Attachment 1

EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Council Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2005

Chairman Jon Rawlson
Presiding

In Attendance:

County Representatives
Commissioner Ron Pritchard, Brevard County
Commissioner Helen Voltz, Brevard County
Commissioner Welton Cadwell, Lake County
Commissioner Robert Pool, Lake County
Commissioner Teresa Jacobs, Orange County
Commissioner Bill Lane, Osceola County
Commissioner Randy Morris, Seminole County
Councilwoman Joie Alexander, Volusia County

Municipal Representatives
Commissioner Patty Sheehan, City of Orlando
Mayor John Land, Tri-County League of Cities, Apopka
Vice Mayor Wendell McKinnon, Tri-County League of Cities, Kissimmee
Commissioner Michael Blake, Tri-County League of Cities, Winter Springs
Vice Mayor Mary Martin, Volusia County League of Cities, Port Orange

Gubernatorial Appointees
Mr. Malcolm McLouth, Brevard County
Ms. Janice Kershaw, Brevard County
Mr. Jon Rawlson, Orange County
Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, Orange County
Ms. Maria Grulich, Osceola County
Ms. Maryam Ghyabi, Volusia County

Ex-Officio and Other Municipal Representatives
Ms. Nancy Christman, SJRWMD
Ms. Vivian Garfein, FDEP
Mr. Thomas Genovese, SFWMD
Ms. Lennon Moore, FDOT

Staff
Mr. Jeff Jones
Ms. Susan Caswell
Mr. Fred Milch
Mr. Mark Sievers
Ms. Claudia Paskauskas
Ms. Tara McCue
Ms. Lelia Hars
Ms. Andrea Fant

Other Attendees
Mr. Thomas Boroughs, Holland & Knight
Mr. Lee Smith, Holland & Knight
Mr. Shawn Hindle, Hanson, Walter & Associates, Inc.
Mr. Larry Walter, Hanson, Walter & Associates, Inc.
Mr. John Adams, RJ Whidden & Associates
Mr. Bob Whidden, RJ Whidden & Associates
Dr. Scot Leftwich, Leftwich Consulting Engineers
Ms. Marsha McCoy, Leftwich Consulting Engineers
Mr. Randy Austin, Austin Environmental
Mr. John Miklos, Bio-Tech Consulting, Inc.
Mr. Mickey Grindstaff, Shutts & Bowen LLP
Mr. Neil Frazee, Miller Sellen Conner & Walsh
Ms. Darla Miller, Miller Sellen Conner & Walsh
Mr. Jamie Poulos, Miller Sellen Conner & Walsh
Mr. Steve Boyd, Miller Einhouse Rymer & Boyd
Ms. Kathy Hale, Environmental Management & Design
Mr. Barry Campbell, City of Kissimmee Planning
Mr. Chris Testerman, Orange County Planning
Mr. Mike Kloehn, Osceola County
Ms. Jo Thacker, Osceola County
Mr. Jon Weiss, FDOT
Ms. Jennifer Jorge, SFWMD
Mr. Dusty Calderon, Partin Family
Ms. C. R. Schultz, Advanced Ecological Solutions
Ms. Broksan Elabd, Orange County resident
Mr. Tarek Hegazy, Orange County resident

Members not in Attendance
Commissioner Homer Hartage, Orange County
Clerk of the Courts Larry Whaley, Osceola County
Commissioner Bob Dallari, Seminole County
Councilman Arthur Giles, Volusia County
Mr. Ed Booth, Space Coast League of Cities, Malabar
Councilman William Harvey, City of Deltona
Commissioner Evelyn Smith, City of Eustis
Ms. Nancy Acevedo, Seminole County
Mr. Russell Gibson, City of Sanford
Mr. Gerald Livingston, ECFRPC Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Chairman Rawlson called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Ms. Fant called the roll and announced a quorum was present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Rawlson offered the October 2005 minutes for consideration.

