



## 22 Local Governments Join Together to Form the Historic Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition: An Initiative of the TBRPC Addressing Resiliency in the Region

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*"As we embark on our 56<sup>th</sup> year as a Regional Planning Council, we will continue to strive to help shape our region as a vibrant, exciting place that fosters a resilient Tampa Bay. A resilient Tampa Bay is one that identifies vulnerabilities and preserves and strengthens economic, environmental and cultural prosperity of this unique and highly valuable region."*  
Commissioner Janet Long, TBRPC Chair

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) will be hosting a historic signing ceremony on October 8, 2018 officially forming the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition (TBRRC) which is a coalition of local governments working together to develop the region's first Regional Resiliency Plan. Twenty-one local governments to date have individually and formally adopted the Memorandum of Understanding creating the new coalition to address sea level rise, climate change and resiliency.



"As we embark on our 56<sup>th</sup> year as a Regional Planning Council, we will continue to strive to help shape our region as a vibrant, exciting place that fosters a resilient Tampa Bay," stated Commissioner Long. "A resilient Tampa Bay is one that acknowledges and responds to vulnerabilities to support the economic, environmental and cultural prosperity of this unique and highly valuable region."

The TBRPC has once again convened the region on a pressing issue that is impacting our region. On October 8, 2018 local governments will embark upon a partnership to address sea level rise and climate change regionally. TBRPC Executive Director, Sean Sullivan explained that, "The benefits of this successful regional approach are that this effort creates a stronger voice, accelerates progressive planning and leverages resources. And, by broadening partnerships and cultivating cooperation among our regional governments access to resources and information will be enhanced."

The TBRPC invites everyone to attend this important event which will take place at the TBRPC offices located at 4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Suite 100 Pinellas Park, FL 33710 10:00 a.m. "Our objective at the regional planning council is to assist local governments with viable opportunities for implementing both adaptation strategies that increase the region's resilience to sea level rise and climate change to avoid further vulnerabilities," stated Long. "The Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition will foster collaboration such as shared sea level rise projections so local governments can better coordinate, develop, and implement appropriate coastal adaptation and implement risk reduction strategies to reduce the drivers of sea level rise and inland flooding with the critical goal of maintaining our region's wonderful quality of life for generations to come."

**About the TBRPC...***The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas counties and the 21 different municipalities who regularly come together to discuss complex regional issues; develop strategic regional responses for resolving them; and build consensus for setting and accomplishing regional goals. The Council is made up of 27 elected officials who serve annual terms, 13 gubernatorial appointees who serve three-year terms, and 4 Ex-Officios (FDOT District 7, FDEP, SWFWMD and Enterprise Florida). The Council was established by the local governments of the Region in 1962 and operates a number of programs and services for regional planning and economic development designed to satisfy the needs of its local governments, encourage regional cooperation, and foster the healthy and orderly growth of the Region. For more information, visit [www.tbrpc.org](http://www.tbrpc.org).*