Council Minutes
November 9, 2009
10:00 a.m.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT
Chair, Commissioner Bill Dodson, City of Plant City
Vice Chair, Commissioner Jack Mariano, Pasco County
Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Jill Collins, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Ron Barnette, City of Dunedin
Commissioner Neil Brickfield, Pinellas County
Commissioner Woody Brown, City of Largo
Commissioner Larry Bustle, Manatee County
Deputy Mayor Bob Consalvo, City of New Port Richey
Council Member Alison Fernandez, City of Temple Terrace
Mr. Julian Garcia, Jr., Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Vice Mayor Al Halpern, City of St. Pete Beach
Mr. Robert Kersteen, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Angeleigh Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Vice Mayor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole
Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island
Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, City of Tampa
Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Councilman Karl Nurse, City of St. Petersburg
Mayor Kathleen Peters, City of South Pasadena
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton
Vice Mayor Robin Saenger, City of Tarpon Springs
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Council Member Suzanne Vale, City of Oldsmar
Vice Mayor Robert Worthington, City of Gulfport
Mr. Earl Young, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Ming Gao, Ex-Officio, Florida Department of Transportation
Ms. Pamela Vazquez, Alt., Ex-Officio, Department of Environmental Protection
Ms. Michelle Miller, Ex-Officio, Enterprise Florida
Mr. Todd Pressman, Ex-Officio, Southwest Florida Water Management District

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT
Commissioner Nina Bandoni, City of Safety Harbor
Commissioner Kevin Beckner, Hillsborough County
Ms. Jane Bittner, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mayor Scott Black, Past Chair, City of Dade City
Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto
Mr. Harry Kinnan, Manatee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Council Member Carlen Petersen, City of Clearwater
Councilman Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park
Mr. Charles Waller, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Laura Woodard, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Kim Vance, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
OTHERS PRESENT
John Healey, Planner, Hillsborough County
Trisha Neasman, Planner, SWFWMD
Sharon Joy Kleitsch, Partner, The Connection Partners
Chris Zambito, Planner, Dewberry
Farrah Gosford, Planner, IEM
Carla Boyce, Manager, IEM
Joel Clough, Planner, IEM
Lisa Lennon, Permitting Engineer, Mosaic
Kenneth Hernandez, Program Manager, TECO
Tim Butts, Principal Planner, EHA
Jason Mickel, Planner, SWFWMD
Melissa Lewis, Comm. Rel. Mgr., Progress Energy
Barbara Leiby, Spec. Proj. Mgr., HCCPC

STAFF PRESENT
Mr. Manny Pumariega, Executive Director
Mr. Donald Conn, Legal Counsel
Ms. Suzanne Cooper, Principal Planner
Ms. Lori Denman, Recording Secretary
Mr. John Jacobsen, Accounting Manager
Ms. Betti Johnson, Principal Planner
Mr. John Meyer, Principal Planner
Ms. Wren Krahl, Director of Administration/Public Information
Ms. Jessica Lunsford, Senior Planner
Mr. Greg Miller, Senior Planner
Mr. Patrick O’Neil, Senior Planner
Mr. Brady Smith, Senior Planner
Ms. Erika Wiker, Planner
Mr. Avera Wynne, Planning Director

Call to Order – Chair Dodson
The November 9, 2009 regular meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council was called to order
by Chair Dodson at 10:02 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Ms. Jill Collins, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call – Recording Secretary
A quorum was present.

Voting Conflict Report -- Recording Secretary
There were no voting conflicts.
Announcements - Chair Dodson
Ms. Pamela Vazquez, alternate for Ms. Deborah Getzoff, FDEP, was introduced and welcomed to the Council.

Congratulations were provided to Councilman Karl Nurse, City of St. Petersburg and Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton for their election victories.

Chair Dodson reminded Council members to turn in their Committee Assignments choices FY 2010. Council members were also reminded of the Resolution in support of the Council hosting the 2012 National Association of Regional Councils’ (NARC) Conference. The goal is to have all of the resolutions presented and passed by December 18th in order to move forward with a formal proposal to the NARC Board in February.

The 18th Annual Future of the Region Awards Call for Entries was distributed. Council members were reminded that the entry form can be downloaded from our web site and were encouraged to enter projects. The deadline for entries is Friday, January 9, 2010.

Help-A-Child, Inc. is having a toy drive for needy children. Council members who would like to participate can bring their gift to the December 14 Council meeting.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Secretary/Treasurer Collins
   The minutes from the October 12, 2009 regular meeting were approved (Kerste/s Todd).

2. **Budget Committee** – Secretary/Treasurer Collins
   The Financial Report for the period ending 09/30/09 was approved (Saenger/Bustle).

3. **Consent Agenda** – Chair Dodson
   A. **Budget and Contractual**
      Expedited Permitting Review Process
      In 1996, the Florida Legislature enacted an expedited permitting review process for significant economic development projects. The Governor’s Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) oversees the program. OTTED is updating the memorandum of cooperative agreement between state and regional agencies to define the process and the roles that each agencies plays in the process.
      Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the updated OTTED agreement related to the expedited permitting review process.

