



Council Minutes

February 13, 2012

10:00 a.m.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Chair, Commissioner Larry Bustle, Manatee County
 Past Chair, Vice Mayor Bill Dodson, City of Plant City
 Mayor David Archie, City of Tarpon Springs
 Vice Mayor Ron Barnette, City of Dunedin
 Commissioner Neil Brickfield, Pinellas County
 Commissioner Woody Brown, City of Largo
 Commissioner Victor Crist, Hillsborough County
 Council Member Alison Fernandez, City of Temple Terrace
 Councilman Sam Henderson, City of Gulfport
 Council Member Bill Jonson, City of Clearwater
 Mr. Robert Kersteen, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Mr. Harry Kinnan, Manatee County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Councilman Bob Langford, City of New Port Richey
 Commissioner Jack Mariano, Pasco County
 Council Member Janice Miller, City of Oldsmar
 Council Member Wengay Newton, City of St. Petersburg
 Vice Mayor Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton
 Mr. Tim Schock, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Ms. Kim Vance, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Mr. Gary Wishnatzki, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Mr. Earl Young, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Mr. Ming Gao, Ex-Officio, Florida Department of Transportation
 Ms. Michelle Miller, Ex-Officio, Enterprise Florida

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Vice Chair, Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island
 Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Commissioner Nina Bandoni, City of Safety Harbor
 Mayor Scott Black, City of Dade City
 Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto
 Commissioner Al Halpern, City of St. Pete Beach
 Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole
 Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, City of Tampa
 Mayor Kathleen Peters, City of South Pasadena
 Vice Mayor Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park
 Mr. Charles Waller, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
 Mr. Todd Pressman, Ex-Officio, Southwest Florida Water Management District
 Ms. Pamela Vazquez, Ex-Officio, Department of Environmental Protection

OTHERS PRESENT

Rick Ramirez, SAC, FDLE
John Healey, Planner, Hillsborough County
Len Willitts, Public Awareness, Florida Gas Transmission
Roger Roscoe, Regional Rep for Governor Scott
Barbara Wilhite, Attorney
Bob Schmitt, Division Mgr, Manatee County
Jason Mickel, Senior Planner, SWFWMD
B. Cornelius, Planner, Wade Trim
Will Augustine, Sr. Planner, Hillsborough County Planning Commission

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Manny Pumariega, Executive Director
Mr. Donald Conn, Legal Counsel
Mr. Kevin Biegler, Planner
Ms. Suzanne Cooper, Principal Planner
Ms. Lori Denman, Recording Secretary
Mr. John Jacobsen, Accounting Manager
Ms. Betti Johnson, Principal Planner
Ms. Jessica Lunsford, Senior Planner
Mr. John Meyer, Principal Planner
Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner
Mr. Brady Smith, Senior Planner

Call to Order – Chair Bustle

The February 13, 2012 regular meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

The Council began on February 16th, 1962 so we thought it was fitting to have a birthday party following the meeting, with birthday cake and photos.

The Invocation was given by Ms. Kim Vance, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call -- Recording Secretary

A quorum was present.

Voting Conflict Report -- Recording Secretary - None

Announcements: - Chair Bustle

- Incoming Chair's remarks will be provided under the Chair's Report, Agenda Item #11. The remarks were deferred from the December Council meeting due to time constraints.

New Member Introductions:

Council members welcomed two new Gubernatorial Appointees from Hillsborough County:

Timothy Schock, of Tampa, is the Vice President of TransCore. His term began January 27, 2012 and ends October 1, 2013.

Gary E. Wishnatzki, of Tampa, is the President and C.E.O. of Wishnatzki Inc. His term began January 27, 2012 and ends October 1, 2013.

Congratulations:

Congratulations were provided to Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd who has been reappointed to the Council, representing Pinellas County.

Future of the Region Awards:

A flyer inviting Council members to the upcoming Future of the Region Awards was distributed in Council folders. Council members were asked to RSVP to Lori by March 16th in order to help with an accurate head count for the event. Council members and their spouses will receive complimentary registrations.

50th Anniversary Celebration:

March 23rd will also be the date for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Council, from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Invitations were located in Council folders and members were asked to register on-line for this event.

Council Meeting Recap:

The Council Meeting Recap was distributed in Council folders to assist members in reporting to their municipality or county board on Council activities.

Recognition:

Chair Bustle recognized Mr. Roger Roscoe, the Governor's Regional Representative and thanked him for his interest in the Council.

Secretary/Treasurer Núñez could not attend the meeting and Past Chair Dodson filled in for him.

1. **Approval of Minutes – Past Chair Dodson**
The minutes from the December 12, 2011 annual meeting were approved. (Crist/J. Miller)
2. **Budget Committee – Past Chair Dodson**
The Financial Reports for the periods ending 11/30/11 and 12/31/11 were approved. (J. Miller/Crist)
3. **Consent Agenda – Chair Bustle**

Council Member Bill Jonson pulled Consent Agenda Item #3.B.#. IC&R #073-11, Ridge Road Extension: DeCubellis/Moon Lake Road to U.S. 41, Pasco County for discussion.