MOTION: Commissioner Morris moved to delay approval of the October 2005 minutes until the January Council meeting. Commissioner Blake seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chairman Rawlson offered for consideration the October 2005 financial reports.

MOTION: Commissioner Jacobs moved for approval of the September 2005 financial reports. Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. BRONSON PROPERTY DRI – *Mr. Fred Milch*

Mr. Milch referenced a PowerPoint presentation and a handout titled *Staff Agreed Upon Changes To Draft Recommendations*. He noted the Bronson property is located within the City of Kissimmee in Osceola County. He stated the DRI is a one phase project (2011) including age restricted and non-age restricted residential units, condominiums, apartments, and an Adult Congregate Living Facility (ACLF)/Nursing Care Facility to include 120 units. Also, he noted a trail would be placed along Shingle Creek. Mr. Milch mentioned the land cover is primarily pasture with 78 acres of wetlands, 43% of which will be impacted. He pointed out on the north side of the project against Shingle Creek is indicative of where impacts to the Creek will occur. He also pointed out a drainage ditch that drains Carroll Street and goes directly into Shingle Creek. Mr. Milch highlighted the changes made on the aforementioned handout, including the deletion of Osceola County and insertion of the City of Kissimmee on page 7, number 9. He noted Osceola County was removed because the roadways within Osceola County were either Department of Transportation (DOT) roadways or roadways that are being addressed by the applicant for improvements. Mr. Milch referenced a diagram titled *Wetland Setback Comparison* and a copy was provided for Council members.

Mr. Mickey Grindstaff, Shutts & Bowen LLP, stated he is speaking on behalf of the applicant, Falcon Land Development, LLC. He noted he and the applicant have been working with the ECFRPC staff over the past several months to respond to the Council's questions and requests for additional information. Mr. Grindstaff introduced Mr. Neil Frazee and Ms. Darla Miller, both from Miller Sellen Conner & Walsh.

Mr. Frazee noted the property is in Osceola County but has been annexed by the City of Kissimmee. He stated the applicant is proposing a one phase project. He noted the reason there's only a need for one phase relates to the diversity of the housing units proposed, including condos, apartments, and single family and age restricted communities. He made mention of the mixed used land on the property as well as the mixed used PUD for zoning. He commented he believes the plan meets the criteria of best practices as it includes a mixture of residential units, centrally located parks and facilities, pathway systems, and a neighborhood school. Additionally, Mr. Frazee commented he believes the applicant has an extensive buffer that extends between the proposed development and Shingle Creek. He noted the stormwater ponds proposed

creates an even larger buffer. He stated he believes the plan will be consistent with Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) standards.

Mr. McLouth inquired as to the meaning of age restricted; Mr. Frazee replied 55 years or older. He noted the statute states one of the spouses has to be at least 55 years to qualify to live in that particular community. He made noted of the provisions that allow grandparents to have the care of a child. He mentioned the community is typically one that restricts children. Mr. Frazee made note that in his discussion with the school board, he communicated that the age restricted portion of the project would not generate any school age children.

Mr. McLouth made note of the 100 year flood plain and inquired about the impacts on Shingle Creek. He expressed concern about the continuous dumping of water into the byways and the ultimate rise of the 100 year flood plain.

Mr. Frazee introduced Mr. Jamie Poulos, an engineer with Miller Sellen Conner & Walsh. Mr. Poulos noted there would be no impacts to the 100 year flood plain. He mentioned he used FEMA's latest flood plain elevations, updated in 2001.

Ms. Garfein asked Mr. Genovese if the stormwater rules were now in place, would the project satisfy them. Mr. Genovese stated there are unresolved issues in the DRI regarding wetlands. He commented this particular issue would have to be examined along with the applicant's Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) application and other outstanding issues.

Commissioner Jacobs inquired as to the impacts on the wetlands as well as to the schools. She noted she did not recall the recommendations addressing school concurrency. Mr. Milch replied he asked the school board for recommendations and that the school board's letter states they are confident they can work out an agreement with the applicant. He made note the applicant has discussed expanding the school to accommodate more students. Commissioner Jacobs suggested the recommendations include language regarding compliance with the school concurrency. Mr. Milch noted number 47 within the recommendations consisted of language regarding school compliance.

