



Tampa Bay LEPC *HazMatters* July - September 2017

Tampa Bay LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the St. Petersburg Bayfront Hilton on July 20-21, 2017. The quarterly Tampa Bay LEPC meeting was held on August 23rd. In conjunction with the August 23rd LEPC meeting, presentations were provided by LEPC member James Johnston (Pasco County Emergency Management) and Dr. Lori Collins of U.S.F. regarding the July 14th sinkhole that engulfed two homes in Pasco County and subsequently lead to the determination of five adjacent homes being “*structurally unsafe*.”

The Tampa Bay LEPC’s HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on August 23rd to further refine and strategize expenditures associated with the FY 2016-17 HMEP Training contract. Training needs and desires have been and will continue to be identified for each of the LEPC’s six Counties and their corresponding municipalities.

The following training has already occurred within the Tampa Bay LEPC District with funding from the FY 2016-17 HMEP Training Contract: attendance of 27 students at the *2017 Hazmat Symposium* in Daytona Beach (January 17-20); conduct of three, shift-friendly, 3-Hr. *Responding to Gasoline Tanker Emergencies* courses each in Manatee County (May 1-3), the City of Tampa (May 11, 12 & 16), Hernando County (June 13-15) and Pinellas County (September 19-21); an 8-Hr. *Chlorine Handling and Emergency Response* course in Manatee County (July 11); a 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* course (August 14-18); and three 8-Hr. *Advanced Hazmat IQ* courses (August 29-31). A cost share was implemented with Pinellas County regarding the funding of the last two identified courses.

The following has been or will be proposed to account for all remaining Tampa Bay LEPC FY 2016-17 HMEP Training funds: 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technicians Certification* courses for 12 Pasco County and one Hernando County students; two 8-Hr. *Street Smart for Hazmat* courses; three 8-Hr. *Emergency Water Injection for Propane Incidents* courses (for transportation-related propane incidents) and one 16-Hr. *Hazardous Materials Safety Officer/Transportation* course. It is hereby noted that the HMEP Training Subcommittee members continue to evaluate the possibility of developing a consolidated, hybrid, 160-Hr. Hazmat Technicians Certifications course curriculum that, if pursued and approved, would provide local, quality certification/instruction at a reduced cost. If implemented, such course may commence as early as the FY 2017-18 HMEP Training Contract.

Tampa Bay LEPC staff has collected the Hazmat Team self-assessment survey results for the eight local teams with full or partial hazmat capabilities. Those teams are Citrus County Fire Rescue, Hernando County Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue, the Pinellas County Hazmat Team, Tampa Fire Rescue and the Florida National Guard’s 48th Civil Support Team. Corresponding site visits of Citrus County Fire Rescue, Hernando County Fire Rescue, Tampa Fire Rescue and the 48th Civil Support Team will all occur prior to the second week in October 2017. Prior to September 30, 2018, the remainder of the required site visits (i.e. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue and the Pinellas County Hazmat Team) will be conducted. This anticipated

schedule clearly meets and exceeds the Florida State Fire College's request for assistance of the LEPCs to complete this task within their respective Districts over a "three- to four-year period."

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (July 11th); attended the RMP Audits/Inspections of Gordon Food Service (July 11th), C&S Wholesale Service (July 12th) and Save-A-Lot Distribution Center (July 13th), all in the City of Plant City; albeit a scheduling conflict precluded LEPC staff's attendance, other LEPC members attended and hosted the *Chlorine Handling & Emergency Response* course conducted at the Manatee County Public Safety Complex and provided welcoming remarks and an overview of the Tampa Bay LEPC (July 11th); albeit a scheduling conflict precluded LEPC staff's attendance, other LEPC members will be attending triennial meeting of the USCG's Area Contingency Committee scheduled at the Manatee County Public Safety Complex (July 13th); participated in a conference call with all other statewide LEPC Coordinators to discuss changes and strategies associated with upcoming FY 2017-18 LEPC Staff Services Contract (July 17th); attended the (nearly) monthly meeting of Ammonia Handlers/Operators group (July 18th, August 22nd & September 26th); facilitated the (nearly) monthly meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (July 19th & August 9th); facilitated the (nearly) quarterly meeting of the Preventative Nuclear Radiological Detection Committee (July 20th); provided welcoming remarks and brief overview of Tampa Bay LEPC in association with the 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* course co-paid with Tampa Bay LEPC HMEP funding at Pinellas County Fire & EMS Administration building (August 14th); attended the Tampa Cooperative Safety & Security Initiative quarterly meeting (August 17th); participated in the Hazmat Symposium teleconference (August 18th); participated in the SERC's Training Task Force teleconference (August 23rd & September 20th); provided 120 copies of the *2012 Emergency Response Guidebook* (ERG) to LEPC member Charles Crowther for distribution to students attending future course(s) at the St. Petersburg College/Allstate Center (August 25th); provided welcoming remarks and brief overview of Tampa Bay LEPC in association with the three 8-Hr. *Advanced Hazmat IQ* courses at Pinellas Park Fire Station #35 (August 29-31); albeit the September 12th meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee meeting and the September 13th meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council were cancelled on account of Hurricane Irma, LEPC staff had prepared to attend or facilitate the meetings; provided welcoming remarks and brief overview of Tampa Bay LEPC in association with the 3-Hr. *Response to Gasoline Tanker Incidents* course held at Seminole Rescue Fire Station #29 (September 19); and participated in the site visit/verification component associated with Hazmat Team Self-Assessment Surveys for Tampa Fire Rescue (September 20th), Hernando County Fire Rescue (September 27th), Citrus County Fire Rescue (September 29th) and the Florida National Guard's 48th Civil Support Team (October 2nd).