A. Budget and Contractual

- A. **Budget and Contractual - None**

B. Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program

1. IC&R Reviews by Jurisdiction
 - A. December 2011
 - B. January 2012

2. IC&R Database
 - A. December 2011
 - B. January 2012

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

In order to meet the permitting agency deadline for comments, the following Report was transmitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in draft form.

3. IC&R #073-11 – Ridge Road Extension: DeCubellis/Moon Lake Road to U.S. 41, Pasco County.

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: Suzanne Cooper, ext. 32

Council Member Jonson noted that the staff recommendation was unenthusiastic and that Richard Gehring, Planning Director of Pasco County, had previously provided a presentation on the future of their county. Was this extension a part of that plan or is this something that is being added since then?

Mr. John Meyer, IC&R Coordinator, said it was his understanding that Ridge Road has been a long-planned roadway. The Report reflects that we are in favor of the project but want to ensure that the impacts are sufficiently mitigated.

Commissioner Mariano said this roadway is an integral part of the county's future. The way the County is designed, there are limited options in terms of the east/west movement of traffic. The Serenova Tract was preserved many years ago. With the Serenova Preserve, there will be no development from the existing terminus of Ridge Road all the way to the Suncoast Parkway. There are only a few curb cuts planned between the Suncoast Parkway and the eastern terminus of the roadway. Construction of this segment will certainly help cut down trips and distance to travel. So many times from the center of the county you have to go south, then onto the SR 54 corridor which congests the entire county. As far as future economic development, if I can get a very enthusiastic approval, it would be appreciated. This is a road that is critical to the county and it will save us congestion problems down the road. It's been said that in order to build SR 54 properly it would have to be 10 lanes. This roadway will save a lot of trips inside of Pasco and provide additional access to the Suncoast Parkway.

Council Member Jonson: So then it is primarily for traffic, not to encourage development?

Commissioner Mariano: Right.

Council Member Jonson: Will the mitigation be done just like any other project?

Commissioner Mariano: Yes.

Council Member Jonson: I would encourage support of this project with that explanation.

Councilman Newton: What is the future development potential?

Commissioner Mariano: Serenova was initially proposed as a DRI with a significant amount of planned development. However, following SWFWMD's acquisition of the parcel, the vast majority of the site was protected from future

development. The north/south cross-where the Suncoast Parkway now exists, is because we protected that and we protected the environment all the way around it. That same level of protection should have been provided for the Ridge Road extension. The specific alignment of the Ridge Road extension has been slightly modified to reduce anticipated impacts. The Ridge Road/Suncoast Parkway interchange has already been approved by the Turnpike Authority. We've actually spent the last six years moving it one year at a time out on our 5-year Work Plan because the Turnpike Authority doesn't want to get penalized by the state for not having it in there.

Council Member Henderson: The mitigation they are doing for the wetland disturbance, is that going to be local mitigation?

Commissioner Mariano: We have several parcels that are working with the local mitigation that we are finalizing.

C. DRI Development Order Reports (DOR) - None

D. DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)

Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following Reports have been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and all relevant review agencies in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C.:

1. DRI #103 - Cooper Creek, Manatee County
2. DRI #203 - Beacon Woods East, Pasco County

Recommended Action: None. Information Only.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29.

The following Reports are presented for Council action:

3. DRI #123 - Bay Area Outlet Mall, City of Largo
4. DRI # 259 - Lake Hutto, Hillsborough County

Recommended Action: Approved staff report

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

E. Notice of Proposed Change Reports (NOPC)

DRI # 157 – Trinity Communities, Pasco County

Recommended Action: Approve staff report

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

F. Annual Report Summaries (ARS) / Biennial Report Summaries (BRS)

1. DRI # 68 - Cargill Riverview Facility, RY 2010-11 ARS, Hillsborough County
2. DRI #118 - Tampa Cruise Ship Terminal, RY 2010-11 ARS, City of Tampa
3. DRI #166 - Wesley Chapel Lakes, RYs 2008-11 ARS, Pasco County
4. DRI #188 - Walden Woods Industrial Park, RY 2010-11 ARS, City of Plant City
5. DRI #191 - FishHawk Ranch, RYs 2009-11 ARS, Hillsborough County
6. DRI #194 - DG Farms, RY 2010-11 ARS, Hillsborough County
7. DRI #218 - Gateway North, RYs 2009-11 BRS, Manatee County
8. DRI #221 - Pinellas County Criminal Courts Complex/Jail Facility FQD, RY 2010-11 ARS, Pinellas County
9. DRI #233 - Connerton, RY 2010-11, Pasco County

Recommended Action: Approve staff reports

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

G. DRI Status Report

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

H. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)

Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following reports have been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and the appropriate local government in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C.

For adopted amendments that do not require Council comments, no report is attached.