Ms. Ghyabi asked Mr. Milch to explain the process of a one phase project and monitoring/modeling within that project. Additionally, she asked if Mr. Milch had past experiences with a one phase project and if so, had it worked well. Mr. Milch stated he normally did not get projects for one phase, especially for a project generating as many trips as the Bronson DRI. Mr. Milch noted the applicant has stated the project can be completed in five years. He stated if the applicant opts to do monitoring/modeling, it would be performed after 2/3 of the development is completed. He commented, however, that since DOT and the City are happy with the proportionate share and the analysis, monitoring/modeling is no longer necessary. Ms. Ghyabi commented she was uncomfortable with the Bronson DRI as a one phase project since Mr. Milch stated there was no history of a similar project being completed in one phase. Mr. Frazee noted he feels one phase is sufficient because of the diversity of the housing types proposed for development. He noted the DRI appeals to a broad market place, and within that market place, a five year plan is not unusual.

Ms. Ghyabi stated her concern lies with the traffic impacts as well as the monitoring/modeling. Mr. Frazee stated the applicant is working very diligently with the City and DOT in devising a program that will pay its fair share. He noted the

applicant has agreed to make roadway improvements immediately and has recently added $800,000 for roadway improvements.

Commissioner Jacobs stated she is concerned with how much traffic is generated and if the applicant has accurately reported the traffic; she commented this is the reason for the monitoring/modeling, and if the project is completed in one phase, there is no opportunity to correct any inaccuracies. She commented the City and DOT may be comfortable with the traffic report today, but if traffic impacts have been underestimated, there's no opportunity for them to recover. Mr. Frazee noted the applicant has an agreement with the City of Kissimmee that will ultimately lead to nearly 12 million dollars worth of immediate roadway improvements.

Chairman Rawlson inquired as to whether the aforementioned issues were previously addressed. Mr. Milch replied two formal and two informal sufficiency rounds were held, in which DOT played a major role. Mr. Milch mentioned monitoring would be more difficult if the applicant completes the project in 5 years.

Commissioner Jacobs commented she wanted to make sure Osceola County was comfortable with being deleted from the recommendation #3 regarding transportation.

Vice Mayor McKinnon commented the City is happy with the plan. He stated DOT has been looking out for the City and that he is not concerned. Additionally, he noted the City has not had many one phase projects, but the few have been successfully planned.

Ms. Kershaw asked if the applicant had a site for a school. Mr. Frazee replied in the negative, but noted there is a charter school located north of the property line. He noted the property is surrounded by two elementary schools and one middle school. Mr. Milch stated there is a recommendation that states the applicant must reach an agreement with the Osceola County School Board regarding school issues. Ms. Kershaw referenced page 19, number 47 and suggested changing the word "certificates" to "issues". Mr. Milch confirmed he is confident the school board can reach an agreement with applicant. Ms. Kershaw commented the language is acceptable since the applicant is obligated to reach an agreement with the school board.

Ms. Alexander asked if the trail along Shingle Creek crossed a major roadway. Mr. Frazee replied in the negative.

Ms. Miller, MSCW, noted most of the wetlands within the body of the project are pasture wetlands, cypress domes, and herbaceous areas. She mentioned all of the wetlands have been impacted in some form, such as by cattle raising and ditching, and that some wetlands have had alterations. She noted she looked into ways to buffer Shingle Creek. She mentioned that although not a conventional buffer, the homes serve as better buffers than a larger upland buffer adjacent to Shingle Creek. She made note she had the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff on the site prior to submitting the application to look at impacts and to start addressing some of the mitigation. She noted the SFWMD looked at the jurisdictional line and impacted areas; she stated although the meeting was informal, the SFWMD found no areas indicating issues of impact, other than the areas of mitigation. She mentioned the Corps of Engineers visited the property during the charrette and looked at specific areas the Regional Planning Council showed concern of impacts and wetland delineation; she noted, at that time, Mr. Jeff Collins did not indicate there were any issues. Ms. Miller noted the aforementioned meetings and discussions were informal. She noted the Corps was unable to accommodate the applicant in getting formal jurisdictions, but that the Corps is aware of the direction in which the project is moving.

