997,337	\$463,965,952	\$505,021,970	\$606,369,460	\$683,478,551	\$738,033,932
Max/Mon	\$123,921,353	\$232,484,627	\$307,754,751	\$419,871,251	\$538,820,061	\$664,713,752	\$747,879,696	\$821,147,347	\$914,691,789	\$1,032,800,351	\$1,190,273,790	\$1,311,631,615





Washington Summit Issues

Port Everglades Widening and Deepening Project

Background

- The goal of the project is to widen and deepen the navigational channels and turning basin at the port. It is both a safety issue as larger, modern ships require more room to maneuver, and an economic issue as the port is the nation's leading gateway for trade with Latin America.
- The total estimated project cost is \$420 million with a federal share of \$261 million.

Status

- Environmental review work for the project is ongoing.
- National Marine Fisheries and the Army Corps of Engineers are currently developing a final mitigation plan. The Draft Biological Opinion is expected to be issued in Spring 2019
- The Finding of No Significant Impact and Final Biological Opinion are expected to be completed in Summer 2019, finishing environmental review work for the project.
- Ongoing federal government shutdowns are impacting the environmental review work

FY2020 Request

- Provide the Army Corps of Engineers an adequate number of "new start" designations for deep draft navigation projects in the Fiscal Year FY2020 Energy and Water Appropriations Act.
- Request sufficient funding for the to the Army Corps of Engineers to address the projects awaiting funding, including Port Everglades.
- Request the inclusion of the Port Everglades Navigation Improvement Project in the Army Corps FY2020 Work Plan to begin the Port Everglades Dredging and Widening Project and the reconfiguration of the Coast Guard Station – FY2020 estimated funding \$39M.

Establish Pell Grant Eligibility for Short-Term Training Programs

Background

- Currently, Pell Grant eligibility is limited to programs that are the equivalent of two thirds of an academic year (600 clock hours/16 credit hours).
- In 2014-15, 24% of all credentials awarded by community colleges were certificates of less than 1 year - earned in a variety of fields and reflected varied local workforce needs.



FY2020 Request

- Upon application to the U.S. Department of Education (ED), institutions would be allocated Pell Grant funds to provide to otherwise Pell-eligible students in programs that are less than 600 hours in length. Institutions could determine which particular programs would be eligible. All other relevant student and institutional Pell Grant eligibility provisions would apply.
- Funds would be awarded to students in the same fashion as the campus-based programs such as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants.
- Annual institutional reporting to ED would be required outlining which students and programs had received support.
- For each eligible program on a given campus, colleges would be required to award funds to students demonstrating the greatest need in a program, as evidenced by lowest EFC.
- Consideration should be given to allowing colleges to award students with a baccalaureate degree (who currently are not Pell-eligible) to receive awards providing they meet all other relevant criteria. Large numbers of students with a baccalaureate degree continue to enroll in community colleges to obtain job-related skills.

Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Control System Project

Background

- The C&SF Project was first authorized by Congress in 1948 – over 70 years ago.
- C&SF provides flood control, supplies water for municipal/agricultural uses, prevents saltwater intrusion, supplies water for Everglades National Park, and protects fish and wildlife resources.
- The C&SF system includes 1,000 miles of levees, 720 miles of canals, and 200 water control structures.
- A 2009 analysis by the SFWMD noted that 18 flood control structures are already within 6 inches of their design capacity. The Army Corps projects 8 inches of sea level rise by 2030 from 1992 levels.
- Developing an updated system plan and submitting the project into the funding queue cannot be done until a system-wide “restudy” is performed.

FY2020 Request

- Advocate for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a C&SF Project Restudy to evaluate and address changes in local conditions that might impact the performance and benefits of the Project.

Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act

Background

- The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 imposed caps on the number of residents for which each teaching hospital is eligible to receive Medicare graduate medical education payments - a cap that remains in place today.
- This limitation effectively prohibits existing teaching hospitals from receiving Medicare-support for any new medical residency positions added after 1996.



- According to the most recent projections, the United States will face a physician shortage of between 42,600 and 121,300 physicians by 2030.
- The cap makes it difficult for medical resident training to keep pace with student demand, resulting in a severe bottleneck in physician training.

FY2020 Request

- Advocate for the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2019 to increase the number of Medicare-supported medical resident training positions by 15,000 over five years.
- The legislation also requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study on strategies for increasing health professional workforce diversity.