   B. **Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program**
      1. IC&R Reviews by Jurisdiction - October, 2009
      2. IC&R Database - October, 2009

   C. **DRI Development Order Reports (DOR)** - None

   D. **DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)**
      1. DRI # 119 - Northwood, Pasco County
      2. DRI # 245 - Big Bend Transfer Company Sulfur Handling Facility, Hillsborough County

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E. Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) Reports
1. DRI # 166 - Wesley Chapel Lakes, Pasco County
2. DRI # 263 - Hillsborough County Mine Consolidation: S/D, Hillsborough County

F. Annual Report Summaries (ARS)/Biennial Report Summaries (BRS)
1. DRI # 145 - Southbend, RY 2008-09 Annual Report, Hillsborough County
2. DRI # 235 - Southeast Tract/Mosaic, RY 2008-09 Annual Report, Manatee County

G. DRI Status Report
Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

H. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)
Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following reports have been transmitted to the Florida Department of Community Affairs (FDCA) and the appropriate local government in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C.
1. DCA # 09-1AR, City of Madeira Beach (adopted)
2. DCA # 09-2AR, Hillsborough County (adopted)

I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)
The following report(s) are presented for Council action:
DCA # 09-1PTF, Manatee County (proposed)

The Consent Agenda was approved. (Todd/Kersteen)

4. Item(s) Removed from Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s) - None

5. Review Item(s) or Any Other Item(s) for Discussion - None

6. A. Leadership in an Uncertain Time - Dr. Margaret Wheatley

Every time we see soldiers we thank them for their service and I would like to thank you for your service because being a public official is not easy work. There is an undiscovered power present in communities everywhere that are not being sufficiently noticed. My own experience in community work has been along the Texas Gulf coast and in New Orleans after Katrina. I have also worked in communities around the world that have no material resources. It is from them that I learned that when human beings don’t have money, don’t have homes, and don’t have shelter, they discover they still have each other and can perform miracles.

It’s becoming more and more obvious to us that we are all in this together. You’re still
struggling with the average organizational chart which is very structured. A community is networks of interdependent, self-organizing human relationships. You have enormous resources in the Tampa Bay region of people who have been trained in close collaborative community processing. My task is to arouse your curiosity about these things, not to change your minds but to perhaps open them up.

You can read a lot of articles I have written on my web site (www.margaretwheatley.com). The most recent one is “Are We All In This Together?” You, as public leaders are the person who is supposed to fix and take care of everything. The American public is looking to you to solve our problems. This is why it is difficult to be a leader today. I think there are some assumptions in this image and the assumptions are wrong. The first assumption is that you have the antitoxin, you actually know what to do. There isn’t one person in the world that is smart enough to figure out the complexities of the issues facing you, and the diversities of the issues facing you. It’s an impossibility that one person would know what to do. The second myth is when there is a high risk situation that requires someone to step in and take charge. I have had the privilege of working with the Army Special Forces and I learned that in the highest risk situations they have trained these young men to think. They spend as much time teaching them to think as they do teaching them weaponry and tactics. What I learned from Special Forces and other places that are very dangerous is that when there is high risk you want everyone involved. The third myth is fear. Fear is not a good motivator. People lose the ability to think, to reason, to have moral and ethical reasoning and people lose the ability to look at the future. This is the most dangerous tactic to use.

A quote by Amanda Ripley from the book The Unthinkable is: “These days, we tend to think of disasters as Acts of Gods and governments. Regular people only feature into the equation as victims, which is a shame. Because regular people are the most important people at a disaster scene, every time.” If you think about your own experiences and circumstances within your own community such as a flood, electrical outage, or a hurricane, what did you discover from everyday people’s capacity? What did you discover about neighbors helping neighbors? From my work in disaster relief on the Gulf coast I came across the Cajun Navy. They are now famous in New Orleans because right after the levees broke anyone who had a boat stepped up and volunccerred their craft to the officials. They were told their boats do not meet their standards and would not pass licensing so the Cajun Navy went out on their own and rescued people, pets, and delivered medicine. They were a self organized force and an example of regular people performing extraordinary feats.

Recently, while in the District of Columbia (D.C.) I saw a World War II monument with a quote regarding the Battle of Midway “They had no right to win, yet they did, and in doing so they changed the course of a war...Even against the greatest of odds, there is something in the human spirit. A magic blend of skill, faith and valor - that can lift men from certain defeat to incredible victory.” This is the resource that is in our communities, but it is so difficult to believe in these days because when you are in public meetings you don’t see the blend of skill, faith and valor. You probably see a lot of complaining and “me” stuff. We’re involved in terrible mayhem in public meetings.