Commissioner Jacobs referenced page 19 of the staff report and pointed out a typo in the first sentence under the heading, Wetland Impacts; the sentence should read: wetland areas have been identified by the applicant but *have not* been field verified and permitted by the regulatory agencies. She commented her biggest concern is that 43% of existing wetlands will be impacted. Additionally, she stated she would have preferred a much greater buffer for the Shingle Creek wetland area. Commissioner Jacobs stated she would not support the change the applicant is requesting. Mr. Frazee asked Commissioner Jacobs how she felt about the Lakes' location in affording a greater buffer. Commissioner Jacobs stated she did not have a problem with the location of the ponds as long as they are pushed off of Shingle Creek. She noted retention ponds create impacts as well and to treat them as an expansion/extension of the wetlands would not be adequate.

Mr. Milch introduced Ms. Kathy Hale, Environmental Management & Design. Mr. Milch stated he agrees with the location of the wetland ponds. He stated in terms of habitat protection, some of the wetland animals are dependant upon uplands for their life cycle. He noted it is important to stay out of wetland area. He also mentioned in having the berm, there is a 20 foot back slope which can serve as a buffer to stay out of the wetland. He made mention that the recommendations were received from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Commissioner Morris noted the applicant is using science regarding the buffers along Shingle Creek. He asked Commissioner Jacobs if she was concerned about the overall project and its impacts on the wetlands being at 43%. He stated the Water Management District (WMD) have done preliminaries on the site and will ultimately negotiate issues of mitigation and untouchable wetlands. Commissioner Morris noted the Council can raise concerns, but cannot assign or even recommend mitigation. He stated the Council allows the WMD to handle this particular situation.

Commissioner Jacobs stated based on the report, there are critical environmental impacts. Commissioner Morris replied it is important for Commissioner Jacobs and other members of the Council to voice their opinions, however, the Council is not the correct forum to find a solution to the issues concerning mitigation.

Mr. Genovese noted the applicant must obtain an environmental resource permit, and the WMD still has to verify the quality and quantity of the wetlands. He further stated the WMD has a question of whether the applicant has sufficiently avoided minimizing wetland impacts on the site. He stated in terms of the location of ponds along Shingle Creek, those ponds do have an impact on hydrology and the applicant will have to model and demonstrate to the WMD that those ponds will not adversely impact hydrology and adjacent wetlands. He commented there are several unanswered questions, some of which cannot be answered without very detailed designs and modeling. He concluded the WMD will look into the recommendations, but are not obligated to approve the plan.

Mr. McLouth commented the DRI consists of a very large agricultural area and the pictures depict a direct drainage into Shingle Creek; he stated it seems there would be an improvement in the water quality that ultimately reaches the Creek, which is a good thing.

Mr. Frazee noted part of the discussion with ECFRPC staff included support for Council members to input language into the report. He further commented the applicant will meet the standards imposed by the different agencies.

Vice Mayor McKinnon stated the project is mutually beneficial for the City of Kissimmee and for Osceola County. He commented the project will get fine-tuned and that the Council needs to help move it along.

