



## Tampa Bay LEPC *HazMatters* April - June 2019

Tampa Bay LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. LEPC staff and Chair attended the April 18-19, 2019 SERC quarterly meetings held at the Hilton Double Tree in St. Augustine. The quarterly meeting of the Tampa Bay LEPC meeting was held on May 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 May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The main objective of this meeting was to further refine the training courses to be pursued during the remainder of the FY 2018-19 HMEP Training Contract and to initiate and promote identification of training needs and expenditures associated with the FY 2019-20 HMEP Training Contract.

The following training expenses were incurred by the Tampa Bay LEPC during this quarter: sponsored four Hernando County Fire Rescue students to attend the 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Certification* course held at the Florida State Fire College (February 11 – April 1) and arranged for the conduct of a 40-Hr. *Marine Firefighting for Land-Based Firefighters* course for six Hillsborough County Fire Rescue and four Tampa Fire Rescue students. The first three days was classroom instruction provided by the trainer at the Hillsborough County Public Safety Complex (June 10-12) and the remaining two days was the Hands-On component held at the Resolve Maritime Academy in Ft. Lauderdale (June 13-14).

The following HMEP-funded courses have been approved, scheduled and will be conducted next quarter: three 8-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Capabilities Evaluations* courses for a total of 60 Manatee/Hillsborough/Pasco County students (i.e. July 29-31); a 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* course for 30 Pinellas County students (i.e. August 19-23); and three 8-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Capabilities Evaluations* courses for a total of 90 Pinellas County students (i.e. August 27-29). In addition, either three 8-Hr. *Hazmat IQ – “Above-the-Line/Below-the-Line”* courses for the northern reaches of our District (i.e. Citrus/Hernando/Pasco County) **OR** an alternate course(s), to be identified by our HMEP Training Subcommittee, will be coordinated and conducted next quarter, accounting for all remaining funds associated with Tampa Bay LEPC's FY 2018-19 HMEP grant program.

The LEPC recently had to say “farewell” to the member with the most tenure of our existing membership (Jeff Tobergte). As a token of our gratitude for his 23 years of service to the Tampa Bay LEPC, he was recognized and provided a *Certificate of Appreciation*. While Mr. Tobergte will actually be retiring in July, he had admirably represented the Florida Department of Environmental Protection/Office of Emergency Response since his initial appointment to the Tampa Bay LEPC in 1996. Mr. Tobergte had served multiple stints as Vice Chair of the LEPC, remained part of the LEPC's Nominating & Awards Committee, assisted with numerous LEPC exercises administered during his tenure and even volunteered to help collect data in association with the Commodity Flow Study conducted by the Tampa Bay LEPC in 2015.



In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff and/or members additionally: submitted *Plan of Instruction* (POI) to FDEM for the proposed conduct of aforementioned *Hazmat Technician Capabilities Evaluations* courses (April 3); submitted FY 2018-19 HMEP *Mid-Term Performance Report* to FDEM (April 3); provided listing of *LEPC Activities/Initiatives* to TBRPC members in association with their April 8 meeting; facilitated the (nearly) monthly meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (April 10 & June 12); submitted POI to FDEM for the proposed conduct of aforementioned *Hazmat Medic* course (April 10); submitted the LEPC Staff Services & HMEP quarterly reports along with associated materials to FDEM (April 11); attended the bi-monthly meeting of Ammonia Handlers/Operators (April 16 & June 13); although scheduling conflicts precluded my personal attendance, multiple LEPC members attended the annual *Port Tampa Bay Safety & Risk Mitigation Summit* (April 17); facilitated the (nearly) quarterly meeting of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee meeting (April 18); attended the *Final Planning Meeting* associated with the Tampa Bay LEPC's Operation Double Stack hazmat exercise (April 25); assisted with conduct/facilitation of the LEPC's Operation Double Stack hazmat exercise (May 1); prepared and provided listings of discrepancies associated with Section 302 facilities in Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties to FDEM for review and potential action (May 2); participated in the *After-Action Report/Improvement Plan* meeting held in association with the Operation Double Stack hazmat exercise (May 6); prepared Flyers for the upcoming *Hazmat Technician Capabilities Evaluations & Hazmat Medic* courses for distribution and promotion (May 8); provided listing of *LEPC Activities/Initiatives* & copy of *SERC Recap* to TBRPC members in association with their May 13 meeting; delivered six boxes (240 copies) of the 2012/2016 *Emergency Response Guidebooks* to the Florida Highway Patrol in Tampa (May 14); attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (May 14); participated in the SERC's Training Task Force teleconferences (May 15 & April 12); coordinated with FDEM regarding request for Chief Scott Ehlers (Tampa Bay LEPC Chair) to become the sole authorizing entity for E-Plan access within the Tampa Bay LEPC District (May 22); as requested by a FDEM staff member, provided all POIs of HMEP projects funded by the Tampa Bay LEPC from FY 2016-17 to current (May 23); coordinated with the local newspapers for the *EPCRA Public Availability of Information* notice to be published in mid-June (May 31); provided listing of *LEPC Activities/Initiatives* & copy of *LEPC Recap* to TBRPC members in association with their June 10 meeting; provided *Hazmatters* report (June 5) and Tampa Bay LEPC membership change requests (June 11) to FDEM for inclusion with the July 2019 SERC Agenda materials; attended the Risk Management Audits/Inspections conducted by FDEM staff for Brenntag Mid-South/Tampa (June 18), Kinder Morgan CFPL – Tampa Terminal (June 19) and Tampa LP Terminal/Tampa (June 20).