

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 30, 2009

Department: Metropolitan Planning Organization

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Title: Intracoastal Waterway Plan for Palm Beach County

Summary: As identified in the MPO Long-Range Transportation Plan and the County's Strategic Economic Development Plan, the MPO engaged the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) to conduct a planning process to develop a plan for Palm Beach County's portion of the Intracoastal Waterway, specifically addressing transportation, land use, and economics. The Plan was presented to the MPO on April 16, 2009 who adopted it and directed it be presented to the Board of County Commissioners and the municipalities through the League of Cities and IPARC. (Metropolitan Planning Organization) Countywide (DR)

Background and Policy Issues: In May 2008, after more than a half-year of background due diligence, TCRPC conducted a week-long planning charrette to gain public input towards the development of the Plan. Six core themes were identified by the public, as follows:

- **Increasing public access**
- **Protecting natural resources**
- **Expanding all forms of water-based transportation**
- **Increasing and enhancing nature-based recreational and eco-tourism opportunities**
- **Creating a system of marina "villages" and other key waterfront**
- **Promoting sustainable economics**

Each of these themes is discussed and analyzed in extensive detail in the report. The general findings and recommendations for each of the core issue areas are presented at the conclusion of the respective chapters. The plan supports the continuation of many of the on-going programs underway presently, particularly those related to the protection of natural resources, recreation, environmental enhancement, and public access.

Attachments:

PowerPoint Presentation

Recommended by:		<u>6-2-09</u>
	Department Director	Date

Approved By:		<u>6/15/09</u>
	County Administration	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Capital Expenditures	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Operating Costs	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
External Revenues	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Program Income (County)	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
In-Kind Match (County)	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
No. ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No X
 Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____
 Object _____ Reporting Category _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

[Signature] 6/10/09
 net 6-4-09 6/4/09 OFMB CN 6/03/09

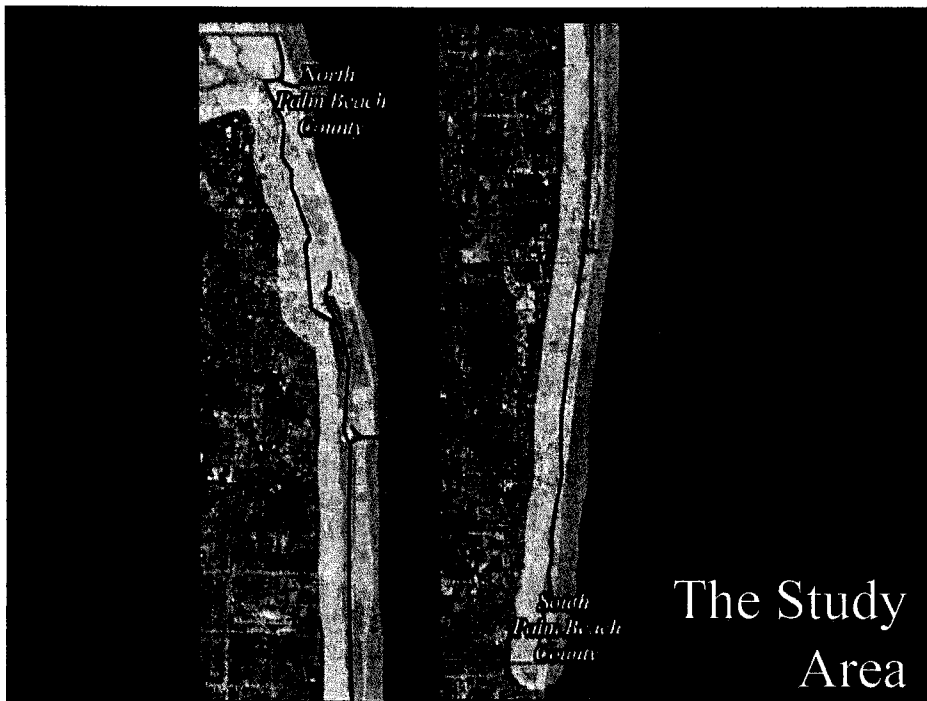
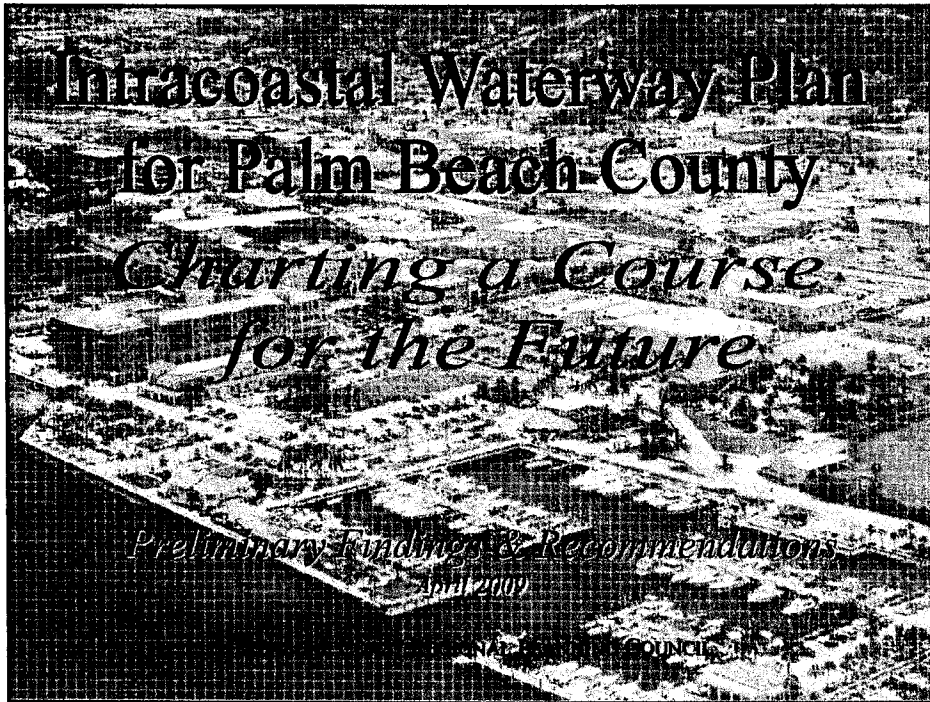
[Signature] 6/11/09
 Contract Dev. and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency:

