Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

COUNCIL MINUTES IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022  10:00 A.M

BRADENTON * CITRUS COUNTY * CLEARWATER * DADE CITY * DUNEDIN
GULFPORT * HERNANDO COUNTY * HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY * LARGO
MADEIRA BEACH * MANATEE COUNTY * NEW PORT RICHEY * OLDSMAR
PALMETTO * PASCO COUNTY * PINELLAS COUNTY * PINELLAS PARK * PLANT
CITY * SAFETY HARBOR * SEMINOLE * SOUTH PASADENA * ST. PETE BEACH * ST.
PETERSBURG * TAMPA * TARPON SPRINGS * TEMPLE TERRACE * TREASURE
ISLAND * 13 GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTEES * EX-OFFICIOS: FLORIDA DEPT. OF
TRANSPORTATION * SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard, Chair
City of St. Petersburg, Florida

Mr. Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director

Convening the Region Since 1962
TBRPC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic:** TBRPC Council Meeting -- March

**Time:** Mar 14, 2022 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85871937581?pwd=N1pUOG9jZmhqdmRGaW1LUEczbGNoUT09

Meeting ID: **858 7193 7581**

Passcode: **100200**

Dial by your location

+1 786 635 1003 US (Miami)
REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT
Council Member Brandi Gabbard, City of St. Petersburg, Chair
Commissioner Vanessa Baugh, Manatee County, Vice Chair
Mayor Woody Brown, City of Largo, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioner Jack Mariano, Pasco County, Past Chair
Commissioner John Allocco, Hernando County
Councilman Peter Altman, City of New Port Richey
Councilor Thom Barnhorn, City of Seminole
Commissioner Scott Black, City of Dade City
Mayor Sandra Bradbury, City of Pinellas Park
Mayor Woody Brown, City of Largo
Council Member James Chambers, City of Temple Terrace
Councilman Joe Citro, City of Tampa
Commissioner Harry Cohen, Hillsborough County
Commissioner Maureen “Moe” Freaney, City of Dunedin
Commissioner Michael Fridovich, City of Gulfport
Vice Mayor Ward Friszolowski, City of St. Pete Beach
Council Member Steve Graber, City of Oldsmar
Ms. Angelah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Ronald Kitchen, Citrus County
Vice Mayor Reid, City of South Pasadena
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton
Mr. Frank Rygiel, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Maribeth Wetzel, City of Treasure Island
Ms. Kelley Boatwright, Ex-Officio, DEP
Mr. Waddah Farah, Alternate for Ming Gao, Ex-Officio, FDOT

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT
Mayor Chris Alahouzos, City of Tarpon Springs
Mr. Jacob Creamer, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Bill Dodson, City of Plant City
Commissioner Carlos Diaz, City of Safety Harbor
Council Member Hoyt Hamilton, City of Clearwater
Commissioner Nancy Hodges, City of Madeira Beach
Commissioner Sheldon Jones, City of Palmetto
Commissioner Janet Long, Pinellas County
STAFF PRESENT
Sean Sullivan, Executive Director
Wren Kral, Deputy Executive Director
Randy Deshazo, Chief of Staff
Don Conn, General Counsel
John Meyer, Principal Planner
Brian Ellis, Disaster Recovery Coordinator
Sue Geer, Accountant
Sarah Vitale, Senior Planner/Urban Designer
Cara Woods Serra, Comprehensive Resiliency Planner
C.J. Reynolds, Director of Resiliency and Engagement
Alana Todd, Environmental Planner
Harry Walsh, Economic Development Planner
Jamie Neville, Statewide Economic Analyst
Maria Robles, Communications Planner
Simone Chapman, GRPS Policy Fellow
Matt Valkony, GRPS Policy Fellow

Call to Order: Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard, Chair

Chair Gabbard called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation: Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Gubernatorial Appointee

Ms. Todd led the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation.

Chair Gabbard called for a moment of silence for the citizens of Ukraine.