1. DEO # 12-1ESR, City of Anna Maria (proposed)
2. DEO # 09-2AR, City of Largo (adopted) No Report
3. DEO # 12-1ESR, Pasco County (proposed)
4. DEO # 12-1CIE, City of Belleair Beach (adopted) No Report
5. DEO # 12-1ESR, Manatee County (proposed)
6. DEO # 12-1ESR, City of Dunedin (proposed)
7. DEO # 12-2ESR, Pasco County (proposed)
8. DEO # 12-1ESR, City of Plant City (proposed)
9. DEO # 11-2ESR, Pasco County (adopted) No Report
10. DEO # 11-1AR, City of Kenneth City (adopted) No Report
11. DEO # 12-1ESR, Pinellas County (proposed)
12. DEO # 11-3ESR, City of Largo (adopted) No Report

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: Jessica Lundsford, ext. 38

I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)

The following report(s) are presented for Council action:

1. DEO # 12-1ESR, Pinellas Park (adopted)

Action Recommended: Approve staff report(s)

Staff contact: Jessica Lundsford, ext. 38

The consent agenda was approved. (Kersteen/J. Miller)

4. Item(s) Removed from Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s) - None

5. Review Item(s) or Any Other Item(s) for Discussion - None

6. Special Agent in Charge (SAC), Rick Ramirez of the Tampa Bay Regional Operations Center spoke about the history and goals of the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) as well as the preparation for the upcoming Republic National Convention (RNC).

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement was created by Florida Statute 943.125. The Mission is: *To promote public safety and strengthen domestic security by providing services in partnership with local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies to prevent, investigate, and solve crimes while protecting Florida's citizens and visitors.* We do not duplicate efforts. We have our own standards, our own SOP and guidelines. We focus on long-term, major investigations when local agencies do not have the expertise or ability to do so. The FDLE has about 2,000 members which are divided into 7 regions. Our region, the Tampa region, consists of 8 counties and 22 police departments. That does not include federal agencies. The Tampa region is Region 4.

After the terrorist events of September 11th, 2001 and the national focus of Homeland Security, responsibilities for the identification of Florida's domestic security issues and the coordination of those

responses was tasked to the FDLE. Florida domestic terrorism remained a critical concern of our government, state and local governments. Our leadership in Florida includes the Governor, the Legislature, municipalities, counties, and state agencies. They advise comprehensive strategies and plans for prevention, mitigation, and response. That's the RDSTF. With state and federal revenue support, Florida has developed, prioritized and funded statewide multi-disciplinary plans. The resulting domestic security strategies and working document is in revision and re-prioritizing to adjust their needs and conditions, new federal guidelines and guidance, and available funding to support these strategies. Florida has an inclusive structure designed to encourage and facilitate these levels. Florida's vision is to ensure a safe and secure future, free of terrorism.

The five areas of focus of the RDSTF are:

- Prevent
- Be Prepared
- Protect
- Response
- Recover

Each of the seven RDSTFs are chaired by a local sheriff or police chief and the FDLE SAC. In our region Sheriff David Gee is the chair. Members include first responders from fire and rescue, emergency management, medical, communications, critical infrastructure, head of security, and law enforcement for training and exercises. These groups play a vital role in preparing for planned responses to preventing terrorist attacks. In addition, task force resources are prepared to respond immediately to domestic security terrorist incidents and will cooperatively form an integrated command structure to address the incidents and protect. Some of the responsibilities of the RDSTF are to improve Florida's ability to detect and prevent potential terrorist attacks, facilitate and promote on-going security and vulnerability assessments, improve responses and recovery capabilities and promote public responsibility to report suspicious activities. That is why we have programs such as SARS.

Partnership with the FBI is an absolute necessity if the RDSTF is to fulfill its mission. When we talk about the state, local, municipalities and federal government, the FBI spearheads the intel side when it comes to terrorism. Regarding the threat of international extremists, launching an attack against the United States, the FBI is the recipient of all relevant intelligence gathered overseas, in the U.S. military and intelligence community, as well as the resources of our allies. The FBI has manufactured a SCIFF (sensitive compartmented information facility) which provides a hollow shell for investigators and analysts to work together as a team and provide information and intelligence so we can set up our goals, responsibilities and duties.

The Tampa Bay Operations Center has three agents and a full squad, and a task force. Inside that task force we have members from Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk County Sheriff's Department, Tampa PD, Clearwater, and St. Petersburg PD, as well as Manatee County. Members of the RDSTF are not members of the JTTF (Joint Terrorism Task Force). The JTTF handles international terrorism. The RDSTF handles domestic terrorism. There are two guidelines, there are the state guidelines for the RDSTF, and there are the Attorney General guidelines for the JTTF.

Funding for the RDSTF is a 12 month period. The RDSTF is a community with members from different disciplines who gather and talk about needs, requirements, etc. In 2002, appropriated funding from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was approximately \$12 million. In 2003 funding increased to \$83 million. As time progressed, in 2004 - \$69 million, 2005 - \$60 million, and in 2008 - \$37 million. Last year funding was at \$16 million. This year, the projected number is about \$5 million. We went from \$83 million to \$5 million in order to commit to these capabilities.