Post-Katrina Houston stepped up to the plate and helped thousands of people who were devastated, traumatized, and separated from their loved ones. The Governor called together twenty-one of the leading non-profits and they were able, within 48 hours, to
provide very high professional care. They found people jobs, they provided case management, they got children enrolled in schools and calmed everyone down. They felt proud and at the end they got together to see why it worked. They felt they were inspired by an ambitious goal, freed from ordinary constraints, emboldened by courageous leadership, supported by trusted team members, we can respond and meet any chosen challenge. This is one of the most powerfully written statements I’ve ever encountered and it came based on looking back at their experience. I would encourage all of you going forward to think about the time when your own community really rose up and acted well on its own behalf and see what you discovered that made for a successful mobilization of the community. This usually involves a crisis such as a hurricane, or a blackout. We have all had these experiences but we become so absorbed in the day to day dilemmas of leadership that you don’t have time to notice that you already know that there is no greater power than a community when its mobilized.

Questions & Comments:

Councilwoman Mulhern: Are you still in New Orleans or Texas?
Dr. Wheatley: I still work around the Gulf coast.
Councilwoman Mulhern: One of my nieces is now in New Orleans working with Habitat for Humanity. My family in the Detroit area feels that Detroit is like a “Hurricane Katrina” because the auto industry has been deteriorating for many years.
Dr. Wheatley: I was in Detroit recently and there were ads in the paper for 4 bedroom brick homes for $4500 and they are beautiful.
Councilwoman Mulhern: Thirty or forty years ago my grandmother’s home in Detroit burned down. My brothers, sisters and cousins decided that instead of sending our kids to New Orleans we were going to build a house on that street where my grandparent’s house was. They are putting that together. I thought it was an interesting approach to an urban disaster. I’m in Tampa and we have a wonderful city and nothing like that, but we do have the results of the interstate going through and the urban renewal.
Dr. Wheatley: The principal of mobilizing people on behalf of recreating or bringing back. One of the great things in Detroit is that there are 600 farmers now you have gone into vacant lots and created farms.
Commissioner Barnette: I’m a relative newcomer to the Council but I would like for you to look around at the set up. We do have eye-to-eye contact. What do you think about this set up?
Dr. Wheatley: I think this is a great format for getting through a lot of agenda items. This is not a great format for having a deep discussion. The first reason it wouldn’t work is because you can’t see each other. In my estimation what’s really important is to notice what you need to accomplish and then choose the right forum. If you are dealing with a puzzling issue then this isn’t the forum. If I were in charge I would move you all to the center and you would sit and talk about the issue. But, only for that.
Commissioner Barnette: So it’s relative to the subject.
Commissioner Bustle: I recently spent some time in Galveston and 15 months ago Galveston was under 8-10 feet of water. Today they have made
an astounding recovery. How do you figure they did that?

Dr. Wheatley: What really works since FEMA didn’t get there and government money is still not there, is the power of people. The most outstanding example for me is the Vietnamese community in New Orleans. They had the presence of the elders who were saying this is nothing, we lived through a war. They felt they could come back and they had a very strong spiritual leadership on the part of their bishops, and their tight cultural community. They had their homes fixed before the FEMA trailers arrived. They used this as an opportunity to create a green community. They are installing community gardens and they are a real model of the power of a community.

Ms. Todd: One of the main reasons that some of us wanted Dr. Wheatley to come today is because she is on to something that ultimately can help all of us who work in our communities. We don’t have any money, government is cutting back, yet you provide services. You are the ones that people turn to for help. The problems are going to get greater and greater. She is on to something in so much as mobilizing communities to work with you instead of just standing up and telling you what the problem is. I encourage you to visit Dr. Wheatley’s web site and learn a little more about what she is talking about. Councilman Nurse is working on issues with Sharon Joy Kleitsch who is responsible for bringing Dr. Wheatley here, and bringing together people who don’t ordinarily sit down at the table and discuss energy, the environment and the economy.

Dr. Wheatley: There is much more detail on the power of the community on the web site and how you engage communities. I will be speaking at USF St. Petersburg Campus, Bishop Center at the Campus Activity Center at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Vice Mayor Saenger: When we try to engage the community in a very broad manner we get the same people showing up and it’s a very small group. It’s not a representation of the community. As an elected official, the people I represent look to me to represent them but I want to hear their voices. What type of forum does a community meeting have to serve small groups, how do you start to build that?

Dr. Wheatley: I think it takes a lot of patience and a lot of persistence, or tenacity. This is old community organizing. You have to go to the people. You have to meet them where they are and you have to genuinely show that you need them. This takes time but it has to be a commitment on your part as a leader. It doesn’t happen just by announcing an event in advance. You really need to be out in the community talking to the people. Then when you are faced with a disaster, all the conditions are right for people to get engaged. Then it’s building on that.