Roll Call: Mr. Brian Ellis, Recording Secretary

A quorum was present.

Voting Conflict Report: Mr. Brian Ellis, Recording Secretary

There were no Voting Conflicts to report.

Public Comment: Members of the public who wish to be heard are requested to fill out a speaker’s card and provide it to the Recording Secretary before the start of the meeting. Speakers will be given three (3) minutes to address any item on the agenda or an item of regional interest.

No Public Comment: Upon motion duly made and seconded Public Comment was unanimously closed
Prior to voting upon the Consent Agenda Chair Gabbard informed the Council that the FY2021 DRAFT Annual Audit was delayed due to timing issues with the auditing firm. Agenda Item 2.B was removed from the Consent Agenda and will be deferred to the next Council meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the Amended Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Link to Administrative Agenda Item Reports)

1. Approval of the Minutes
   Additional Material: Minutes from the February 14, 2022 Council Meeting.
   Staff Contact: Wren G. Krahl, Deputy Executive Director, wren@tbrpc.org, ext. 22

2. Budget and Finance
   A. The financial statement ending January 31, 2022 is included in the agenda packet.
      Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16
   B. FY 2021 DRAFT Annual Audit
      Additional Material: TO BE DISTRIBUTED: FY 2021 DRAFT Annual Audit
      Recommended Action: Motion to approve the FY 2021 DRAFT Annual Audit
      Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16

3. Budget and Contractual
   Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16

4. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Program (IC&R)
   Staff Contact: Maria Robles, Communications Planner, maria@tbrpc.org, ext. 11
   IC&R Summary by Jurisdiction IC&R Review Log

5. Local Government Comprehensive Plan (LGCP)
   Staff Contact: Cara Woods Serra, Comprehensive Resiliency Planner, AICP, CFM cara@tbrpc.org, ext. 28
LGCP Amendment Summary by Jurisdiction

LGCP Amendments Review Log

Due to statutory requirements (and if applicable), LGCP Reports may have already been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and the appropriate local government in accordance within the 30 days following receipt, as specified in Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C.

6. **LEPC Activity Report**
   Additional Material: LEPC Activity Report—Information Only
   Staff Contact: Brian Ellis, Disaster Recovery Coordinator, brian@tbrpc.org, ext. 10

7. **FRCA Monthly Report**
   Additional Material: FRCA Monthly Report—Information Only
   Staff Contact: Wren G. Krahla, Deputy Executive Director, wren@tbrpc.org, ext. 22

8. **Sample Resolution/Proclamation honoring the 60th Anniversary of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council—INFORMATION ONLY**
   Recommended Action: We cordially invite our member governments to consider a resolution from their local jurisdictions recognizing the 60th Anniversary of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. The TBRPC will be celebrating the anniversary throughout 2022. Actual TBRPC creation date was February 16, 1962.
   Additional Material: Sample Resolution/Proclamation
   Staff Contact: Wren G. Krahla, Deputy Executive Director, wren@tbrpc.org, ext. 22

9. **2022 Committee Assignments: INFORMATION ONLY**
   Additional Material: 2022 Committee Assignments
   Staff Contact: Wren G. Krahla, Deputy Executive Director, wren@tbrpc.org, ext. 22

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*Items Removed from the Consent Agenda and Addendum Items* Council Members shall notify the Chair of any items they wish to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. These items will be discussed and voted on separately after the remainder of the Consent Agenda is approved. **RECOMMENDED ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA**
EXECUTIVE REPORTS (E)

E-1 Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director

Recommended Action: Information Only.

Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16

- On February 17th members of TBRPC’s staff conducted site visits to St. Pete Beach, Oldsmar, and Tampa to gain an initial understanding of the study areas within each community for our resilient ready project as funded by FDEP. In April we will be hosting Charettes in each of these three cities to gather input from residents as we develop guidance to assist each city with guidance to enhance resiliency within the community.