Transportation

Background

- Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) have the knowledge and stake in local decision-making vs. state.
- Direct allocation of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding to MPOs will provide for streamlined delivery of projects by eliminating or consolidating duplicative or redundant processes and will reduce project delivery time by four to five years.
- This will also result in reductions of project development costs, accelerate project delivery schedule, and increase positive economic impacts.
- By reducing the amount of time for project delivery, local governments can budget matching funds to complement the federal share creating larger projects with greater economies of scale.
- Railroad crossing incidents are the second leading cause of rail-related deaths in America. 94% of all rail-related fatalities and injuries occur at railroad crossings. In 2017, Florida recorded 13 deaths and 35 injuries at RR crossings.

FY2020 Request

- Support the creation of a pilot program to allow MPOs within urbanized areas to directly receive 50 percent of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) apportionment of funds.
- Increase funding for FHWA Railway-Highway Crossings, a program that provides funds for the elimination of hazards at railway/highway crossings. The program should also include a grant program available to States, MPOs, and local governments.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

Background

- Currently, Port Everglades (PEV) and Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) are the only ports of entry in Florida that share CBP officers.
- There is a shortfall in CBP officer staffing levels, resulting in severe delays in the offloading of cargo and passengers during peak hours.
- FLL generates 255,386 jobs resulting in a total economic impact of \$37.5 billion annually. In 2018, the Airport ranked 18th in the US in total passenger traffic and 14th in domestic origin and destination passengers. Last year, the airport welcomed nearly 36 million passengers.



- Port Everglades supports 13,127 direct jobs and 218,452 indirect, induced, and related jobs, resulting in a total economic impact of \$33.9 billion annually. In 2018, approximately 25.7 million tons of cargo moved through the seaport, and of this tonnage, containerized cargo activity accounted for 1,108,465 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units), marking the fifth consecutive year that PEV has surpassed the 1 million TEU mark. PEV is ranked 3rd worldwide and has more homeported cruise ships than any other seaport. In 2018 PEV hosted 858 cruise ship and ferry port calls, carrying almost 3.9 million embarking and debarking passengers.

FY2020 Request

- Funding for additional CBP officers for PEV and FLL. More officers will enable FLL to become a 24-hour facility and allow PEV to expedite clearance of cargo and cruise passengers.
- Further, support the Administration's request for supplemental appropriations to support CBP officer staffing and overtime.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Background

- NFIP was created more than 50 years ago to serve as the insurer of last resort for millions of properties vulnerable to flooding in the United States.
- NFIP is in line for its 11th temporary extension in two years to keep the program afloat.
- Full long-term reauthorization of the NFIP and reforms are necessary to encourage the growth of the private flood insurance market and to protect consumers.
- Florida is the nation's most vulnerable state in terms of flood risk - including inundation from heavy rainfall, storm surge from tropical systems and hurricanes, and sea level rise.
- With 1,350 miles of coastline, Florida has roughly 2.5 million homes in special hazard flood zones, more than three times that of any other state according to FEMA. More than 1.6 million people live in homes less than one meter above sea level.
- Florida residents hold more than 38% of the NFIP's 5,000,000 policies.

FY2020 Request

- Advocate for a long-term reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program including provisions to support the growth of the private market.
- Provide consumers with a continuous coverage provision, recognizing coverage in-force with either NFIP or private flood policies.
- Extend safe harbors to mortgage lenders to accept private flood policies if approved by state regulators.
- Enforce flood policy purchase requirements for federally backed mortgages.
- Authorize greater consumer education regarding flood insurance and flood risk mitigation.
- Provide for consumer protections regarding affordability and policy holder rights.
- Support additional education for insurance agents and realtors on flood insurance best practice.



Washington Summit Speakers

Tuesday, September 24th, Library of Congress - Member's Room

Senator Rick Scott – US Senate, Florida



Rick Scott was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2018 and is currently serving his first term representing the state of Florida. Prior to his election to the U.S. Senate, Rick Scott served two terms as the 45th Governor of Florida, working every day to turn around Florida's economy and secure the state's future as the best place for families and businesses to succeed.

Justin Sayfie - Partner, Ballard Partners



Justin Sayfie is a government relations consultant, digital entrepreneur and attorney. Justin previously served as a top policy advisor for former Florida Governor Jeb Bush. In 2018, he was appointed by President Trump to serve as a Commissioner on the White House Fellowships Commission. Justin participates in the selection of White House Fellows and oversee the nation's top leadership development program.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Infrastructure development no longer just means large construction and maintenance operations. It also means developing management techniques, new approaches, and new technology to use our resources more efficiently and to reduce resource depletion. It also means eliminating or reducing contaminants, such as radioactive wastes, toxic and solid wastes, and nonpoint source pollutants of our surface and groundwater.