[Signature] 6/15/09
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director



*A Multi-Agency
Process...*

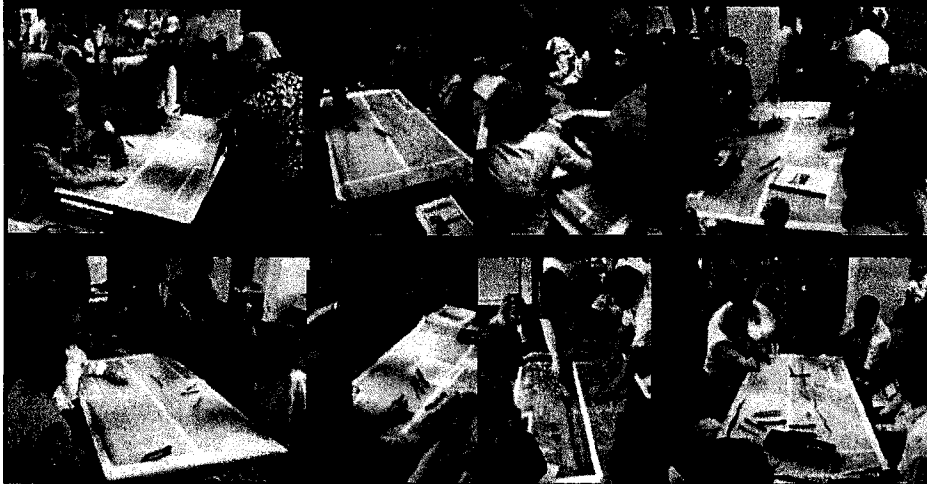
Business
Development
Board



... that includes the
Community!

How The Master Plan Was Created:

Public Process:
Friday, May 9, 2008



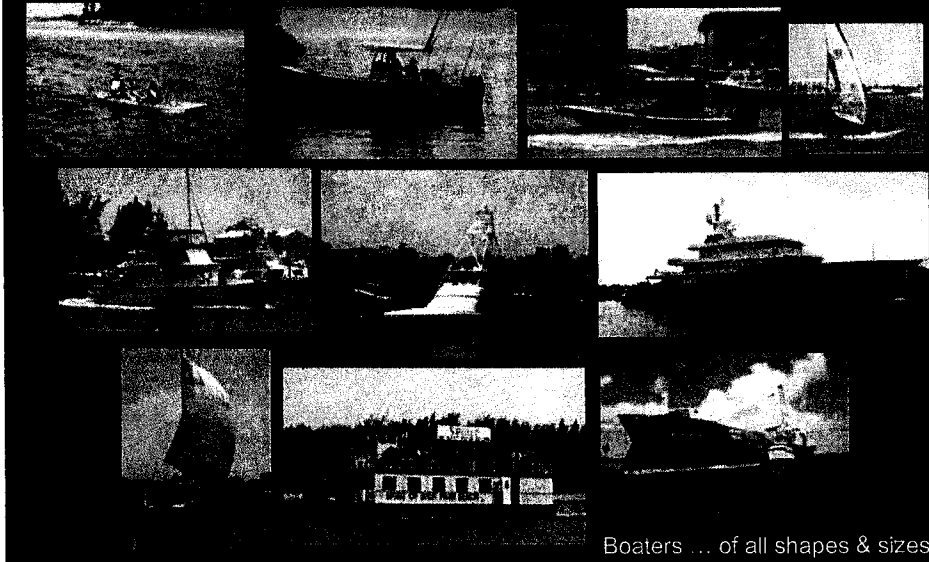
Core Public Themes

- Expand Public Access
- Protect Natural Systems
- Increase Water-Based Transportation
- Marina Villages & Destinations
- Expand Eco-Tourism & Recreation
- Sustainable Economics

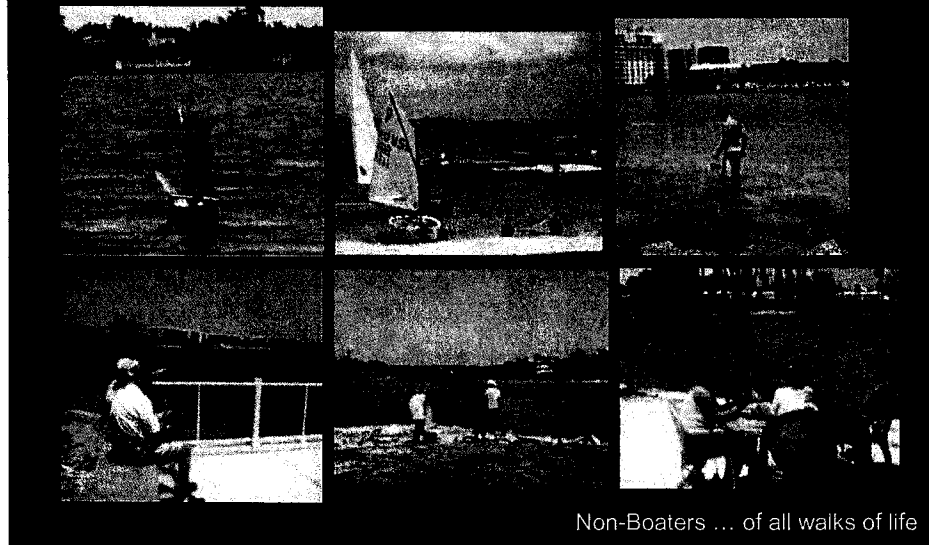


Expanding
Public Access

Who Uses the Intracoastal?



Who Uses the Intracoastal?



