



Recap of the TBRPC Council Meeting

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

Meeting Date: March 9, 2020

- ❖ **28th Annual Future of the Region Awards-April 24, 2020, Hilton Carillon Park**
The Call for Entries is now available on the Council's website. Deadline for entries is March 20, 2020.
- ❖ **TBRPC Receives National Renewable Energy Laboratory Grant**
The TBRPC has been awarded \$124,964 from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to participate in the Solar Energy Innovation Network (SEIN) Round 2. The project will provide local governments and commercial partners with the expertise to assess solar and battery/storage backup in critical facilities to support community resilience. The project will create an innovative rating system; categorize solar+storage opportunities; support training with NREL tools; develop a guidebook; and define priorities for the Regional Action Plan.
- ❖ **2020 Embrace the Gulf Campaign**
Dr. Simoniello is a research scientist with Texas A&M University and the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS) Outreach and Education Manager based at USF College of Marine Science. To highlight the value and the vitality of the Gulf of Mexico region, the Gulf of Mexico Alliance conceived an awareness campaign "Embrace the Gulf" for the entire year 2020. The awareness campaign will culminate in a multi-stakeholder, cross-sector celebration of the importance of the Gulf of Mexico throughout the year 2020.
- ❖ **Resilient Tampa Bay: Transportation Study**
Allison Yeh, Executive Planner for the Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Karen Kiselewski, Cambridge Systematics presented on the Resilient Tampa Bay: Transportation study completed by TBRPC and the three MPOs in Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas Counties. The study supports the development of the federally required Long Range Transportation Plan for each MPO.
- ❖ **TBRPC Passes Resolution #03-2020 Declaring March 2020 as Census Awareness Month**
The next Decennial Census will be taken in the year 2020 and will be used to determine political representation to the United States House of Representatives, state legislatures and local governments. Data from the Census provides the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to communities across the country to support vital programs impacting the amount of funding that will be provided by the state and federal government for a number of programs, including housing, education, transportation, employment and healthcare. April 1, 2020 marks the official, constitutionally mandated Census Day where every resident is called on to be counted.

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

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