Omar Franco - Managing Director, Becker Washington, D.C. Office



Omar currently represents Intuit, America's Small Business Development Centers, Florida Crystals, Eastern Shipbuilding, International Yacht Brokers Association, Latino Coalition, Gold Coast Florida Regional Center, A&J Capital, MB&A Outcomes, Key Compounds, Garrison Brothers and St. Augustine Distilleries, the Florida counties of Palm Beach, Sarasota and Collier, and the Florida municipalities of Davie, South Miami, and Hialeah, among others.



Clarence Williams - Senior Government Relations Consultant, Becker



Clarence has over 15-plus years of public service. Clarence currently represents the Shotspotter, DLH Corporation, Q-Q Research Consultants, Federal Association for Insurance Reform (FAIR), University of Miami, Florida Memorial University, Bethune-Cookman University, the Florida counties of Brevard and Volusia, and the Florida municipalities of Miami Gardens, North Miami, and West Park, among others.

Amanda Woods - Senior Government Relations Consultant, Becker



Amanda Wood's primary focus is assisting clients with federal funding needs. Her experience as senior legislative staff on Capitol Hill provides the skills to represent clients on matters ranging from post-hurricane FEMA policy changes to Everglades preservation. She represents municipal, corporate and nonprofit clients on matters related to transportation, economic

Steven A. Cook - Senior Fellow for Middle East & Africa Studies, Council on Foreign Relations



Steven A. Cook is an expert on Arab and Turkish politics as well as U.S.- Middle East policy. Cook is the author of *False Dawn: Protest, Democracy, and Violence in the New Middle East*; *The Struggle for Egypt: From Nasser to Tahrir Square* (2017 Washington Institute for Near East Policy's gold medal); and *Ruling But Not Governing: The Military and Political Development in Egypt, Algeria, and Turkey*.

Wednesday, September 25th, Rayburn House Office Building - Gold Room

Congressman Ted Deutch – 22nd District, Florida



Florida's 22nd district is home to communities in northern Broward County and southeastern Palm Beach County. Now serving his sixth term in the 116th Congress, he is the Chairman of the House Ethics Committee and a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where he serves as the Chairman of the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism Subcommittee.

Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart – 25th District Florida



Mario Diaz-Balart is currently fulfilling his ninth term in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving Florida's 25th congressional district. Diaz-Balart is a senior member of the House Committee on Appropriations and is Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, in addition to serving on the Defense Subcommittee.



Congresswoman Lois Frankel - 21st District, Florida



Lois Frankel has spent her lifetime delivering positive change to her community as a civic leader, state legislator, mayor, and now Member of the United States House of Representatives where she sits on House Appropriations Committee, serving on the Subcommittees for: Energy and Water Development; Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and State, Foreign Operations Programs.

Congressman Alcee Hastings – 20th District Florida



Alcee Hastings represents his native state of Florida by serving the District 20, which includes parts of Broward and Palm Beach Counties. During the 116th Congress, Hastings serves as the Vice Chairman of the House Rules Committee, Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and Dean and Co-Chairman of the Florida Delegation. Congressman Hastings is currently serving his 14th term in the Congress.

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur – 9th District Ohio



Marcy Kaptur is the longest serving woman in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives. Kaptur serves as a senior member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense. Kaptur also serves on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science, with jurisdiction over the Departments of Commerce and Justice, NASA, and the National Science Foundation.

Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell - 26th District Florida



Debbie stood out in the 116th Congress freshman class when she was appointed to the Judiciary Committee, where she sits on the Immigration & Citizenship Subcommittee and Crime, Terrorism, & Homeland Security Subcommittee. Debbie also sits on the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, where she advocates for South Florida on the Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee and Economic Development, Public Buildings, & Emergency Management Subcommittee.

Congresswoman Grace Napolitano - 32nd District California



Grace Flores Napolitano represents Los Angeles County covering several cities and communities in the San Gabriel Valley. Napolitano is the highest-ranking California member and Hispanic member of the U.S. House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure where she currently serves as Chairwoman on the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, which oversees EPA's Clean Water Act and US Army Corps of Engineers water programs.



Congresswoman Donna Shalala – 27th District California



The longest-serving Secretary of Health and Human Services in U.S. history, Donna Shalala returns to Washington as the Representative for Florida's 27th District, which includes Miami-Dade County. Donna is an advocate for women's rights, civil rights, increased access to healthcare, better education and public schools, and a clean and sustainable environment. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has been elected to seven national academies.

