



Recap of the TBRPC Council Meeting

Talking points to assist Board Members with their reports on Council activities.

Council Meeting Date: October 8, 2012

❖ **Five Year Statewide Strategic Plan for Economic Development**

Dr. Barbara Foster, Coordinator, Office of Planning, Program Evaluation and Partnership Coordination for the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) provided an overview of the collaborative process to build a consensus-driven five year Statewide Strategic Plan for Economic Development which began in October 2011 with the creation of DEO. One year, 50 workshops and 3,000 participants later, DEO is marking the first anniversary of the agency with the roll out of the plan. This innovative approach to strategic planning brought together diverse groups of stakeholders and partnerships, and the Regional Planning Councils have been instrumental to the success of this unique initiative. Dr. Barbara Foster discussed the goals, objectives and strategies of the plan, and explained the next steps of alignment.

❖ **TBRPC Welcomes New Member Government-City of Zephyrhills**

Recognizing the importance of intergovernmental cooperation the City of Zephyrhills passed Resolution #657-12 at their August 13, 2012 Council Meeting in favor of joining the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. The Council voted unanimously to accept their membership.

❖ **Statewide Regional Energy Projects**

Staff provided an update on two statewide energy planning projects that the TBRPC is leading. One project relates to energy resiliency or identifying ways to diversify our energy sources. The second project relates to energy assurance or what steps should we be prepared to take in the event of an energy disruption. Partners include the Florida Regional Planning Councils, the U.S. Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, and the Florida Office of Energy. A basic premise of these studies is identifying strategies to diversify Florida's energy future and reduce reliance on foreign energy sources. Increased domestic energy usage means domestic jobs. Two surveys have been created in order to understand the current energy infrastructure paradigm from both a resident and non-residential perspective. The survey may be found at www.florida-energy.org. Responses will be kept anonymous and will only be reported in summary form.

❖ **TBRPC Seeks New Office Tenants**

Up to 13,940 square feet of premium office space will be available for lease on Feb. 1, 2012. Favorable rates for Not for Profits/Centrally located in Pinellas County/Bus Route/Easy access to I-275/Ample parking. Contact Wren Krahl for more information.

All presentations, pertinent links and detailed minutes of the meeting can be found on the Council website at www.tbrpc.org. 727.570.5151