When the RDSTF meet they talk about projects and they prioritize them. Whether the project is going to be funded or not depends. As the project moves forward, information is passed along through the teams and subsequently goes to the statewide working group. It then goes to the Domestic Security Oversight Council (DSOC). There may be annual reports and funding recommendations with Governor legislation regarding the domestic security of the state. They may commit funds for these particular projects. We may have from 60-70 projects in a years time and when it is all said and done we are down to about 13 projects. Some projects are small in terms of funding (\$5,000) and some projects may be up to \$1 million or \$2 million. Since 2002, we have spent about \$42 million on the Interoperable Communications project.

The National Preparedness System provides guidelines to the RDSTF. It identifies six components: identifying and assessing risks; estimating requirements; building or sustaining capabilities; developing and implementing plans; validating plans; reviewing and updating plans. In terms of the RDSTF, we are always talking about sustainability.

Questions & Comments:

Councilman Newton:

Mr. Ramirez:

You said you went from \$87 million for funding down to \$5 million? That is all DHS provides. As the years have progressed my thought on the funding is that so much money has been spent in these capabilities and sustainability. Are we now prepared for events? If so, do we have the necessary equipment? A subsequent assessment has been made by DHS and my thought is that they feel comfortable that as we progressed, we have progressed to where we should be in terms of training exercises, capabilities, sustainability and equipment. Thus the money has continued to decrease.

Ms. Vance:

Mr. Ramirez:

You mentioned SARS. Could you brief us on the SARS process? The SARS process is when information is provided to the RDSTF in terms of what was seen, what was heard. The intel portion of SARS is a reporting mechanism for us to look at and see whether the intel rises to a level of a formal investigation in terms of either domestic security or international.

The Republican National Convention (RNC) takes place August 27-31 in Tampa. The U.S. Secret Service will spearhead the program. The FDLE and RDSTF have a small portion, about 25% of that program. The City of Tampa is actively hosting the RNC and in terms of finance they, Tampa PD, are probably the best agency to ask questions that are specific. The information I will provide to you is law enforcement sensitive, but it is a watered down version. The 2012 RNC is designated as a national special security event, thus we call it the NSSE. There will be high level involvement by the U.S. Secret Service. The authority is granted by Presidential directives. The Secret Service is the lead operational agency. The FBI is the lead for intelligence and crisis response and FEMA is designated as the lead agency for crisis and consequence management.

There has been an agenda type committee that was put together with members from the different agencies. Our commitment is the make health decisions and to guide the public sub-committees in terms of what their tasks and missions of responsibilities are. There are currently 26 different sub-committees, from air and space to dignitary protection. These sub-committees tasks are to put their specific component/operations plan together. For example with the dignitary protection, we have 33 republican governors and their wives attending and 29 Lieutenant Governors and their staff. Someone has to transport these people from point A to point B and someone has to provide security. FDLE along with FHP will handle this portion. It is our duty and responsibility to put this operations plan

together.

In 2004, 3,500 law enforcement officers were used for the Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Boston. Over 65,000 passed through the convention venue and they had about 98,000 packages screened, etc. The 2008 RNC in St. Paul - 4,200 law enforcement officers. We anticipate, for our program, approximately 4,800 law enforcement officers. That includes local, city, counties, state, the FBI, Secret Service, ICE, etc. The federal government is providing \$50 million.

Out of the \$50 million, approximately \$35 million will be used for overtime and salaries. They will use about another \$5 million to provide facilities and food for all of the agents and law enforcement officers. The expense is huge. The monies have been approved, we are still waiting for the DHS to approve Pinellas County and the use of Tropicana. We understand that there will be an event there on the 26th. While this has not yet been approved by the DHS but it has been a part of the RNC program.

Questions & Comments:

Ms. Vance:

I heard a representative from Sheriff Gee's office talk a little about this and he showed a video from the St. Paul convention. Apparently there was an entire day where the officers lost control and there was anarchy in the streets. Obviously, as a person who works in downtown Tampa I am somewhat concerned as to how that will be controlled. I understand there are anarchists underground planning their digs and where they will set up.

Mr. Ramirez:

Anyone can go to You Tube and search for RNC St. Paul and see a 2-3 minute video. And you are correct, the City of St. Paul and their county had a conflict on when the rules of engagement were going to be set. Unfortunately, the city said they were going to be an anarchist friendly environment and we are not going to impose problems for those who wish to protest. After day one they made over 800 arrests, but by that time it was too late. There was over \$5 million of destruction within the first three hours. I can assure you of one thing, the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County will not allow that to happen. Those programs have been put in place and since 2009 our counter-intelligence folks have been designated and committed panelists working social media and we are receiving their communications about anarchists, etc. We feel we will have better control of that program.

Vice Mayor Roff:

I think you said the DNC in Boston had 9,500 officers versus St. Paul and Tampa being about 4,500. I was wondering why there was almost twice as many in Boston.

Mr. Ramirez:

I believe there were 3,500 law enforcement officers in Boston for the DNC and about 4,200 for the RNC.