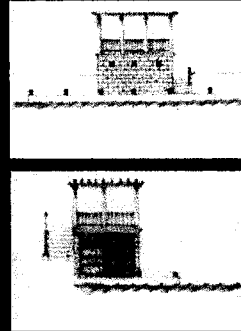
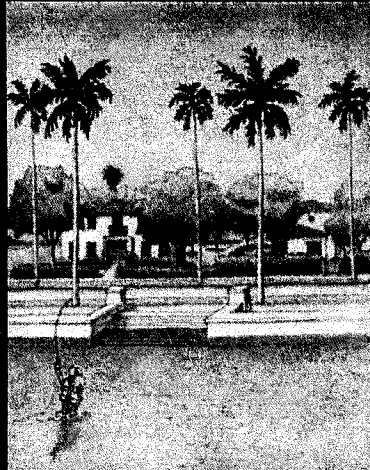
Public Parks & Riverwalks



Street-End Parks



Neighborhood
Waterfront Access



Neighborhood
Boat Storage

Key Strategies: *Public Access*

- *Protect Through Land Development*
 - *Prioritize public access as part of entitlements*
 - *New development & redevelopment*
 - *Publicly controlled easements; dedications*
- *Develop Street-End Parks*
 - *Identify locations & opportunities*
 - *Develop regulations to establish & maintain facilities*

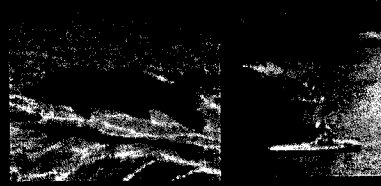


Protecting Natural Systems

Lake Worth Lagoon Restoration



Dredge Hole Restoration (LW)



Creation of New Habitat (WPB)

Habitat Enhancement

Munyon Island - 1997

John's Island - 2003

Snook Island - 2003

Peanut Island - 2005

Ocean Ridge - 2006

Key Strategies: *Natural Resources*

- Establish a County-Wide Stormwater Utility
 - Include properties ½-mile east & west of ICW
 - Operate through PBC utilities
 - Address stormwater treatment & canal discharges
- Develop a County-Wide Plan for Sea Level Rise
 - Minimum design criteria for infrastructure & construction adjacent to ICW
 - Standards for new/renovated seawalls
 - Additional environmental enhancements

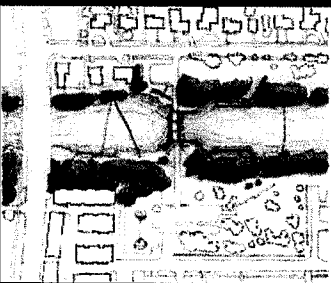
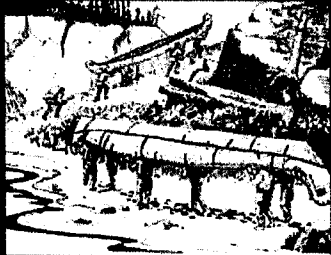


Expanding
Recreational
Opportunities &
Eco-Tourism

Eco-Tourism Opportunities



Expanding Canoe/Kayak Access



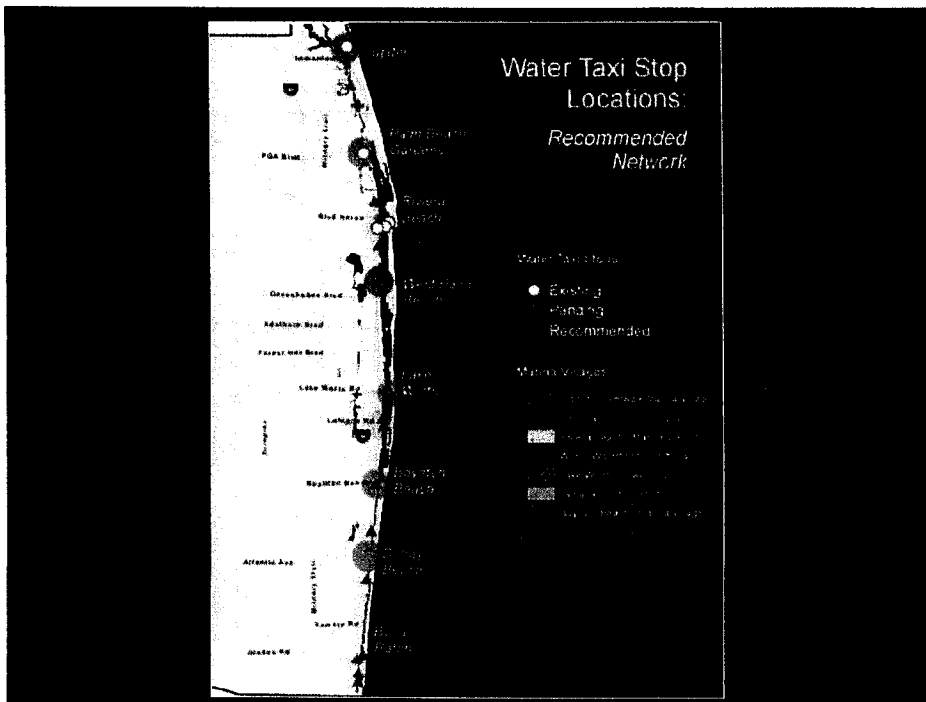
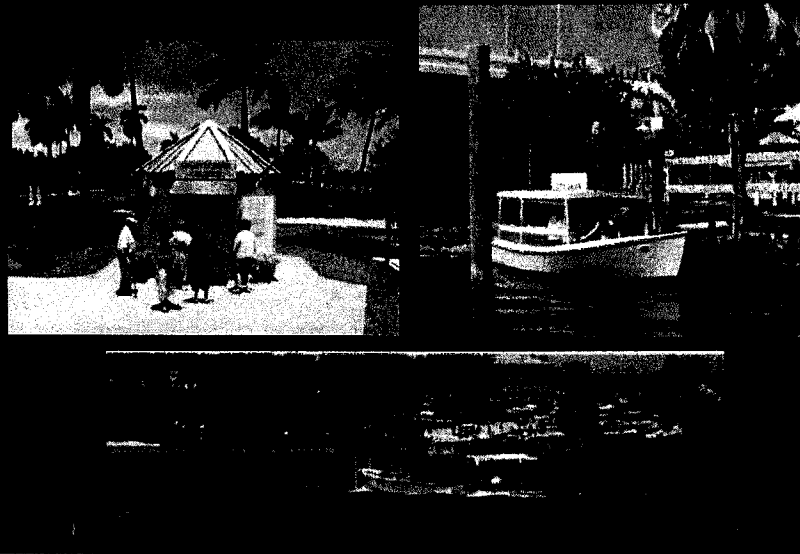
Key Strategies: *Eco-Tourism & Recreation*

