PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: February 9, 2021 [] Consent [X] Regular [] Ordinance [] Public Hearing						
Department: Administration						
I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF						
Motion and Title: Staff requests Board direction: regarding a Resolution opposing elimination of statutory authorization for regional planning councils in Florida as proposed in Senate Bill 62 or similar proposed legislation.						
 Summary: At the January 26th BCC Workshop meeting, staff was directed by the Commission to draft and bring back this resolution for consideration by the Board. Additionally, the BCC requested staff provide an overview of the functions and responsibilities of Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) in Florida. RPCs are referenced in at least 28 different chapters of the Florida Statutes. Primary powers and duties are outlined in Florida Statute, and include: To act in an advisory capacity to local governments in regional, metropolitan, county, and municipal planning matters, and provide technical assistance on growth management matters. To conduct studies of the resources of the region. To prepare and adopt a strategic regional policy plan that addresses affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources of regional significance, and regional transportation. To review plans of independent transportation authorities and metropolitan planning organizations to identify inconsistencies between those agencies' plans and applicable local government plans, and to coordinate land development and transportation policies in a manner that fosters region wide transportation systems. 						
Over the past decade, there have been significant changes to Florida statute that have altered the authority and responsibility of RPCs. In a continued effort, the sponsor of Senate Bill 62 is proposing ideas that would further erode the responsibilities of the RPCs.						
The Resolution contemplated in this agenda item speaks specifically to the filing of Senate Bill 62 which does the following:						
(Summary, Background and Policy Issues continued on Page 3)						
Attachments:						
1. Resolution						
Recommended by: Department Director Date						
Approved By: Assistant County Administrator Date						

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

Fiscal Years								
Capital								
Expenditures								
Operating Costs								
External								
Revenues								
Program								
Income(County)								
In-Kind Match (County)								
Match(County NET FISCAL					<u> </u>			
IMPACT								
#ADDITIONAL								
FTE								
POSITIONS								
(CUMULATIVE								
Does this item inclu Budget Account N Fund Agency B. Recommended	o: y Organ	ization (Yes Object ry of Fiscal In	No mpact:				
C. Departmental Fiscal Review:								
]	II. REVIEW	COMMENT	ΓS:				
A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:								

C. I	epartmental Fiscal Review:	
	III. REVIEW COMMENTS:	
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	Assistant County Attorney 2/4/2021	
C.	Other Department Review	

Summary (continued):

- SB 62 removes Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) and all references thereto from Florida law.
- The ten existing RPCs would no longer be governed by state law. However, RPCs governed by an existing interlocal agreement will continue to function under the terms and conditions of the enabling agreement.
- The bill reassigns RPC functions and duties under state law, where appropriate, to other state agencies and local governments.
- Currently, RPCs serve an administrative/advisory role, do not preempt local government land use authority and have no regulatory powers
- government land use authority, and have no regulatory powers.

 The bill expressly provides that local governments may enter into agreements to create regional planning entities at the local level pursuant to Chapter 163, F.S. Countywide (CK)

Background and Policy Issues: RPCs were first formed in Florida in the early 1960s, pursuant to Chapter 160 of Florida Statutes (subsequently repealed and reflected in Chapter 186).

RPCs were authorized for two or more counties or municipalities to create a regional planning council to resolve issues transcending their individual boundaries.

RPCs were also formed in response to federal funding initiatives, which made multi-jurisdictional agencies the eligible recipients or the required review agencies for certain federal funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS A MEMBER OF THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL; OPPOSING ELIMINATION OF STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION FOR REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS IN FLORIDA AS PROPOSED IN SENATE BILL 62 OR SIMILAR PROPOSED LEGISLATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's four county geographical area is comprised of Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties and 52 municipalities contained therein, with over 2.1 million residents; and

WHEREAS, the Council is a multi-purpose regional governmental entity with policy responsibilities in the areas of affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, energy, regional health, natural resources, urban planning, and regional transportation; and

WHEREAS, for more than five decades Regional Planning Councils have served the public as Florida's only multipurpose regional entities that coordinate intergovernmental solutions to multijurisdictional issues identified by their member local governments; and

WHEREAS, the 67 counties in the state are divided into 10 Regional Planning Councils which perform functions in Economic Development, Transportation, Emergency Preparedness, Regional Convening, and Resilience to the extent and as directed by their member counties, cities, and gubernatorial appointees; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Councils compete for and bring to Florida millions of dollars in federal funds for Economic Development, Transportation, and Environmental cleanup that would otherwise go to other states; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Councils receive no regular general appropriation for operation from the State and, instead, are supported by Federal grant funds, local dues, local contracts, and State contracts for specific programs implemented on behalf of the State; and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Councils no longer have any regulatory authority and are no longer involved in Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs); and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Councils serve a critical role in hazardous material response coordination and training through the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) operated by each Council; and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Councils regularly assist state agencies in implementing their statutory duties and legislative directives, along with coordinating these duties and directives with local input, at no charge to the State; and

WHEREAS, proposed Senate Bill 62 will remove authorization and all references to Regional Planning Councils from the Florida Statutes, depriving the people of the State of the important work the Councils do and the Federal funds they bring into Florida.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. The Legislature is urged not to pass Senate Bill 62 unless it is modified to no longer remove Regional Planning Councils from the Florida Statutes; and

Section 2. A copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Governor of Florida, The President of the Senate, The Speaker of the House of Representative, and the Chair and Members of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation.

This Resolution shall become effective imm	rediately upon its adoption.
The foregoing resolution was offered by Commits adoption. The motion was seconded by Coupon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:	Commissioner, and
DAVID KERNER, Mayor	-
ROBERT S. WEINROTH, Vice M	layor -
COMMISSIONER MARIA MARIN	10 -
COMMISSIONER GREGG K. WI	EISS -
COMMISSIONER MARIA SACH	S -
COMMISSIONER MELISSA MCI	KINLAY -
COMMISSIONER MACK BERNA	ARD -
The Mayor thereupon declared the resolut day of, 2021.	ion duly passed and adopted on this
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOSEPH ABRUZZO, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
BY: Ru Bu For C. Keester	BY:
Senior Assistant County Attorney	Deputy Clerk