Ms. Sheehan stated she concurs with Commissioner Jacobs' concerns about the ponds. Additionally, she referred to page 17, line 382 of the recommendations and pointed out there is no obligation for mitigation on the ditch that flows directly into Shingle Creek. She commented there is confusion because the applicant is saying the ponds are providing mitigation for Shingle Creek, but yet the applicant wants to dump ditches directly into Shingle Creek. Mr. Frazee replied the ditches are accommodating off-site flow; he stated the water is all coming from other properties within the drainage basin. He noted a stormwater pond, a County pond, and drainage coming out of Flora Ridge are all coming along Carroll Street and ultimately draining into Shingle Creek; he commented the applicant does not want to be held responsible for the clean up of the water coming from off site. Additionally, he noted any stormwater coming from the property is going into the applicant's own stormwater ponds before it goes into Shingle Creek. Mr. Milch noted the applicant has no legal obligation regarding off site drainage. Mr. Frazee commented approximately 30-40 acres of land would be required for ponds to provide the stormwater for the off-site drainage; he concluded the applicant is not prepared to give up that land for off-site drainage.

Vice Mayor McKinnon introduced Mr. Barry Campbell, Senior Planner for the City of Kissimmee. Mr. Campbell stated the staff has been working with the applicant and feels comfortable with the plan.

Mr. Mike Kloehn, Osceola County Planning, stated he and the other staff members of Osceola's Planning Department will want to see the study regarding the closure of Donegan Avenue.

Commissioner Jacobs inquired why Osceola County was removed from the agreement when there are some issues of traffic that may affect Osceola County. Mr. Kloehn replied he would like to be involved. Commissioner Jacobs stated she would prefer to see Osceola County added back into the report.

Mr. Jon Weiss, FDOT, stated the Department has been focusing on impacts to US 192 and US 441. He commented he is comfortable that the cost estimates agreed to, in principle, are reflective of the actual costs DOT has identified for improvements. Mr. Weiss pointed out if the project moved forward with an M&M, DOT would probably not receive money before the year 2010; however, with the current agreement, DOT will be eligible for money up front and be able to work towards the traffic improvements prior to when the majority of the traffic would actually arise.

Ms. Garfein, DEP, stated she has a concern regarding the Carroll Street drainage ditch as it will potentially affect the future Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). She commented the City of Kissimmee and Osceola County should be aware of said affect and begin retrofitting now, as opposed to later when legally obligated.

Commissioner Morris commented there is an opportunity to fix problems early. Mr. Genovese stated the City of Kissimmee has a very active program to address TMDLs and the ditches are most likely a part of the program.

MOTION 1: Vice Mayor McKinnon moved the Council accept the recommendations listed on the white sheet as amended by the yellow sheet. Commissioner Lane seconded.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Jacobs moved to include, in lieu of condition #39 on the yellow sheet, #39 in the staff recommendations on the white sheet. Commissioner Cadwell seconded.

MOTION 3: Commissioner Jacobs moved to have Osceola County placed back into the agreement on page 3 of the staff recommendations. Morris seconded. Commissioner Voltz and Commissioner Pritchard were in opposition to the motion.

Discussion regarding 2nd motion:

Mr. Grindstaff asked the Council to allow his proposal #39 to stand with the amendment of stating *the buffers shall be subject to the review and approval of SFWMD.*

Commissioner Cadwell stated there are various unanswered questions in regards to the wetland impacts that would warrant the Council's disapproval altogether. He stated historically the Council has always put minimum setbacks into the report regarding areas it deemed important. He commented the staff's language on the amendment setback wouldn't be subject to what the SFWMD would do, but is just a recommendation regarding issues the Council thinks are important. He stated he would recommend the Council pass the amendments, and commented he would be hesitant to move the project forward without the amendments and with the various unanswered questions.

Mr. Genovese clarified that the Council is making a recommendation to the City of Kissimmee. He stated the SFWMD's recommendations may be different regarding the buffer issue, but the objective would be the same in protecting Shingle Creek.

Mr. Grindstaff stated the Council's language still does not imply the project is subject to the review and approval of the SFWMD; Mr. Rawlson stated the language does not need to include such a condition as it is already a part of the review process.

Commissioner Morris mentioned the intent of the motion is to adopt the Council's language with the caveat there's an understanding the SFWMD has the authority; he stated the Council is just showing a preference for the staff recommendations.