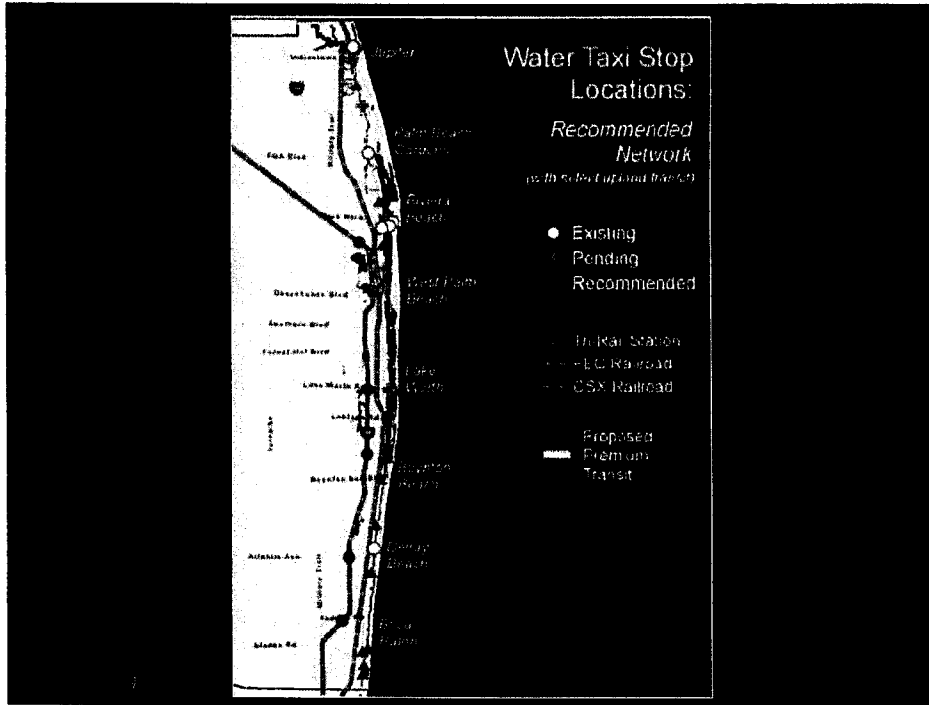
- Expand Public Access for Sport Islands
 - Assemble multi-disciplinary team
 - Enable public/private participation
 - Develop prototypical facilities (e.g., primitive camping sites, canoe/kayak launches)
 - Promote educational kiosk system
- Enhance Canoe / Kayak System
 - Identify locations for improved portages
 - Include in greenway / blueway mapping



Increasing
Water-Canoe
Transportation

Water Taxis





Potential High Speed Passenger Service

- Port of Palm Beach (and Fort Lauderdale) provided high speed service to the Bahamas in the past; both discontinued (operating costs, demand, permitting)
- Miami, Fort Myers, and Marco Island currently provide seasonal high speed service to Key West; service time competitive with auto
- Palm Beach has had some interest in service to Key West
- Service to Bahamas seen as feasible in the future based on economic recovery and build out of the Bahamian islands



Successful Waterborne Services Exist Today Key West Express



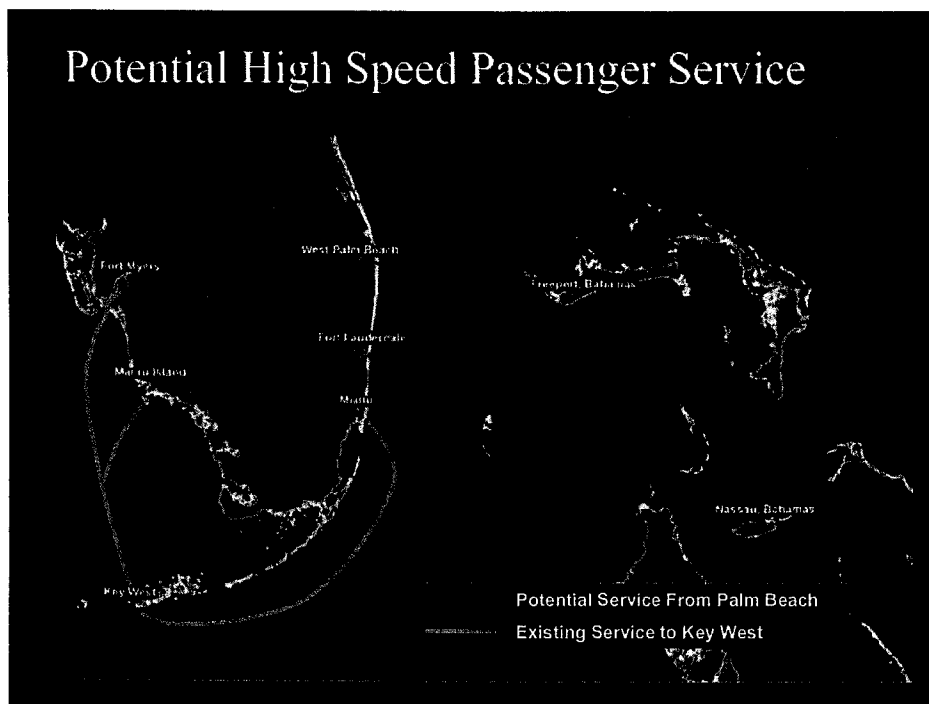
Specializing in Passenger Ferry Service
 Ft. Myers • Marco Island • Islamorada • Key West
 Key West Express