Vice Chair Mariano: As far as the town hall meetings I think you are seeing a fresh burst of what’s real and representative. Commissioner Bustle talked about Galveson doing a nice rebuild and you (Dr. Wheatley) said it’s not appropriate to do it there, but in New Orleans, aren’t they rebuilding in low areas that were hit immediately by the floods?
Dr. Wheatley: The thing about New Orleans is if they had reasonable levees and people really addressed the wetlands issue, it would be alright for New Orleans to be below sea level because Holland has succeeded. We have never had the will to actually do what’s right. That is still a current conversation. A lot of it is the wetlands issue and creating the buffer zone so that storms don’t come in. The levees are the thing that struck New Orleans, it wasn’t Katrina. Katrina was a category three when it hit. I met one homeowner in a very nice neighborhood and he said after the storm was over he was standing on his lovely street two blocks from the levee and he was feeling OK, they dodged the bullet. Then he looked up the street and saw what looked like yellow carpet rolling towards him. He didn’t realize it was the lake. By the time he got to his front porch the water was up to his waist. That’s what destroyed New Orleans, it was not the storm.

Vice Chair Mariano: So with that issue, with levees being the critical issue to them being able to live, isn’t that a message to maybe not build there?

Dr. Wheatley: It depends if you want to support New Orleans. It’s cultural. Do we really want New Orleans?

Chair Dodson: You might be amused to find that if you were to come at any given time among this group of mostly elected officials, when you get an issue of passion there is plenty of dialogue that comes from every direction.

B. Mr. Mike Waters, Progress Energy Advanced Transportation Manager

Mr. Waters presentation provided a quick overview of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles, and the benefits associated with electric transportation.

In the beginning of the twentieth century all modes of transportation were electric. Then something happened called petroleum which was readily available and was cheap. Electric transportation resurrected itself in the 1990s but didn’t succeed. The situation today is very different than the 1990s. In the 1990s you had batteries with a range limitation of roughly 40-60 miles. For a lot of people that might be just enough to get to and from work but there wasn’t enough room there for much else. Now we have plug-in hybrid electric technology that combines the electric motor with a gas engine which eliminates range anxiety and improved batteries provide a longer range. With the technology today you can easily get 100 miles between charges and we hope that will change to 200 miles over the next 10 years. Another thing to consider is the marketplace. If you think about today versus 15 years ago, how often 15 years ago did you talk about the price of gas? Half of the states in the union are now following what California is doing with carbon emissions.

Plug-in hybrids are an extension of today’s standard hybrid technology. The hybrid of today has a much bigger battery and the ability to plug into a wall at home for a recharge. There will be a lot of variations on different models. Why plug-in vehicles? They are cleaner. They reduce emissions. They are cheaper since fuel costs much less than gas. The plug-in vehicle reduces dependence on foreign oil by three to four million barrels per day by 2030.
The Pacific NW National Lab Study and the National Resources Defense Council Study/Electric Power Research Institute confirm air quality benefits. These studies confirm the reduction of air pollutants and other pollutants. They look at a scenario of reducing carbon by 470 million tons a year and 9 billion tons between now and 2050.

A lot of people ask, where do I plug in the vehicle for a recharge? Charging at home will be the default, but opportunity charging will also be in demand. The Society of Automobile Engineers is working on a connector which will plug into an outlet installed in your house. Level one would be a 120v 20a breaker with a separate cord which could take up to ten hours to charge your car. Level two would be similar to your dryer outlet, 240v with up to 100a breaker with an attached cord which would take 3 to 4 hours to charge your car. Level three is a direct DC, high voltage connector which is more of a gas station type of connector and in 15 minutes your could charge the car up to 80%. Charging at home is the preferred method and it would be cheaper and easier to manage. Opportunity charges outside the home will also be in demand. It may not be used a lot, but it should be there to help reduce anxiety.

You will hear a lot of times that the grid will come falling down with all these vehicles being plugged in. We have looked at this extensively. If you consider every vehicle sold this year as an electric vehicle, a plug-in, and ten million Chevy Volts showed up tomorrow the total electric generation that would go to those vehicles would be 0.8%. Less than 1% would go to ten million vehicles. That gives you an idea of how big the grid is. The current administration has a target of one million electric cars by 2015. Nearly every automaker has a product in production and they range from a small car to a race car to a truck, SUV, etc.

Tax credits: Up to $7500 per vehicle is available today and will last for a long time-up to 200,000 units per manufacturer; 10% credits for conversions of smaller vehicles; you can also get infrastructure so if you were to put in a station there would be a 50% tax credit to the end of next year which will likely be extended. Stimulus grant money, one thing in particular would be the State and Local Energy Efficiency Block Grants.

Progress Energy has converted two Ford Escape vehicles, and a bucket truck. We have helped the City of St. Petersburg with their conversions. We have done a lot of public outreach and education, and we have acted as technical consultants for those who wish to convert their vehicles. We also do research and development and provide support through collaboration with automakers and utilities. We are also looking at business models. As your supplier of electricity you will look at us as the fuel provider and you want to make sure that we can meet your needs. We are also looking at renewable energy.