Councilman Newton:

How do you balance law enforcement?

Mr. Ramirez:

I wish I had someone from Tampa PD here. This is the largest event that I've been involved with in the State of Florida. There have been provisions put together in terms of location where the protesters will have an opportunity to speak. There is also a set route for the marchers and the protesters to take and it will be right along the exterior perimeter of the event. Every provision has been made because we understand there is the first amendment right and we are

conditioned for any and all members that wish to protest or speak on behalf or against the program.

Council Member J. Miller: How do you distinguish between protesters and anarchists? In Oakland the anarchists did all the damage and the protesters got all the blame.

Mr. Ramirez: Unfortunately, the anarchists were smart enough to blend in with the protesters. In order to make every attempt to prevent that from happening is our intelligence. We have been working on identifying those groups and have some good intelligence on different groups. We will have technology such as facial recognition and we will have a small undercover team who will be working within these protests and marches, etc. to be able to identify and call with their findings. There is a distinction between protesters and anarchists. The anarchists' plan is not to protest peacefully and calmly. Their intent is totally different. They want the media and attention and the only way they can get that is by providing chaos. Chaos is setting trash cans on fire, throwing bricks and rocks through windows, etc.

Mr. Young: I think sometimes we forget that both sides of an argument have first amendment rights and we have to protect both sides.

Council Member Jonson: You've been talking primarily about the anarchists and the people who are going to provide criminal problems. This is going to provide problems for the entire community and I assume roads will be shut down and that kind of thing. What kind of plans do you have for the operation of normal commerce and trade during this period of time?

Mr. Ramirez: The Tampa PD is handling this. There has been some conversation with organizations such as Davis Island and all the folks who live there. That complete island will be shut down. Those folks, if they want to get from the island to the main side you will have to go through three areas of security. They have to be patted down, their cars have to be sniffed by dogs, and the car has to be checked by law enforcement. The City of Tampa and the County set meetings up for the residents of this area and also for commerce and business owners. It is my understanding they are talking about some operational hours for businesses. These conversations are taking place right now and I am not privy to that portion.

Council Member Jonson: For instance, Tampa General is located on Davis Island.

Mr. Ramirez: That's correct. What we are planning to do regarding Tampa General is to secure it in a different fashion. We have approximately 1,200 assets from the Florida National Guard that will be posted in certain areas within the city and outside of the city to conduct a static post and security for larger businesses and hospitals and City of Tampa facilities such as the courthouse.

Mr. Wishnatzki: When you talked about anarchist groups you mentioned setting fires and throwing bricks. Are they known to have caches of weapons as well?

Mr. Ramirez: As far as we know, in terms of the anarchists as well as other groups, their level of attention is other than weapons. What we know is their intent is to get arrested. That's what they want. They want to be mishandled and they want the excessive force to take place.

Mr. Schock: You mentioned that Davis Island, for example, may be closed down. What coordination and communication has occurred or is going to happen with the local communities' residents on Davis Island, Harbor Island, north Tampa, Hyde Park and the areas around the St. Pete Times forum?

Mr. Ramirez: The City of Tampa, the County, and also the Coast Guard have set several agendas for community meetings. This month there are two in Davis Island, and also one in Harbor Island. Around the perimeter the Chamber of Commerce should have received a letter inviting them to meetings that have been arranged to have a conversation that pertains to expectations, security perimeters, etc. There is action being taken by the City of Tampa, the County, and the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard has taken a pro-active role in terms of the channel. There will not be any traffic in the channel at all. If there is for any particular reason there will be check points for the vessels.

Council Member J. Miller: Did I misunderstand you? Did you say that you are lumping the Occupiers with the anarchists?

Mr. Ramirez: No, I said that we have made every attempt to identify all of these folks that are a part of the occupy. We look at each organization as standard. We are looking at their activity.

Councilman Langford: Do you have the capability to interfere with communication devices such as cell phones?

Mr. Ramirez: There is no reason to interfere with communications. That would be actually against the law. Everything that we are doing is open source. We have an application that allows us to monitor Twitter and Facebook but we do not break in to accounts. Rest assured that they are going to be here, and we know who they are, and we know what and when and we are looking at their plans. We will hopefully be two steps ahead of them.

Mr. Kersteen: Will all the manholes be welded shut? Especially those with stormwater?

Mr. Ramirez: No, we don't plan to shut them. My understanding is they will not be welded shut but once the perimeter is set in a particular area we want to "clean" the area. One of the concerns we had when we looked at St. Paul is that they had beautiful flower beds in front of banks and trash dumpsters on wheels. They used the trash dumpsters by lighting them on fires and rolling them down the street and push them through the windows of banks, etc. These cement pots that were placed around with flowers were used as items to throw through windows. We are trying to make every attempt to clean the city of anything that can be removed. One thing I couldn't understand is that the City of St. Paul had some construction in the route of the diplomats and there were 40-50 sandbags. They utilized those sand bags to throw at the vehicles as they drove by. Those are the things that we are paying attention to.