- The MacDill resiliency study Technical Advisory Committee met on Thursday February 16th and the project is making good progress. We have been working with the city in an effort to obtain utility information which will then be studied to determine its vulnerability to sea level rise and storm surge.

- On February 23rd, TBRPC hosted quarterly meetings of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness committee and Local Emergency Planning Committee. Over 20 first responders from throughout the Tampa Bay Region attended this quarterly meeting. We are currently coordinating a full-scale hazmat exercise with first responders from throughout the region.

- During the week of February 21, TBRPC staff attended the Estuary Program’s Bay Area Scientific Information Symposium.

- On March 10th we hosted two virtual meetings with nearly 200 collective stakeholders in one day. The first meeting was for the Agency on Bay Management and the second virtual meeting to discuss the recent NOAA report on projected sea level rise. The report indicates that sea levels could rise 10-12 inches over the next 30 years. We had scientists and experts from NOAA and USF as well as TBEP and UF IFAS present during this virtual meeting sea level rise meeting.

- On March 11 we hosted a virtual meeting of the One Bay committee with staff Planners from throughout the region.

- Major League Baseball is back, and Spring Training games resume in the Grapefruit league this Thursday, Saint Patrick’s Day. My wife and I will see the Rays play their first away game when the play
the Red Sox in Fort Myers on Friday. The Phillies, Blue Jays, Pirates, and Yankees, all call Tampa Bay their spring training home and fans from all over the country will visit the Tampa Bay region this time of year to root for their favorite team and boost the regional economy.

- If Council members would encourage their elected colleagues and staff to register for the April resiliency summit and May housing conference it would be most appreciated. We are looking forward to these events.

- Chair Gabbard this concludes my report, and the next Council meeting is scheduled for May 9th, beginning at 10:00am. Thank you.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
For 17 years of Dedicated Service

Chair Gabbard honored Ms. Angeleah Kinsler for 17 years of dedicated service to the Council. Ms. Kinsler is a Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee and has served on the Executive Budget Committee and served as the TBRPC Nominating Committee Chair. Ms. Kinsler was presented with a photo of the Skyway Bridge.

E-2 Executive Budget Committee Report Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard, Chair

Recommended Action: Information Only.
Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16

The DRAFT FY 2021 Annual Audit was unavailable to be reviewed and discussed at the meeting. Mr. Sullivan shared that this was due to the timing issues of the auditing firm. A clean audit is expected and will be presented at the next Executive Budget Committee meeting which will then be forwarded to the full Council for consideration and approval.

Upon motion duly made and seconded a motion to defer the FY 2021 DRAFT Annual Audit to the next Executive Budget Committee meeting was unanimously approved.

Due to the lack of timeliness on this year’s audit the Executive Director was asked to seek Request for Proposals from other auditing firms for the FY 2022 audit.
E-3  Virtual Participation in TBRPC Meetings  Mr. Don Conn, TBRPC General Counsel

- Additional Material: Memo to the Executive Director from General Counsel
- Recommended Action: Information Only.
- Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16

Mr. Don Conn, TBRPC General Counsel provided an overview of Florida Statutes regarding Regional Planning Councils virtual meeting attendance.

In 2020, the Florida Legislature enacted the following provision now found at Section 120.545(4), Florida Statutes:

For purposes of establishing a quorum at meetings of regional planning councils that cover three or more counties, a voting member who appears via telephone, real-time videoconferencing, or similar real-time electronic or video communication that is broadcast publicly at the meeting location may be counted toward the quorum requirement if at least one-third of the voting members of the regional planning council are physically present at the meeting location. A member must provide oral, written, or electronic notice of his or her intent to appear via telephone, real-time videoconferencing, or similar real-time electronic or video communication to the regional planning council at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting.