In summary, plug-in vehicles are coming with improved technologies to reduce the barriers. Electric transportation can improve air quality while reducing greenhouse effects and petroleum use. The load is manageable. Regions that are proactive will have vehicles earlier than others and realize the benefits by focusing on the process now and considering infrastructure later. For more information: www.projectgetready.com.
Questions & Comments:

Vice Chair Mariano: This is a tremendous economic development item for the region and if we get on board we can show ourselves as a progressive region. Pasco County is currently redoing their land development code and I would be happy to be the prototype to share the information with everyone else as far as what things we need to put in the code, how to set it up to expedite the process. I look forward to partnering with you and I encourage everyone else to jump in with us.

Councilwoman Mulhern: I was thinking along the same lines of economic development. The vehicles that you have that were converted, was that done in Florida?

Mr. Waters: The conversion we had done was two years ago and it was done in Raleigh, NC.

Councilwoman Mulhern: That’s what I see as an economic development opportunity for Tampa Bay which could actually create some jobs.

Mr. Waters: The trick to conversions is that the vehicles were not designed to have this technology and it can be difficult. The Prius is easy because it has an easy system to hack in to.

Councilwoman Mulhern: So they should be hybrids to be converted?

Mr. Waters: It’s easier to convert the hybrids.

Councilwoman Mulhern: What about solar charging stations?

Mr. Waters: I can’t speak a lot to that because that’s another technology. Solar paneling puts energy under the grid and it’s not a direct link.

Mr. Núñez: Please address any planning or thoughts about recycling batteries. There is a big potential of environmental impacts with so many batteries being out there and all the by-products they have.

Mr. Waters: That’s a big issue. 99% are recycled. Lithium batteries are less toxic and are able to be recycled.

Vice Mayor Matthews: You mentioned a bucket truck. Also, are you doing anything about vans?

Mr. Waters: We are still evaluating the data on the bucket truck which has been in use for a couple of months now. The advantage of this bucket truck is the idling which saves gallons of diesel use and has a higher environmental rating. We are working with a couple of companies on vans. One of them is called Bright Ideas which was started by a man in Indianapolis.

Commissioner Brickfield: The rates in your presentation, are those today’s rates or future rates?

Mr. Waters: We would have to look specifically at the quarter but the rates of electricity versus the cost of gas shows that electricity is less.

Vice Mayor Worthington: When you were talking about the charging stations, and this would include different types of technology whether you are using 110 or 220 volts, will there be standards for homes? You said these standards are still being developed. Are they going through the Southern Standard Building Code so they will be uniform for everyone?

Mr. Waters: The standard I was talking about is more for roadside. I think what you are talking about is also important when you are building.

Vice Mayor Worthington: Last week I was at an event and two people approached me about putting electric power filling stations in our city. Besides the fact that we have no
regulations for it at this time, they were talking about putting it in a very busy part of our city which is downtown, near the beach, which is prone to flooding. We need some kind of regulation. How are we going to do this? Is the power company going to set up these stations or is it going to be private industry? There are a lot of things that need to be answered.

Mr. Waters: I think it will be a little bit of both.

Power Point presentation(s) can be found at [www.tbrpc.org/councilagendas/councilpresentations.htm](http://www.tbrpc.org/councilagendas/councilpresentations.htm)

7. **Council Members’ Comments**

Councilman Karl Nurse, City of St. Petersburg stated there is an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant opportunity. This is a competitive grant, maximum of twenty locations in the country, of $400 million. We are trying to see if we can get the governments in the region to do this together. It’s only those governments who received the original block grant funds which would be the counties and cities. At this point we have staffers from Pinellas County, Pinellas Park, Clearwater, Largo, Dunedin, Tampa, and Manatee County has said they are interested. We really need Pasco County, Bradenton, and Hillsborough County to join us. The short version of this is: $20-$30 million of federal money combined with a loan or bond program that’s five times that size, probably bank financing. The idea is to weatherize whole neighborhoods at a time where you would use the federal money to administer, to subsidize the paperwork involved, probably some of the installation, etc. so you get some of the original stuff almost free and then to buy down the interest rate on the loans. They are trying this around the country and they are looking for something they can use as a national model. It has the possibility collectively of being $150 million of energy efficiency work in the next 3 years. Even after the stimulus part runs out you still have the audits and the loan program. Homes built before 1979 were built before there were any energy efficiency standards.

Councilman Nurse distributed information to the Council.

8. **Program Reports**

A. **Agency on Bay Management (ABM) – Chair, Mr. Robert Kersteen**

The Agency’s Natural Resources/Environmental Impact Review Committee met on October 8th. The meeting was well attended and we had a diverse agenda.