Mr. Rawlson asked for votes regarding the amendment as stated and clarified; there were no objections. **MOTION 2** passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding 3rd motion:

Mr. Grindstaff noted the entire project and the property are located within the City of Kissimmee.

Commissioner Cadwell stated the Council is a regional network and are responsible for thinking regionally. Chairman Rawlson added Motion 3 was a worthy motion.

Mr. Milch stated all the roadways within the County are being addressed. He noted US 192 was the only roadway Osceola County mentioned during the present discussion and that particular roadway is also being adequately handled. He commented he does not think it's necessary to include Osceola County.

Commissioner Cadwell noted under the current situation, local government is being asked to help fund the state roads, of which Osceola County is contributing.

Commissioner Lane stated Osceola County does not have a problem with the DRI. He reiterated that all roadways are within the City.

Commissioner Voltz asked for clarification as to whether the County would still be able to work with the City if the language was not added back into the report. Mr. Rawlson commented the amendment language is just a way to make sure the County has the opportunity to be heard. Commissioner Voltz stated if County roads are impacted, the County has jurisdiction over issues such as driveway permits; she commented since the County already has a say in what affects its roads, she would not support the motion.

Commissioner Blake stated the motion centers around Osceola County facilities. He noted if the applicant is correct in that there are no facilities that are a part of Osceola County, then Osceola County will have no more input. He concluded if there are Osceola County facilities, then the language bears weight.

Mr. Rawlson asked for those in favor of **MOTION 3**. The motion passed. Commissioner Voltz and Commissioner Pritchard opposed.

Mr. Rawlson asked for those in favor of **MOTION 1**, which is to accept the recommendations listed on the white sheet as amended by the yellow sheet. The motion passed.

Commissioner Morris stated, regarding **MOTION 3**, it may make the City of Kissimmee and Brevard County representatives more comfortable to include Commissioner's Blake's language into the motion, the motion being applicable only if there are Osceola County regional facilities involved. Commissioner Voltz stated she would have to vote against Commissioner Morris' recommendation only because she voted against the amendment.

Ms. Ghyabi asked if there was any way the Council would be able to reconsider the number of phases for the project. Vice Mayor McKinnon replied developing the project in one phase is just a matter of getting money and roads built faster.

Mr. Grindstaff stated the applicant's goal is to finish the project in 5 years. Ms. Ghyabi commented she is concerned about the traffic impacts as well as the new concept of doing a one phase project.

Mr. Campbell stated getting the money up front will help with the concurrency issues. He noted, however, if the project is phased, then there becomes a question of when money will be received, which will slow down the ability to meet the concurrency.

> **MOTION:** Commissioner Blake moved to have the Council accept the recommendations listed on the white sheet as amended by the yellow sheet, which would be applicable only if there are Osceola County regional facilities involved. The motion passed. There were 14 Council members in favor of the motion. Four Council members opposed, including Commissioner Voltz, Commissioner Pritchard, Ms. Ghyabi, and Commissioner Sheehan. One Council member, Mr. O'Keefe, abstained.

Mr. O'Keefe noted he did not vote on any motions as the applicant is represented by his partner, Mr. Mickey Grindstaff of Shutts & Bowen LLP. Mr. O'Keefe filled out a voting conflict form.

Commissioner Jacobs noted the DRIs are subject to both concurrency requirements. She commented she is concerned the City may waive its obligation to force concurrency.

IV. LAKE TOHO DRI REVIEW PROCESS – *Mr. Jeff Jones*
Chairman Rawlson stated the Lake Toho DRI review process would be pushed to the January Council meeting. Additionally, he noted there would be no December meeting.