This amendment to Section 120.545 made the use of electronic media to establish a quorum acceptable for regional planning councils if one-third of its membership attended in-person. The rationale of this change was that some members of regional planning councils must travel great distances to attend meetings and some accommodation should be made to facilitate the presence of a quorum for meetings. However, this change is not mandatory and if a regional planning council feels that meetings are more productive if members attend in-person, it may choose to conduct its meetings in the same manner as before this amendment was enacted.

Prior to the adoption of this provision, the law in Florida was that despite the convenience and cost savings of electronic participation in meetings of local boards and councils, such factors would not by themselves justify or allow the use of electronic media technology in order to assemble the members (of a local board) for a meeting. See AGO 98-28. It was the position of the Attorney General that participation by board members in meetings of local boards using telephone conference or other interactive electronic technology was permissible only when such absence is due to extraordinary circumstances, such as illness. See AGO 03-41.

However, despite this accommodation for virtual participation in meetings of regional planning councils if one-third of its membership is physically present, the Sunshine Law still requires that participation in a meeting using electronic media must allow effective and meaningful interactive communication by and between all board members and the public, including with member(s) participating virtually. See AGO 94-55. The public must be able to hear all discussion taking place by members participating both in-person and virtually. If those who are
attending virtually cannot be heard or understood clearly by the public and other board members, the requirements of the Sunshine Law are not being met.

Following a discussion, in-person attendance is encouraged unless extenuating circumstances make it impossible to attend such as travel, illness, etc. The virtual option will remain for those extenuating circumstances.
TBRPC PROJECT, PROGRAM and COMMITTEE REPORTS (P)

**TBRPC Programmatic Responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:** Economic Development and Fiscal Impact Analysis; Environmental Planning; Emergency Preparedness; Resiliency; GIS Mapping and Modeling Services; Transportation Planning and Technical Assistance to Local Governments.

**Committees of the TBRPC include but are not limited to the following:** Executive/Budget Committee; Agency on Bay Management; Legislative Committee; Nominating Committee; Clearinghouse Review Committee; Florida Regional Council’s Association Policy Board; and The Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition.

P-1 **Agency on Bay Management**  
**Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, ABM Chair**

**Recommended Action:** To Be Determined.  
**Staff Contact:** Alana Todd, Environmental Planner, [alana@tbrpc.org](mailto:alana@tbrpc.org) ext. 40

The full Agency on Bay Management met last Thursday, on March 10th.

The meeting featured a presentation from the owners of Pine Key, also known as “Beer Can Island.” The owners are currently seeking an official land use designation, and they intend to establish a living shoreline, as well as a stage, wedding area, and other facilities on the island for paid public use.

The ABM meeting also featured a presentation from the US Army Corps of Engineers, which just kicked off a 3-year study to consider navigation improvements in Tampa Harbor. They will be working with our Agency to coordinate with stakeholders on restoration opportunities using the dredged material from Tampa Harbor.

The Legislative Review Subcommittee of the ABM will meet next on April 14th. And the next Full Agency meeting will take place on June 9th at 9am, with an in-person or virtual option for attending.

P-2 **Covid-19 Recovery Task Force**  
**Commissioner Vanessa Baugh, Chair**

At the request of Manatee County, TBRPC conducted a study of the recessionary impacts of COVID-19 in the County, recent trends, and an analysis of underlying economic conditions. Based on an analysis of similar recovery efforts around the country, the study’s findings include recommendations for Manatee County to stimulate an early return to robust economic growth. TBRPC Economic Planner, Mr. Harry Walsh will provide an overview of the study.

**Recommended Action:** To Be Determined.  
**Staff Contact:** Harry Walsh, [harry@tbrpc.org](mailto:harry@tbrpc.org), ext. 33
Thank you Chair Gabbard. I’m pleased to give you a report on the Summit. The sessions and panels are on track. One of the new special topics will be the rollout of the “Making the Economic Case for Resilience.” Randy and his team have been heavily involved in this new report, which was developed by the Tampa Bay Partnership. I think we are still waiting to hear from the Governor.