First was an update on Port Manatee activities, including the expected need for mitigation of natural resource impacts associated with the recently-revised 20-year Master Plan. Expansion of the berths is planned to accommodate more container business. One recurring issue has been maintenance dredging and disposal of the material. Port Manatee has solved that by contracting to use the Piney Point phosphogypsum stacks east of the port for spoil disposal. You may recall the several-year effort to empty the ponds on top of the gyp stack, line those ponds and restore the site to stop the discharge of acidic, nutrient-rich water from the site.

Second item was a presentation on a new process to produce biodiesel from algae. This small, local effort has been under investigation for many years and is at the point where it is ready for a pilot project. An estimated 3,654 gallons of oil can be produced per acre of
algae per year, as compared to 118 gallons from peanuts, 18 gallons from corn, and 635 from palm nuts. Also, the algae consumes CO2 as it grows, an estimated 2.2 tons for every 1 ton, or 20,000 gallons of biodiesel produced. The algae would use bay water, removing nitrogen and phosphorus, and return it to the bay in a clean form. The waste biomass could be used to make ethanol. The committee members had many questions, including: Are the species of algae used native or foreign and what would be the impact on the Tampa Bay ecosystem if the algae were to escape? How much water from Tampa Bay would be needed to produce a gallon of biodiesel?

The final item was the proposed boat ramp on Bishop Harbor. The FL Department of Environmental Protection’s Park Service proposes to improve the existing small ramp and provide 15 parking spaces as well as a canoe/kayak launch. Bishop Harbor is part of the Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve, a shallow harbor in northwestern Manatee County. It is hoped that this ramp will relieve pressure at the Cockroach Bay ramp in southern Hillsborough County. Concerns expressed included the need to mark a channel from the ramp through the Harbor and the need to limit boat size so as to protect seagrass beds.

Tampa Bay Area Scientific Information Symposium #5 was held in late October at the Holiday Inn Sunspree resort in south St. Petersburg. The three and a half-day event was very well attended and included over 70 speakers. The theme was: “A Look Back in Order to Look Forward.”

B. Clearinghouse Review Committee (CRC) - No Report

C. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – No Report

D. Emergency Management

The eleven regions (11 RPCs) in the state have been updating The Florida Statewide Regional Evacuation Study. Tampa Bay is the first to receive the LIDAR (detailed typographic data), and the new SLOSH models. We have conducted the storm surge analysis and have given the emergency management directors, planning departments, county GIS, and others such as the Department of Transportation those preliminary findings. We are now working on new evacuation zones. Tampa Bay is the lead on this and I think you will be impressed with the products as they are coming out early next year.

All four of our counties have been working on their Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) five year mandatory update of the mitigation plans. The State of Florida has approved all of the plans and they are now in Atlanta at the Federal Emergency Management Agency for approval. We need to have these plans approved in order to get hazard mitigation funds in case anything should happen. Pasco County was the first in the state to be approved by FEMA so it is now on-line. The draft LMS documents can be reviewed at each county’s web site where comments or suggestions can be made.

We have received a grant to do a catastrophic plan for the Tampa Bay area. The plan will be designed as the Tampa Bay region’s “Hurricane Katrina”. The kickoff for Project Phoenix will be at the Quorum Hotel in Tampa on January 5-6, 2010. There should be some great discussion on how to pull our people together in order to respond.
Wheatley’s comments were very appropriate for this event. The earlier catastrophic planning that has been done in the State of Florida really did focus on the army of survivors and the role that they play in bringing our community back together. All were invited to attend.

E. **Legislative Committee** – Chair, Mr. Julian Garcia, Jr.

1. At the October 12th Legislative Committee meeting a motion was made and passed to draft a letter regarding a potential Senate Bill 360 glitch bill in the 2010 Regular Legislative Session. The Legislative Committee is requesting that these comments be considered in the event that a SB 360 glitch bill is introduced during the 2010 Regular Legislative Session. The Legislative Committee has forwarded to the full Council for your consideration and approval of the letter. Upon approval of this letter it will be forwarded to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, and the Tampa Bay Area Legislative Delegation.

Chair Dodson called for comments.

Mr. Pressman: I have concerns regarding the letter. It seems to me that a number of points in the letter ask for bureaucracy. It asks for an increase in time that the amendments are reviewed. It seems to me that local jurisdictions have moved forward on concurrency cost requirements. I cannot support this letter.

Ms. Collins: To continue on with Mr. Pressman’s remarks, I think in these economic times we are dealing with a lot of tough issues and the longer we extend development out and make things more difficult, for example - the letter points out on the 3rd item talks about allowing right now if this legislation was passed that the TCEA can be proposed at any time. I don’t know how many of those come up but to bring that back and say no we still only want to do it twice a year I think we are stifling economic growth. When you think about these projects think about your neighbors, family, friends who work on projects like this who are in the construction industry, the development industry in some capacity and this is going to stop them from being able to work. I will not support this letter as written.