KEY WEST GETTING THERE IS HALF THE FUN

<p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p>		<p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p> <p>Key West Express</p>
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<http://www.seakeywestexpress.com/>

Potential High Speed Passenger Service



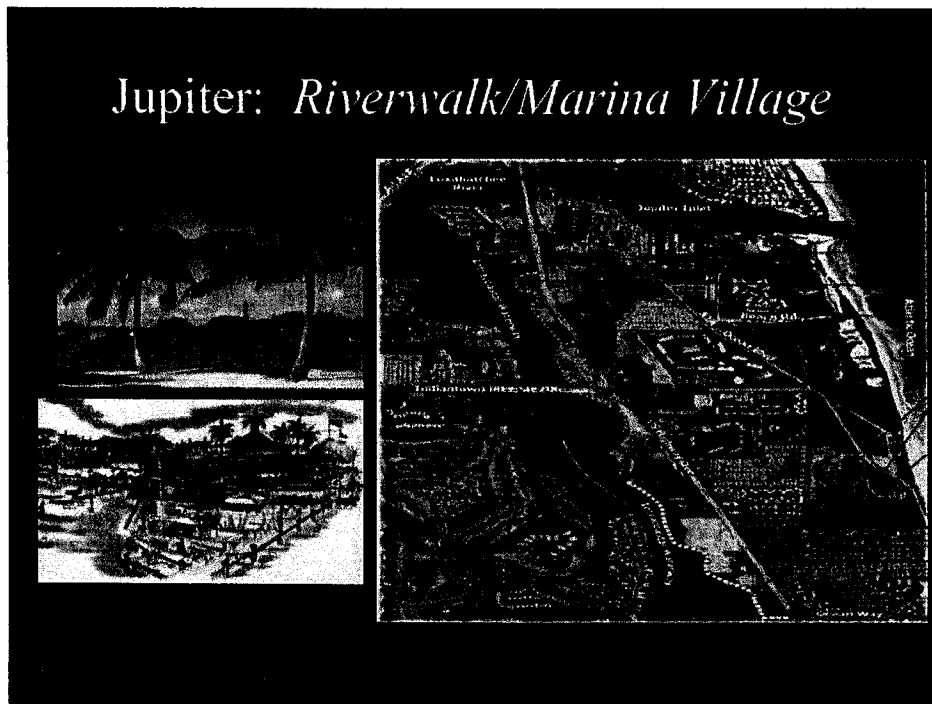
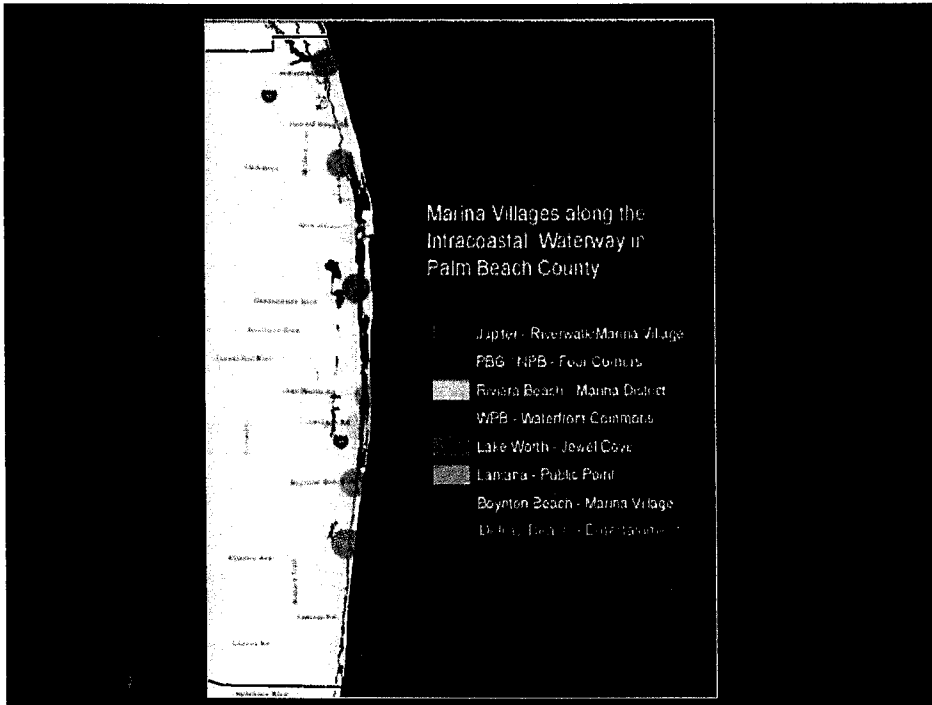
Key Strategies: *Water-Based Transportation*

- *Initiate a Water Taxi Working Group*
 - *Public/private composition*
 - *Further evaluate "Recommended Network"*
 - *Identify & protect desired transit nodes*
 - *Adopt recommendations into TCRPC CEDS*