Regarding the finances, I’m happy to say that we are in good shape thanks to the fundraising efforts of Commissioner Long and Councilmember Gabbard. There are four major sponsors – Duke Energy and the Rays Foundation each contributed $25,000, Vinik Foundation contributed $25,000 and the Pinellas/Central Pasco County Realtor Association has contributed $10,000. A number of firms have contributed at the other levels.

As of Friday, there were 120 people registered and more are registering every day. This is still low compared to 2020, and staff says that ULI also experienced a last-minute surge in registration. We have looked at the list, and see that there are more consultants than local government staff. The Summit is really for us to share information, hear new ideas, networks. So, I want to ask that each of you send an email tomorrow to your administrators and mayors to encourage their staff in planning and public works to attend. The communications agenda is sending a news release out today and the Tampa Bay Times to promote.

In a previous Steering Committee meetings, the members, I think it was Jack who raised the issue of involving SWFWMD more in the Resilience Action Plan. They are supposed to have a gubernatorial appointee to the Council. So, I set up a meeting with Amber Smith who is the new VP of Public Affairs, and then CJ, Sean and I met by Zoom last week. We discussed some next steps and information sharing.

The Steering Committee will not meet today. the next committee meeting is TBD, potentially in June, to reflect on the Summit and developing the implementation plans for the lead actions.

So, that concludes my report.
PRESENTATIONS and GUEST SPEAKERS

All PowerPoint presentations will be posted to the Council website following the meeting at www.tbrpc.org

Pinellas Small Business: Mr. Randy Deshazo, TBRPC Chief of Staff

At the request of Pinellas County Economic Development, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council prepared an analysis of small businesses in the County, with a particular emphasis on the impacts of COVID-19 closures on small business. For the purposes of the study, small business was defined as firms with fewer than 50 employees. Indicators explored include small business industry composition, jobs, and firm count in Pinellas County, as well as the changes in these indicators between 2019 and 2020 due to COVID.

Staff Contact: Randy Deshazo, Chief of Staff, randy@tbrpc.org, ext. 31

Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Update: Mr. Curtis Knowles, FPEM, Central Florida RPC Emergency Management Program Manager

Mr. Curtis Knowles, FPEM, Central Florida RPC Emergency Management Program Manager will provide an overview of the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Update. The study has recently been updated.

Staff Contact: Sean T. Sullivan, Executive Director, sean@tbrpc.org, ext. 16
COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION
TBRPC serves as a forum to foster communication between local governments. This portion of the agenda is dedicated to our Council Members to announce events and discuss emerging issues in your communities and jurisdictions. We encourage you to take an active role in submitting issues as well as to share those best practices that are working in your jurisdictions.

This concludes Council Member Comments for today’s Agenda.

CHAIR’S REPORT
Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard, Chair

ADJOURNMENT
Due to the Regional Resiliency Leadership Summit there will be no Council Meeting on April 11, 2022. The next meeting will take place on May 9, 2022.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EXCITING TBRPC EVENTS!

April 5th and 6th, 2022
Regional Resiliency Leadership Summit
60th Anniversary Celebration for the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Future of the Region Awards

May 6th, 2022
REACH Affordable Housing Summit

All events are being held at the Hilton Carillon Park, 950 Lake Carillon Drive, St. Petersburg, Fl. 33716

The Council, in accordance with its adopted rules of procedure, may only take action on matters not on the printed agenda involving the exercise of agency discretion and policymaking upon a finding by the Council of an emergency situation affecting the public’s health, safety, and welfare. Council meetings are Public Meetings within the context of Section 286.011, Florida Statutes. Public Hearings on issues before the Council are conducted by individual local governments and are the proper forum for public comment.

Please note that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting or hearing, s/he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons wishing to speak at a Council meeting are required to complete the form provided at the entrance to the meeting room. The form, after being completed, must be given to the Recording Secretary.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this meeting you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council at 727-570-5151 ext. 22 within 3 working days prior to the meeting.