I would like to make a motion that we don’t pass this letter and we go back to the drawing board. I’m not saying we shouldn’t send a letter, I’m just saying I think we, as a committee, have not had an adequate chance to go through it and talk about what we think the concerns are. The legislature listens to Regional Planning Councils and I want to make sure the letter is right before sending it out. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Mariano who would also like the letter to have the impact we are looking for.

Chair Dodson: The request on the floor is to send the letter back to the Legislative Committee for reconsideration of some matters of concern by the full Council. The full Council is to put their concerns in writing and submit them.

Ms. Collins: I want everyone to hash through and provide Mr. Garcia and the
Committee your comments and your feelings. Everyone has a voice on this. This makes a difference for everyone.

Mr. Pumariaga: A lot of the points in the letter - its just trying to get some clarifications. There’s been a lot of confusion out there throughout the state, whether the state statute overrides the local ordinances and plans that you have adopted. A lot of these points are for clarification. Also, in point number one about us convening dispute resolutions or extra-jurisdictional impacts there is a question as to when does it become mandatory? At what point of the entry process? I would like to recommend - Don Conn is the one who made the presentation - just bring it back to the Council in December instead of going through the Legislative Committee. Mr. Conn can do a presentation or provide comment on each of the points in this letter.

Mr. Garcia: That would be fine.

Chair Dodson: Then we will bring this back to Council in December for a presentation from Mr. Conn.

Mr. Conn: I would welcome comments from Council members prior to the December meeting so that I could be aware of the concerns that individual Council members might have with regard to the draft, as well as the impact of SB 360 on your local communities. What the letter is intending to do is ask the legislature to clarify some issues that have been brought up and have been discussed in your local communities about SB 360. In addition with regard to the second point of mobility fees, this is an extremely critical item for your local governments and the letter is asking the legislature to address this in the 2010 session as they indicated they will be doing and addressing mobility fees, a study that they will be receiving in December of this year from the Florida Department of Transportation as well as the Department of Community Affairs. What the letter is asking them to do is simply consider and pass some form of legislation that will replace for local governments revenues that you are currently receiving that if they are not replaced is going to be a big hole in your local budget.

Ms. Collins: It actually says that we are asking the legislature to act on the recommendations of DOT and DCA. Do we know what those recommendations are?

Mr. Conn: Certainly we need to clarify the letter in order to ensure that it’s clear what the expression of the Council is but the intent is simply to make it clear that unless this issue is addressed in the 2010 session, you have a budget impact that you will have to deal with. I would welcome any comments, suggestive revisions, clarifications between now and the December Council meeting so that those can be incorporated in a redraft that we will bring to you, or we can have that discussion of those additional points.

Ms. Collins: I agree with you. I think there are a lot of things that we are asking for clarification on. I would just hesitate to, without the full Council’s comments, to say that we feel comfortable for the legislature to act on recommendations from two agencies when we don’t know what those recommendations are. And if we do, we haven’t seen them. I think we want to be really careful.

Chair Dodson: Ms. Collins made a motion and Vice Chair Mariano seconded the motion
that we would like to hear a presentation in December, before doing a redraft of the letter, which would then be presented for consideration at the February 2010 meeting.

Ms. Collins: My motion would be that we don't necessarily need a presentation. We have the letter and we know what the issues are, we just need to get comments to Mr. Conn and probably go as far as to have another draft letter based on the comments. It would be ideal for us to get something out in December.

Ms. Todd: Perhaps we could receive an explanation along with the redrafted letter and then we can all be educated.

Chair Dodson: I would encourage anyone that has any thoughts about this issue to be certain that your thoughts are heard and incorporated into the letter that you submit those to staff or directly to Mr. Conn for consideration. The redraft will be presented at the December meeting. We have a motion and a second on the floor, any further comments or discussion? Motion carried.

2. At the October 12th Council meeting a motion was passed to draft a Letter of Concerns regarding the potential of offshore oil and gas drilling in the State of Florida. Upon approval this letter will be sent to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Tampa Bay Area Legislative Delegation, and the Tampa Bay Area U.S. Congressional Delegation. The draft letter was mailed separately from your mail out packet.

Chair Dodson: This draft letter was sent out after the original packet as we were still in the process of completing the language. I know there are some issues with the draft letter.

Mayor Minning: I would like to encourage the Council to move this forward but in the first bullet of the letter I would suggest some alternate wording, and that would be: What are the potential impacts, both positive and negative, of oil and gas exploration and development on Florida’s economy, tourism and environment. Economic and environmental impact studies should be conducted before the legislature considers any bill on this issue. The second sentence is what I would add. I find it rather ironic, if you look in your packet under the DRI process of the hoops you have to jump through to do a development and we are considering offshore drilling without any environmental impact statements at all.

Chair Dodson: Point well taken, are there any objections to add that sentence?

Commissioner Brickfield: If you want to build a road and you get federal money you have to do a study. What is the process if you want to drill an oil well? Do you have to do an environmental study? Is it somewhere in the process?

