



## Tampa Bay LEPC *HazMatters* July - September 2018

Tampa Bay LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Cocoa Beach Hilton on July 12-13, 2018. The quarterly Tampa Bay LEPC meeting was held on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the offices of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

The Tampa Bay LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The main objective of the meeting was to provide an overview of the FY 2017-18 HMEP Training expenditures as well as tentatively identify training needs associated with the FY 2018-19 HMEP Contract. At the present time, it is anticipated that the following courses will be requested and pursued at minimum:

The following training expenses were incurred by the Tampa Bay LEPC in association with the FY 2017-18 HMEP Training Contract prior to this quarter: attendance at the 28-Hr. *2018 Hazmat Symposium* in Daytona Beach (24 students); *160-Hr. Hazmat Technician Certification* courses for Pasco County Fire Rescue (12 students) and Hernando County Fire Rescue (2 students); attendance at the 48-Hr. *Shipboard Marine Firefighting* course in Norfolk, VA (6 students); three 8-Hr. *"The Art of Infrared Spectroscopy"* (54 students); and one 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* course (22 students).

The following training expenses will be incurred by the Tampa Bay LEPC during this quarter: self-instructed 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Certification* courses for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue (~60 students) and Southern Manatee Fire Rescue (5 students); three 8-Hr. *Hazmat Competencies & Capabilities Assessment* courses (~45 students); three 8-Hr. *"Riddle Me This"* courses (~90 students); one 8-Hr. *"Hazmat IQ/Above the Line/Below the Line"* course (~30 students) and one 16-Hr. *Hazmat Safety Officer/Transportation* course (~30 students).

Additionally, Tampa Bay LEPC did solicit and received approval of a three-month extension in order to fund four of the 23 members of the Pinellas County Hazmat Team that will be attending the 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Certification* course being instructed by and at St. Petersburg College in Pinellas County (August 1<sup>st</sup> – November 29<sup>th</sup>).

Tampa Bay LEPC staff transmitted the revised Hazmat Team Self-Assessment survey to all eight local Hazmat Teams within the District in early August for requested completion and return by early September. Following receipt of completed Surveys, site visits will be scheduled and conducted between late-September and early-October for the Hazmat Teams which were not validated in 2017 (i.e. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue and the Pinellas County Hazmat Team). Noting that all eight of the Tampa Bay Teams with full or partial hazmat team capabilities will have been assessed over a two-year period, this ambitious schedule clearly meets and exceeds the Florida State Fire College's request to complete this task within their respective Districts over a *"three- to four-year period."* With the intent of not administering any site visits in 2019, it is anticipated that Assessment program being administered by the Tampa Bay LEPC will continue to be implemented on a three-year rotational basis.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff and/or members additionally: attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (July 10<sup>th</sup> & September 11<sup>th</sup>); facilitated the (nearly) monthly meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (July 11<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup> & September 12<sup>th</sup>); submitted HMEP Quarterly Report and reimbursement request to FDEM for period of April 1 – June 30, 2018 (July 25<sup>th</sup>); attended the (nearly) monthly meetings of Ammonia Handlers/Operators (July 26<sup>th</sup>, August 24<sup>th</sup> & September 25<sup>th</sup>); submitted LEPC Staff Services Quarterly Report and reimbursement request to FDEM for period of April 1 – June 30, 2018 (July 27<sup>th</sup>); provided listing of *LEPC Activities/Initiatives* to the members of TBRPC (August 13<sup>th</sup> & September 10<sup>th</sup>); provided *SERC Recap* to members of the TBRPC (August 13<sup>th</sup>); hosted the HMEP Training Subcommittee quarterly meeting (August 22<sup>nd</sup>); participated in the Training Task Force Conference call (August 22<sup>nd</sup> & September 19<sup>th</sup>); solicited interest levels regarding offer of CSX to participate in a local tabletop hazmat exercise in 2019 (August 23<sup>rd</sup>); provided an “*Overview of the Tampa Bay LEPC*” presentation to Seminole City Council (September 4<sup>th</sup>); and provided *LEPC Recap* to the members of TBRPC (September 10<sup>th</sup>).