V. KISSIMMEE CHAIN OF LAKES/LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN– *Ms. Jennifer Jorge*
Ms. Jorge, SFWMD, referenced a PowerPoint presentation. She mentioned the governing board directed the SFWMD in April 2003 (SFWMD Governing Board Resolution #2003-468) to work with other agencies in finding a better coordination system regarding issues, such as vegetation management, flood control, environmental needs, water supply, and others. She noted there are three current projects: 1. Kissimmee River Restoration Project, 2. Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Long Term Management Plan (KCOLLTMP), 3. Kissimmee Basin Modeling and Operations Study (Model). She stated the goal of the Restoration Project is to restore ecological integrity to the central region of the river/floodplain.

Ms. Jorge noted the KCOLLTMP concentrates on the Upper Basin. She stated the underlining purpose of the KCOLLTMP is to improve, enhance, and/or sustain the ecosystem health of regulated lakes in the Kissimmee Basin while balancing the impacts across the ecosystem. Ms. Jorge noted the goals of the plan include hydrologic management, habitat preservation and enhancement, aquatic plant management, water quality improvement, and recreation and public use. She mentioned efforts have been made toward building a consensus among stakeholders and different agencies; she noted the group is looking into a scientific basis for determining the health of the system. She stated all partner agencies will take the consensus ideas and build them into their agency's action plan.

Ms. Jorge noted partner agencies include the South Florida Water Management District, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, local governments, and interested stakeholders.

She noted the SFWMD and the Army Corps of Engineers will work together in building the model. She mentioned the purpose of the model is to find better ways to manage the ecosystem. Additionally, she noted the model will be available in spring 2007.

Ms. Garfein asked if the model take into consideration future growth issues in the Basin and how they will affect the restoration and flooding issues. Ms. Jorge replied the answer is the model; she stated if data is obtained in the correct format, it will be able to change the land coverage used for the model basis. Mr. Genovese noted the SFWMD is first modeling the baseline condition, then questions can be answered.

Mr. McLouth asked if the model would be available to other water management districts. Ms. Jorge replied in the affirmative; she noted, however, it is specific to the Kissimmee Basin.

VI. COORDINATION ACTIVITIES AMONG DRI PROJECTS – *Mr. Bob Whidden*
Mr. Whidden, RJ Whidden & Associates, stated Mr. Jones recognized the multiple DRIs and expressed the idea of being a partner in the planning. Mr. Whidden mentioned Mr. Jones was convincing in that the ECFRPC should be a partner in process and serve as a lead to the local governments. Additionally, Mr. Whidden noted Mr. Jones proposed upgrading the charrette process, allowing the various agencies to actually sketch a plan for the projects. Mr. Whidden made mention of key factors Mr. Jones presented for the upgrade, including the need to have a balanced list of participants,

discussing issues that are verifiable, using software, and critiquing results. Mr. Whidden stated the end result of the charrette upgrade is a formal presentation that is representative of everyone and everything.

Mr. Whidden noted the staff of RJ Whidden & Associates have developed a 2025 Master Transportation Plan that not only addresses the 5 DRIs, but also the entire eastern portion of Osceola County and its impact and influence on neighboring counties. He noted the staff have been working with various agencies and are working on a potential toll road, a master funding mechanism, a master school site plan for 5 DRIs, a sewage expansion (City of St. Cloud), addressing water quality issues (SFWMD agreements), continuously interfacing with local government, and a master site plan (addressing school and transportation issues, and public service facilities, such as libraries, etc.). Mr. Whidden referenced maps of the master site plan, school site plan, and open space and natural resource preservation.

VII. AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY – *Dr. Scot Leftwich*
Chairman Rawlson stated Dr. Leftwich would come back to give his presentation for the January 18th Council meeting.

VIII. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – *Chairman Jon Rawlson*
Chairman Rawlson noted the Executive Search is underway and the 90 day count has begun. He noted he would send an update via email within the next couple of weeks.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – *Mr. Jeff Jones*
Mr. Jones referenced the APOPGA Regional Boundary Study included in the agenda packet and noted the draft was unanimously rejected. He noted he would keep the Council updated as to the modified draft.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

XI. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at12:25 pm.

Approved by the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 18th day of January 2006.

Mr. Jon Rawlson