Mayor Minning: There are two. If you drill in federal waters you have to comply with MMS, and in essence you have to do an environmental impact study. In federal waters that is a requirement. There is nothing in state waters. That is why I am proposing that sentence be included.

Vice Chair Mariano: I am concerned with regard to the new rig in Australia and I
noticed the bullet item with regard to hurricanes on the last item.

Ms. Cooper: The spill was not from the jack-up rig that they are saying would be used in Florida waters. There is a jack-up rig operating on that platform but the spill is actually from a different point, it’s from an active production site. I understand you have concerns about technology that we might use in Florida waters but I think that relating it to the spill that’s happening in Australia is not quite on point because it isn’t happening from the jack-up rig.

Vice Chair Mariano: Would that same technology be used on a platform in our waters?

Ms. Cooper: They are saying not. Again, I think the point that we have about what technologies are planned for use in Florida’s waters and how safe are they is very appropriate.

Chair Dodson: As I understand it from Vice Chair Mariano’s comment, he is alluding to the fact that we would like more information before you tender your support on that.

Vice Chair Mariano: We need the facts before we can make a decision. Is there any comfortable verbiage we have on the exact technology so we can make sure we can try to prevent something like that and put in some type of reference to it.

Ms. Cooper: I wonder how much influence the legislature could have on the type of technology that’s used. Knowing that the drilling that’s probably going to occur in Florida waters, if at all, is going to be deep and whether the jack-up rig is actually appropriate for deep water drilling, and knowing that technology is evolving all the time, you wonder if the legislature would want to stipulate any kind of technology in particular. I think the bullet we have about what technology would be used would be important in an environmental study that would be done before the legislature considers a bill.

Chair Dodson: In the discussion that took place last month there were two approaches. One was a more direct approach by way of a resolution and the other approach was outlining our concerns. The idea was not to box ourselves in too soon before the legislative session has considered this issue. In that regard I hoped this would allow us then the opportunity for a rebuttal in the event the legislative body brings this matter up for discussion.

Ms. Todd: I would like it to be very clear though. When I made the motion last month there were two parts. One, that this Council still continues to be opposed to offshore drilling within 100 miles and secondly, to address the very good ideas that you put forth and are outlined in this letter that we want to be participants in the process. To me, and I what I sense from my colleagues, this is not well, how are we going to decide where we are now all of a sudden deciding that we’ve changed our policy, when we haven’t changed our policy. We still have the same policy, however, we feel these are issues that the legislature should address.

Chair Dodson: We made a point of incorporating your thoughts by stating in the first paragraph that the Regional Planning Council does have a
policy prohibiting drilling within 100 miles of Florida’s Gulf coast so your thoughts could be shared. The affects on tourism is in the first bullet point.

Vice Mayor Worthington: I think a lot of good thought and effort went into this. I like it and I like the amendment Mayor Minning suggested. I would like to call for a vote on this for approval with the amendment from Mayor Minning. The motion was seconded by Ms. Collins.

Chair Dodson: There is motion on the floor with a second which calls for the draft letter as it is prepared, with the amended language on the first bullet point brought up by Mayor Minning to be approved. Is there any discussion? Motion carried. We will make the change and the letter will be sent out.

F. Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) – No Report

Mr. Greg Miller provided a report. RPAC met on October 2nd and staff provided an update on the One Bay implementation, which is similar to what was presented to Council in August with the Mason Dixon poll results, and preliminary recommendations. We made a request to the RPAC group and invited some other individuals as well to help us going forward in the development of strategies to implement the One Bay recommendations. Any Council members or if you know of anyone else who would like to comment or get input on where we are right now as far as strategies there is a link on the home page of www.tbrcp.org to the One Bay Technical Team site. The next scheduled meeting is November 19th, immediately following the TBARTA Land Use Working Group meeting, which will probably be 11:00 a.m.

G. Economic Development – No Report

H. Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) - No Report

9. Other Council Reports - Chair Dodson

Nominating Committee - Vice Mayor Bob Matthews, Chair

The Nominating Committee met this morning prior to the Council meeting to discuss the 2010 Slate of Officers. A quorum was present with the following members: Myself as Chair, Mr. Bob Kersteen; Mr. Julian Garcia; and Ms. Angeliaa Kinsler.

The following are being presented to serve as the 2010 TBRPC Slate of Officers: Commissioner Jack Mariano, Chair; Ms. Jill Collins, Vice Chair; and Commissioner Larry Bustle, Secretary/Treasurer. Each of these candidates have served the Council long and well.

Chair Dodson: Motion to approve the recommended Slate of Officers for 2010. (Kersteen/Brickfield) Motion carried.
10. Executive/Budget Committee Report – Chair Dodson - No Report

11. Executive Director’s Report - No Report

12. Chair’s Report

Next meeting, December 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: 11.59 a.m.

[Signature]
William Dodson, Chair

[Signature]
Lori Denman, Recording Secretary