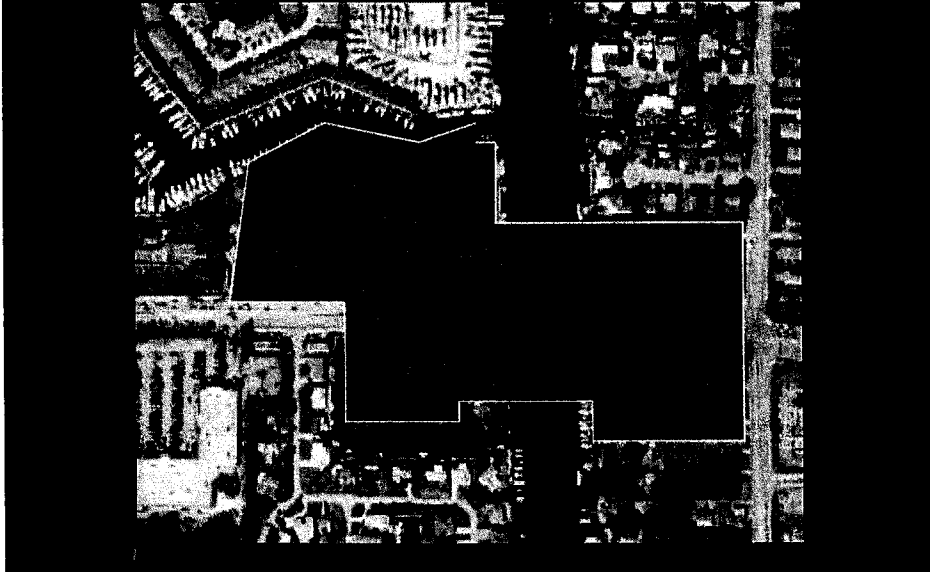
- *Explore High-Speed Ferry Service from Port*
 - *Analyze key routes (e.g., Florida & Bahamas)*
 - *Develop request for providers with PBC EDO*



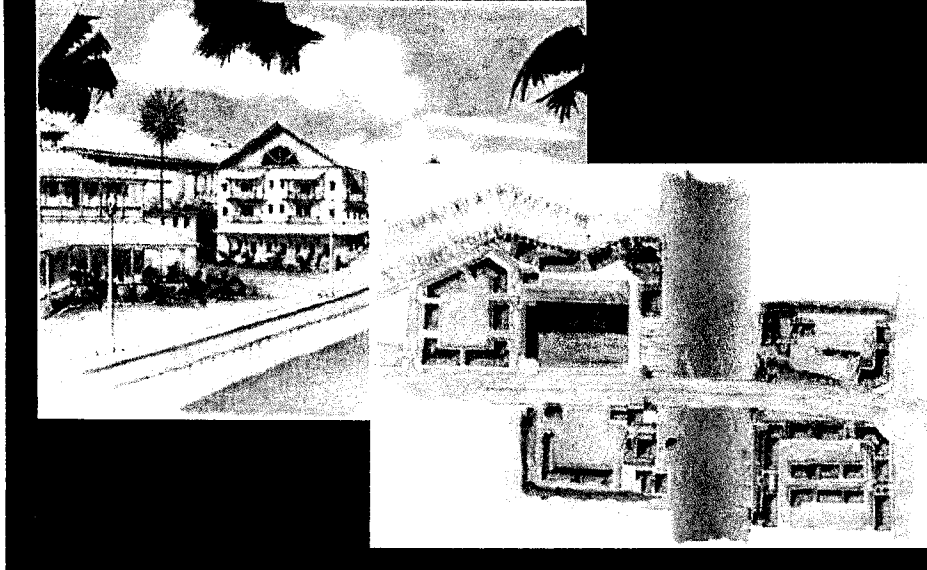
Creating
Miami Villages
& Destinations



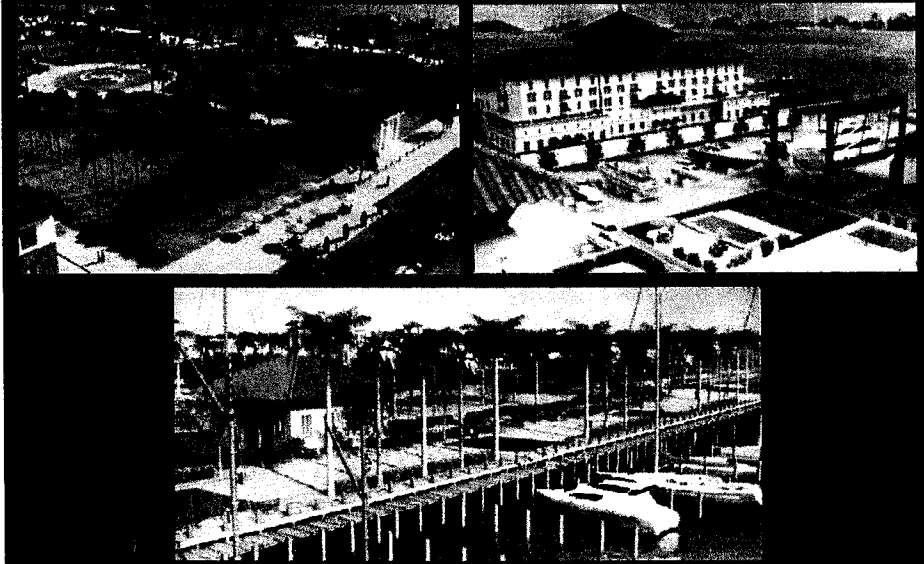
Palm Beach Gardens/North Palm Beach:
PGA "Four Corners"



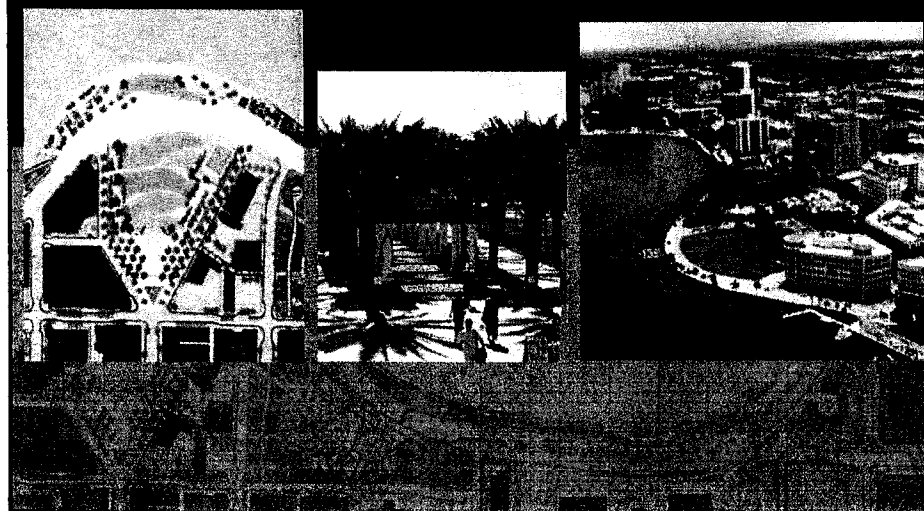
Palm Beach Gardens/North Palm Beach:
PGA "Four Corners"