Congressman Albio Sires – 8th District New Jersey



Albio Sires serves on three Committees: Foreign Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Budget. On the Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman Sires is the Chairman of the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade Subcommittee and is a member of the Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment Subcommittee. Sires serves on two Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittees: the Highways and Transit and the Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Congressman Darren Soto – 9th District Florida



Elected in 2016, Darren Soto represents Central Florida, home to many of the people who make Orlando's theme parks world-renowned, who grow citrus and raise cattle, and who explore the farthest reaches of the galaxy from the Kennedy Space Center. Soto passed landmark legislation protecting families of fallen firefighters, giving victims of sexual assault more time to report their attackers, and allowing Dreamers to be admitted to the Florida Bar.

Congresswoman Frederica Wilson – 24th District Florida



Frederica Wilson proudly represents one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse districts in the nation - northwest Miami-Dade and southern Broward counties. As the Ranking Democrat on the Education and Workforce Protections Subcommittee, she introduced the American Jobs Act of 2013, the Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights, and the Youth Corp Act of 2013. She has also sponsored legislation to reduce homeowners' insurance premiums, protect foster children, and defend Haitian women.



US Department of Energy, Florida International University, and the City of Fort Lauderdale

Mission-to-Market for Inclusive Economic Development

The Mission-to-Market (M2M) initiative is a cooperative agreement between the US Department of Energy (DOE) and Florida International University (FIU). M2M seeks to tap the trillions of dollars of underutilized patented technologies developed by the Department of Energy and Labs, research institutions, and industry to foster economic development in South Florida and beyond.

To produce more high tech ventures and intellectual property agreements with DOE, M2M is collaborating with the City of Fort Lauderdale and leading-edge companies in high tech investing and entrepreneurial development. Fort Lauderdale, DOE, and FIU are establishing a global entrepreneurial resources center in Fort Lauderdale to catalyze the Florida innovation ecosystem. At the heart of this complex will be a DOE technology transfer center. The M2M Initiative has four goal areas:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Entrepreneurial Workforce Development (Training/Education);
- Innovation Ecosystem Development;
- Business Incubator and Accelerator Network; and
- Technology Transfer & Commercialization.

The M2M initiative also includes the “Equity in Energy™” initiative, designed to include and expand the participation of individuals in underserved communities in all Department of Energy programs. Underserved communities include minority communities, Native Americans, women, veterans, and formerly incarcerated persons. Equity in Energy™ also seeks to infuse and expand participation in the private energy sectors in our nation’s economy to ensure America’s energy independence. The Equity in Energy™ component of the M2M initiative will create a focus on Minority-Owned and Women-Owned businesses as candidates to receive DOE technology transfers.

The Honorable James Campos (Director of the DOE Office of Economic Impact and Diversity), Dr. Ines Triay (Executive Director of the FIU Applied Research Center), and The Honorable Dean Trantalis (Mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale) announced the collaboration at the **Equity in Energy, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Summit** held in Fort Lauderdale on July 24.

Please contact K. Michael Chen, Economic & Business Development Manager for the City of Fort Lauderdale, for more information: mchen@fortlauderdale.gov.

Dr. J. Chris Ford
Mission-to-Market Manager of the Applied Research Center (ARC)
At Florida International University (FIU).

Born and raised in Akron, Ohio, Dr. J. Chris Ford is an experienced researcher and expert in building inclusive innovation ecosystems and programs for technology transfer and commercialization for universities, Federal agencies, corporations, and investors.



From 2012-2017, Dr. Ford was an expert consultant and contractor to the Department of Energy (DOE) with special emphasis on inclusion, technology transfer, and economic development. In this role, Dr. Ford served as a change agent to catalyze the DOE technology commercialization ecosystem while assisting minority and small businesses, impacting underserved communities, and inclusion of minority serving institutions. At DOE, Dr. Ford developed a novel Lab-embedded accelerator program, a four-point inclusive innovation ecosystem development plan, and strategies for intellectual property monetization.

Prior to his role at DOE, Dr. Ford was a researcher and entrepreneur in the technical consulting and healthcare sectors. Dr. Ford has more than ten years of alternative energy research experience, specializing in battery and fuel cell technologies and thermodynamic optimization algorithms for energy systems at Georgia Tech, DOE, and the Department of Defense.

Dr. Ford received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech and a B.S. in mathematics and dual degree in engineering from Morehouse College. While at Georgia Tech, Dr. Ford completed a special two-year technology commercialization and entrepreneurship training program called the TIGER - Technological Innovation Generating Economic Results.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dr. J. Chris Ford