7. Council Member Comments

- Vice Mayor Dodson: I would like to send a word to the Governor through Roger Roscoe who is with us today of thanks for the two new Gubernatorial Appointees and the re-appointment of Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd. I also wanted to say that one of the two new ones, listed as a Tampa member, is actually better known as a Plant City member even though he lives

in Tampa. Gary Wishnatzki who is with us here this morning as a new appointee is the owner and CEO of Wish Farms which is a critical member in east Hillsborough County's agricultural community. Certain products that they produce are sent out all around the country and outside the country for use. He will be a great member to the Council.

The Strawberry Festival will take place March 1st through March 11th. The last few years the Council has enjoyed having the ladies from St. Clement's Catholic Church host the "make your own strawberry shortcake" booth at the February Council meeting. This year we didn't have them here for a couple of reasons. The first reason is because this is our celebration of the 50th year of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Also, please keep in mind that the lady who has come each year to present those berries, Barbara Caccamisi, has had some severe health issues which are life threatening.

- Council Member J. Miller: Please put on your calendar, March 23, 24 & 25 is "Oldsmar Days and Nights." It is a huge celebration with 1,000 people attending.
- Councilman Newton: We had a very successful and cold Rock 'n Roll Marathon. It was well attended. The runners wore layered clothing so as they ran they would take items off and throw them aside and we collected those items and gave them to charities. There were bands every mile and there was a lot of participation from the Pinellas County Sheriff, St Pete Police and officers in street clothes. They loved the area and are planning to come back next year. There were about 8,400 runners participating. The runners finished in 1 hour, 8 minutes running 13-21 miles.

The next big event the City of St. Petersburg is going to hold is the Grand Prix, in March.

8. Program Reports

- A. **Agency on Bay Management (ABM)** -- Chair, Mr. Robert Kersteen
Mr. Kersteen deferred his report on the January 12th meeting to the March Council meeting.
- B. **Clearinghouse Review Committee (CRC)** - No Report
- C. **Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)** – No Report
- D. **Emergency Management** - No Report
- E. **Legislative Committee** – Mayor Scott Black, Chair
Legal Counselor Don Conn provided the Legislative Report.

The Florida Legislature convened on January 10 and has now reached its midpoint. The 2012 regular session is scheduled to end on March 9.

Most of the legislature's attention has been on the budget, redistricting, regulation of gambling, and prison privatization. The Growth Management Glitch Bill (SB42 & HB7081) is still undergoing amendments and we cannot determine at this time what, if anything, will pass this session. But we are watching this carefully.

A few of the bills that may be of interest to cities and counties include:

Fertilizer Bill (SB 604 & HB 421) – defeated in committee – this bill would have taken away the authority of local governments to regulate the application of fertilizer.

Public Meetings (SB 206 & HB 355) – Senate Bill is on calendar – requires members of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard before any official action is taken by state or local agencies. Local governments may adopt policies and procedures to implement this requirement in a manner which does not disrupt public meetings.

Energy Efficiency (SB 2094 & HB 743) – still in committee - provides that, if approved by referendum, a portion of the local government infrastructure surtax may be used to provide loans, grants and rebates to residential property owners who make energy efficiency improvements.

Local Government Energy Zones (SB 640 & HB 1463) – still in committee – authorizes local governments to create energy zones by ordinance, allowing a producer of renewable energy to produce and sell energy within the boundaries of the energy zone.

Ordinary High Water Mark HB 1103 & SB 1362) – still in committee – would have the effect of moving the line that divides private property from public ownership on a navigable water body in a seaward direction (in the direction toward the water body).

Reclaimed Water (HB 639 & SB 1086) – on the house calendar - prohibits Water Management Districts from requiring a permit for the use of reclaimed water or from specifying any user to whom a reuse utility must provide reclaimed water or restricting the use of reclaimed water.

Numeric Nutrients (HB 7051 & SB 2060) – passed and awaiting the governor's signature – exempts DEP rule from the ratification process and directs DEP to submit the rule directly to the EPA for final approval. The DEP rule is viewed as less restrictive and less costly for local governments than the proposed federal rule.

The most significant impacts on local government this session will likely be from the budget since many of the bills that could affect local government do not appear to be headed for passage.

Manny would like to update the council on the status of the RPC budget request.

The House passed the budget which included \$2.5 million for the eleven RPCs. On the Senate side, the Transportation Economic Development Committee approved a budget spreadsheet that will go forward for final approval on the floor, hopefully within the week. That includes the \$2.5 million for the eleven RPCs. The conference process will start at that point. We will keep you posted as the budget process continues.

Mr. Kersteen asked Mr. Conn, regarding the water bill, does that interfere with rights? Mr. Conn said it deals with the line that separates public ownership from private ownership. I don't know if I would characterize it as interfering, but rather just defining.