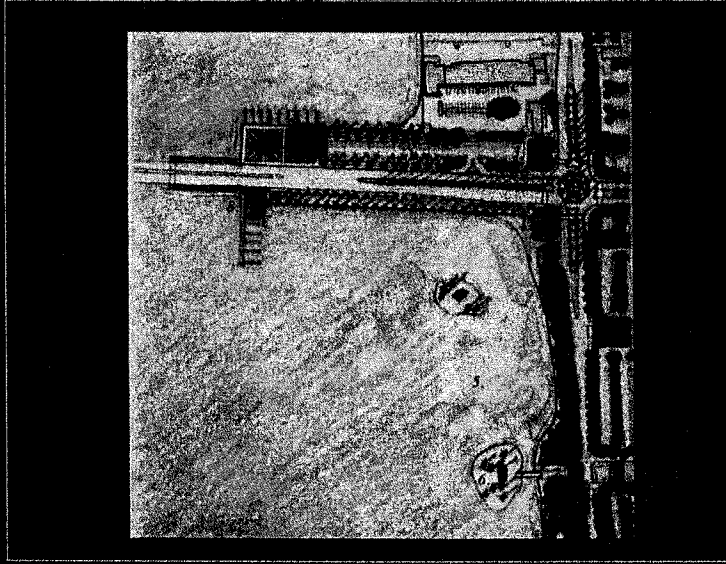
Riviera Beach: *Marina District*



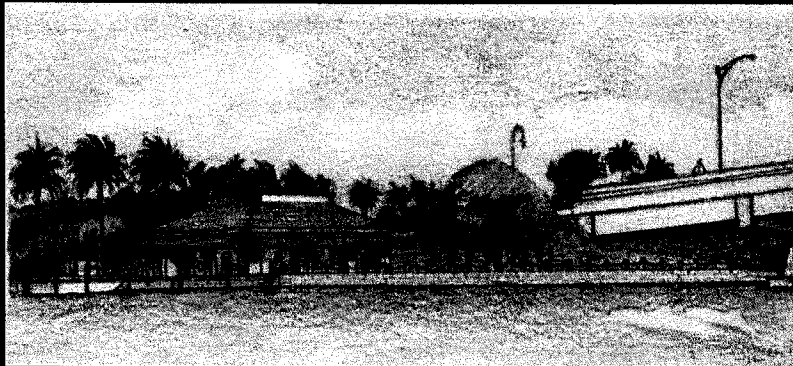
West Palm Beach: *Waterfront Commons*



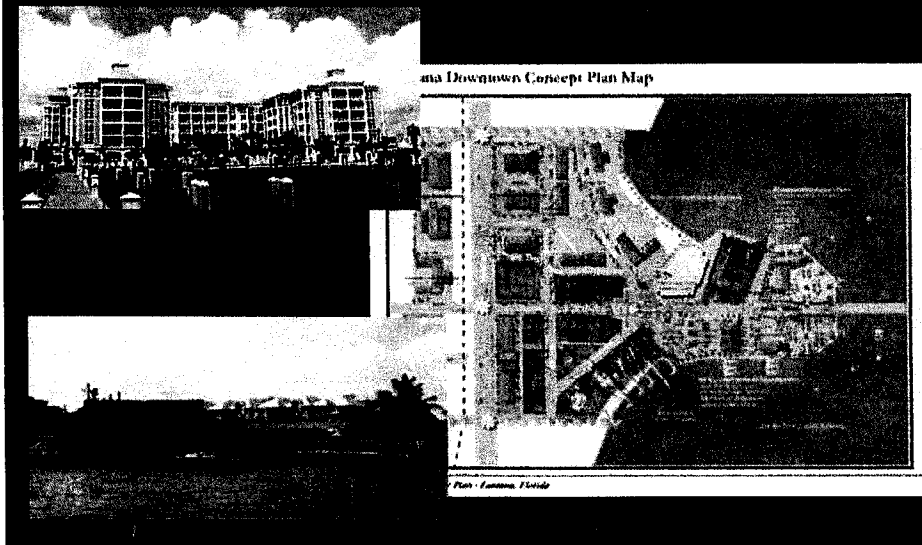
Lake Worth: *Jewel Cove*



Lake Worth: *Jewel Cove*



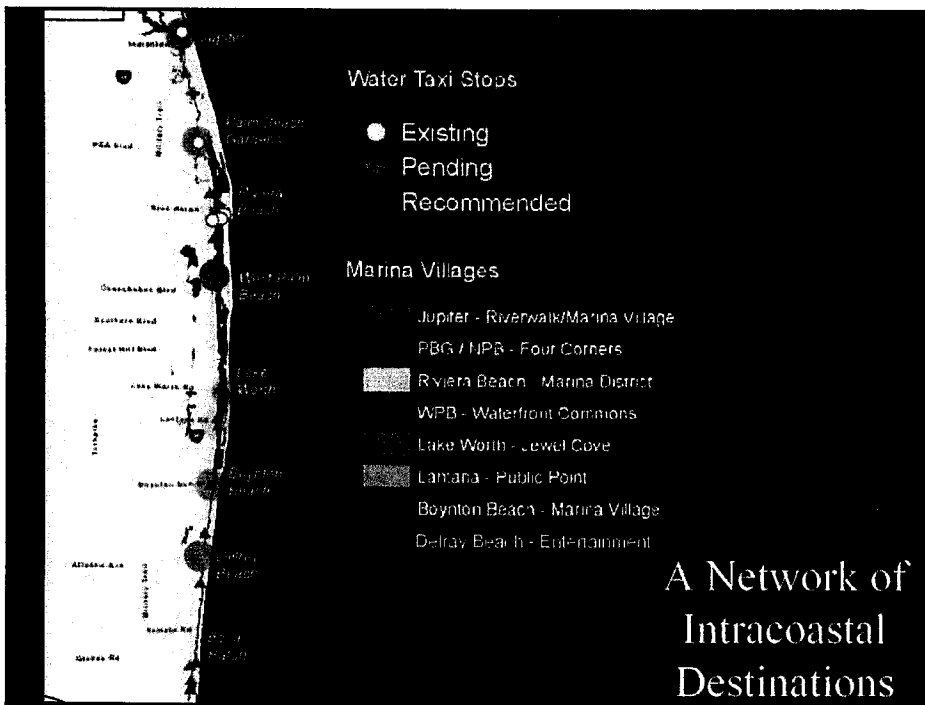
Lantana: *Public Point*



Boynton Beach: *Marina Village*



Delray Beach: *Entertainment District*



Key Strategies: Marina Villages & Destinations

Further Evaluate New Marina Villages

- PBG/NPB ~ PGA “Four Corners”
- Lake Worth ~ “Jewel Cove”
- Lantana ~ “Public Point”

Evaluate & Protect Additional Destinations

- Conduct TOD-type analysis (visibility, access, surrounding uses)
- Adopt appropriate FLUM & Zoning



Promoting
Sustainable Economies

Economic Context

Key Industry Sectors

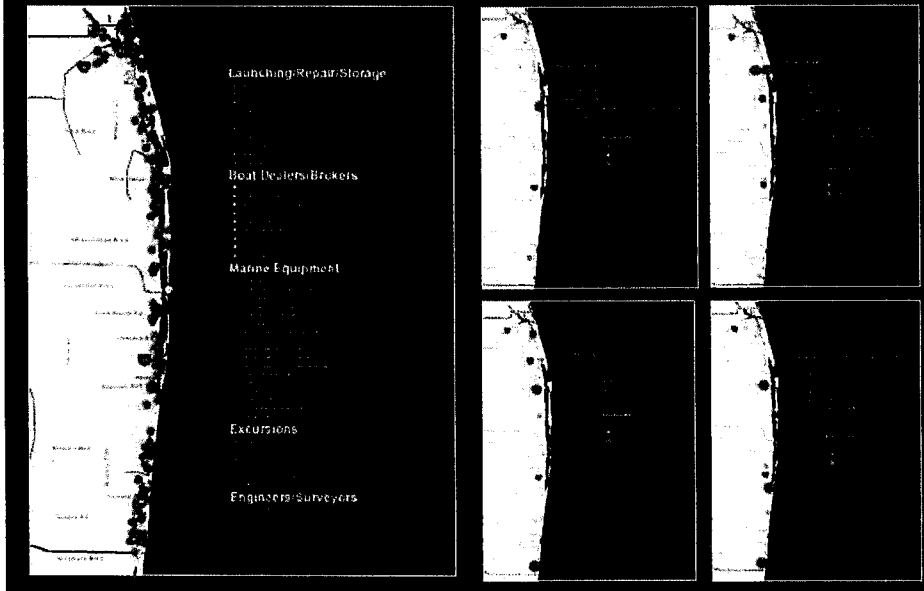
- *Marine Industries / Port of Palm Beach*
- *Hospitality / Tourism / Lodging*
- *“Workplace” Employment (office/industrial)*
- *Supporting Resident / Visitor Services (retail)*
- *Recreation*

Marine Industries Snapshot

- Broadly defined industry with multiple sectors:
 - Boat building; boat dealers; shipping; repair; yacht brokers; rentals; marinas; electronics equipment
- Marine industry “cluster” not clearly defined, difficult to quantify
- *Reported* county-wide marine-related jobs range from 10,000 to 20,000
- Study area *reportedly* contains 2,000 jobs in +/- 350 firms



Marine Industries Snapshot



Megayacht Industry

- Highly specialized needs limit locations within Florida and US
- Development of industry cluster will require careful planning, coordination & investment