Councilman Newton:
Mr. Conn:

The nutrient/fertilizer bill, where is that at right now? The fertilizer bill, the one that would take away local governments authority to regulate the application of fertilizer, that bill has died. That is no longer under consideration. The numeric nutrients legislation has been passed, it's on the way to the Governor. You might recall that EPA published some standards from numeric nutrient standards and that there was some concern perhaps with being overly restrictive and it would have a great fiscal impact on local governments. The local DEP adopted a rule with different standards that was felt would still achieve the purpose of numeric nutrient standards, but would not be so restrictive. That rule was challenged and is currently before the Division of Administrative Hearings, that hearing is scheduled to begin February 27th. The legislation that has been passed, and then goes to the Governor, excludes that particular rule from the ability to be challenged. Now that the legislation has passed, and if the Governor signs it, that rule challenge I believe would be moot and those standards developed at the state level by the DEP will be sent up to EPA for EPA's review and if they find that those are in fact acceptable, then they will notify Florida and I believe sponsors of that rule will be that it will be more acceptable to cities and counties in Florida.

Chair Bustle said at this point he thought it was appropriate to make a comment because Roger Roscoe from the Governor's office was in the audience. At our Executive Committee meeting this morning we talked about the role and funding of RPCs. This is a personal opinion and it may not be supported by anybody, but I believe that the roles of RPCs have become even more crucial as a result of changes that have been made over the past several years to growth management. For that reason I urge that you take a message back to the Governor that we really need the funding from the state and please don't redline our appropriation this year. Council members approved this message to the Governor.

F. Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) – No Report

G. Economic Development - No Report

H. Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) - No Report

9. Other Council Reports

A. TBRPC 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee & NARC Conference 2012
Ms Todd provided an update on the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

This is a day about wonderful activities, and its not just a birthday party. It's an opportunity for cities and counties in the Tampa Bay region to celebrate what we are all about. We are brought together to do a lot of things, as our Chairman just said, working on economic development, land use planning, hazardous/emergency situations. Problems and challenges that we face in government that you couldn't ordinarily do as a city or county by itself. What we do affects one another. We are going to have a day not only of fun, but of information sharing and resources. Please mark your calendars for March 23rd. Both events will take place in the City of St. Petersburg, at the beautiful historic Renaissance Vinoy Hotel. The registration for Council members is complimentary.

The first event is our Future of the Region Awards Luncheon. At this luncheon the Tampa Bay region recognizes the activities and programs that have been submitted in various categories and celebrates them. It gives you an opportunity to showcase what you have done in your city or your county and it also gives each of us an opportunity to learn more about how you solved a problem. The luncheon starts at 12 noon and it goes until 2:00 pm. Afterwards there will be coffee and deserts with sponsors and exhibitors from 2:00 pm - 3:00pm. We are asking that you RSVP by March 16th to Lori so she can register you. For the 50th Anniversary Celebration we are asking that you go to our web site (www.tbrpc.org) and register, using the promotional code provided on the invitation in your folder. Council members and their spouse are provided complimentary registrations.

Ms. Krahl is in Washington, DC promoting the Tampa Bay region for our upcoming NARC conference.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration follows the luncheon, from 4pm to 6pm. It will be held at the Vinoy. We have 12 sponsors so far and have raised \$39,500 and we are working with a few others that we hope will partner with us. Commissioner Brickfield, Mayor Peters, Council Member Jonson, Bob Kersteen, and Secretary/Treasurer Andy Nunez were personally thanked for being instrumental in obtaining these sponsorships. If anyone can think of any others who would be willing to sponsor these events, please let us know because we want to have this underwritten so it is a free event for our colleagues.

Former Council Chair and DCA Secretary, Steve Seibert, has volunteered to MC this event. We are working on a fun and nostalgic look at the last 5 decades and the work of the Council throughout those decades. It will be fun and enjoyable for everyone who attends.

We will have an area at the Vinoy for our sponsors and member governments to promote their organizations or communities. If your city or county would like to participate, please contact Wren. She will be sending out information in the near future. We want you to be able to promote your city/county and do a little bit of bragging. Council Member Miller mentioned some events that will be going on in Oldsmar, and Councilman Newton mentioned upcoming events in St. Pete. Each of you will have something taking place in their city/county that you would like to see everyone else recognize, such as the Plant City Strawberry Festival or the Dade City Kumquat Festival. We want to encourage you to talk to your staff of things that you would like to have recognized. We will be putting together a publication at some point in time that will showcase our cities and our counties, with

pictures and interesting things about your government, economy, or just things going on in your area.

The Florida Regional Councils Association passed a resolution recognizing the Council's 50th Anniversary. I would like to invite our member governments to pass a Proclamation in honor the Council's birthday. In your folder you will find a draft proclamation for you to take back to your staff. This proclamation can also be supplied to you electronically.

B. Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategy

Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner, provided a brief presentation on the Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategy. TBRPC is leading a consortium of the Florida Regional Planning Councils to conduct a statewide energy study that focuses on creating a reduced dependency on non-domestic energy.

This project started back in October and will take 18 months, so we expect to finish by next summer. The basic scope contains six elements. Preliminary Survey and Analysis to try and identify major stakeholders, to try and figure out the needs of citizens, and businesses, different alternative energy and renewable energy that is current or planned. From the survey, which is almost done, we will do a preliminary analysis. From there we will do a detailed analysis to figure out what will happen if the price of gasoline goes up to \$10 a gallon or certain energy doubles or triples. We will try and figure out how that will impact communities using REMI® Implan and different models. From there we will hold energy summits across the state with stakeholders to determine energy needs and what concerns there are, and what solutions will they offer. We aren't going to come up with a statewide energy policy or plan, but we hope our recommendations will be incorporated into the policy or plan. We are working with the Florida Energy Office and hope to have our summits done before their annual summit in August so they can use our information. From that point we will go over different options from each summit and try to model some of the better ones. We will form different strategies which may differ from regions within the state. We will figure out how to help businesses, job creation, job retention, and to not have business disruption. We are trying to coordinate this with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Enterprise Florida, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Public Service Commission, the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council, all the RPCs, Economic Development Administration and we will try to get everyone together. Different deliverables include preliminary analysis and survey reports. Each element will have its own report so everyone is informed.

Energy issues we are concerned about are energy spikes, energy disasters. We just completed the disaster energy study. Additionally, energy shortages, international issues which we have seen in the papers with the civil unrest in the middle east, the tsunami in Japan, Iran, etc. Also health issues for local citizens. The analysis will look at all of these things. If we were to produce it ourselves it might be at a higher cost, but we would have more security and there would be more jobs. In order to get sufficiencies, we grouped the RPCs together.

Questions &/or Comments:

Council Member J. Miller:

We drove to Chicago and we took 55 up through Indiana. It was full of the windmills. We then went down to visit

somebody and we took US 41 and windmills were all across there too. Totally across the state of Indiana is all windmills. It's wonderful.

Mr. O'Neil: That was the idea in putting this together. You have the I-10 corridor and there will be different strategies for different regions that will work better with their climate.

Ms. Todd: In addition to windmills we may not be, since we don't have mountains, prime for that. How could they capture ocean energy?

Mr. O'Neil: Currents, the Gulf stream. We are looking at many different alternatives and ocean energy is down the road.

10. Executive/Budget Committee Report – Chair Bustle

The Committee looked at the FY 2011 Annual Audit Draft and Cherry Bekaert & Holland provided a presentation on the audit. This was approved unanimously and will be submitted to the Council in March for consideration. The auditors said staff was very forthcoming and stood out among the people they audit.

11. Chair's Report

It is indeed an honor to serve as your Chair. Before I continue with my remarks, I would like to thank Mayor Bob Mimming for serving as Vice-Chair and Mr. Andy Nunez for serving as Secretary/Treasurer.

Since joining the Council in 2002, I have had the pleasure of observing and learning from several great leaders that held this position before me. People like Mayor Black, Mr. Kersteen, Ms. Todd, Commissioner Mariano and Vice-Mayor Dodson. I would like to thank each of you for your dedicated service. We are very privileged to have such a wide spectrum of expertise represented on this board. Your contributions and support continue to elevate the Council to new heights regarding regional issues and regional leadership. I look forward to working with each of you, and the staff, as we embark upon our 50th year.

I would also like to thank Manny and the staff for their dedication and for consistently performing their duties in a professional and competent manner. We were reminded of that by the Audit Report this morning. It seems like our staff are ahead of the power curve and anticipated the needs and provided the right kind of timely data as requested by the auditors.

My goal as your Chair is to provide leadership that will build on the current projects and programs of the Council and to continue our mission of bringing local governments together in productive collaboration.

I feel especially privileged to serve in this capacity as we celebrate our 50th year as an organization. It goes without saying that this is an important milestone for the Council and its member governments and I look forward to our 50th Anniversary Celebration on March 23rd at the Vinoy.

I am also looking forward to serving as your Chair this coming June when we host the 46th National Association of Regional Council's Annual Conference. This is a great opportunity to bring tourist dollars into our region while also showcasing our communities and best practices in regional

planning. We are dedicated in our partnership with NARC to provide an exceptional conference to all of the attendees and sponsors.

We will also begin work on updating the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and the Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategy Study. Staff will be planning a Council Member workshop in the fall to revise the entity's 5-year Strategic Plan.

We are going to continue working with our Local Governments and our regional partners in the implementation of the One Bay Vision.

Once again, I am honored to serve as your Chair and I look forward to working with the staff and the Board in the coming year.

12. Executive Director's Report - None

Just a reminder that you will be receiving an invitation from DEO. We are partnering with them to help host 11 Regional Forums throughout the state to help the Governor and DEO come up with their five year strategic plan. It is two fold. We will also be able to use some of that information to update our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan. The Forum will be held March 1st, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at Hillsborough Community College, Dale Mabry Campus. I sent out an email alerting you of that date. Hopefully you can participate. The forum will be based on the Six Pillars of the Florida Chamber Foundation.

Next Meeting: March 12th, 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: 11:45 a.m.



Larry Bustle, Chair



Lori Denman, Recording Secretary