- Significant spin-off potential in sub-industry fields (e.g., carpentry, metal fabrication, marine electronics, boat manufacturing, provisioning)
- Protected industrial land use classifications & infrastructure improvements are key



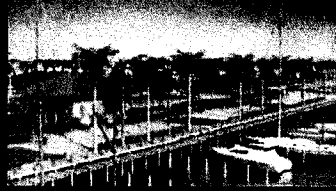
Key Strategies: Sustainable Economics

- Establish "Working Waterfronts Task Force"
 - Assemble & track marine industrial uses
 - Work towards model policies to protect working waterfronts
 - Evaluate financial incentives, deferred taxes, Florida "working waterfronts" designation
- Explore Development of Marine Industry Cluster
 - Identify & examine key industry sectors
 - Collect standardized industry data over multiple years



Key Strategies: Sustainable Economics

- Explore Development of Marine Industry Cluster
 - Blue Heron Bridge south into West Palm Beach
 - Coordinate with PBC EDO & marine industry cluster
 - Inventory & assess lands, uses, skills, products
 - Amend into City & County Comprehensive Plans
 - Incorporate into TCRPC CEDS
- Create Marine Industries Workforce Development Program
 - Regional assessment of industry readiness
 - Training programs for employees
 - Internships & apprenticeships
 - Region-wide funding mechanism for job training



Key Strategies: Sustainable Economics

- Develop Marine District Overlay Zones
 - Working waterfront designations
 - Identify supporting ancillary uses
- Develop DP via ICW Plan Implementation
 - Coordinate with local governments & TCRPC
- Create DP (Incorporated) Marketing Campaign
 - ICW Plan implementation & funding
 - Benchmarking indicators
 - Signage & marketing theme
 - Event coordination



Thank You

www.mpo.org