

# Council Minutes

December 10, 2012

10:00 a.m.

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## REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Chair, Commissioner Larry Bustle, Manatee County  
Vice Chair, Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island  
Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Past Chair, Commissioner Bill Dodson, City of Plant City  
Commissioner Nina Bandoni, City of Safety Harbor  
Vice Mayor Ron Barnette, City of Dunedin  
Commissioner Woody Brown, City of Largo  
Council Member Bob Boss, City of Temple Terrace  
Commissioner Victor Crist, Hillsborough County  
Council Member Doreen Hock DiPolito, City of Clearwater  
Commissioner Charlie Justice, Pinellas County  
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  
Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole  
Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, City of Tampa  
Commissioner Gail Neidinger, City of S. Pasadena  
Mr. Tim Schock, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Ms. Erin Rusnake, Alt., Ex-Officio, FDEP  
Mr. Waddah Farah, Alt., Ex-Officio, Florida Department of Transportation  
Ms. Michelle Miller, Ex-Officio, Enterprise Florida

## REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Mayor David Archie, City of Tarpon Springs  
Commissioner Scott Black, City of Dade City  
Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto  
Vice Mayor Sam Henderson, City of Gulfport  
Commissioner Lorraine Huhn, City of St. Pete Beach  
Council Member Janice Miller, City of Oldsmar  
Council Member Wengay Newton, City of St. Petersburg  
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton  
Councilman Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park  
Ms. Kim Vance, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. Charles Waller, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Councilwoman Jodi Wilkeson, City of Zephyrhills  
Mr. Todd Pressman, Ex-Officio, Southwest Florida Water Management District

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mayor Travis Palladeno, Madeira Beach  
Carson Bricklemyer  
Scott Susriman, King Engineering  
Brice William  
Trisha Neasman, Planner, SWFWMD

**STAFF PRESENT**

Mr. Manny Pumariega, Executive Director  
Mr. Donald Conn, Legal Counsel  
Ms. Suzanne Cooper, Principal Planner  
Ms. Lori Denman, Recording Secretary  
Mr. John Jacobsen, Accounting Manager  
Ms. Betti Johnson, Principal Planner  
Ms. Wren Krahl, Director of Administration/Public Information  
Ms. Jessica Lunsford, Intergovernmental Service Coordinator  
Mr. John Meyer, Principal Planner  
Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner  
Mr. Brady Smith, Senior Planner  
Mr. Avera Wynne, Planning Director

**Call to Order – Chair Bustle**

The December 10, 2012 annual meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Councilor Bob Matthews, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll Call -- Recording Secretary**

A quorum was present.

**Voting Conflict Report -- Recording Secretary - None**

**Announcements:** - Chair Bustle

- Council Member Bob Boss, City of Temple Terrace, was introduced and welcomed to the Council.
- Commissioner Charlie Justice, Pinellas County, was welcomed to the Council. Commissioner Justice is a former Florida Senator and Florida Representative. He is representing Pinellas County for the December meeting.
- Mayor Travis Palladeno, City of Madeira Beach, was recognized.
- The Annual Report is produced each year in December which highlights the past year's accomplishments. For the last few years we have not printed the annual report, opting to post it online. Since this is our 50<sup>th</sup> year, the Anniversary Committee felt it was important to print this edition which includes a chronology of our history and documents the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Mr. Avera Wynne will be presenting on the items covered in the report later in the agenda. The Annual Report was distributed.
- In Council folders was the Future of the Region Awards Call for Entries. The deadline for projects is January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The Council Meeting Recap was distributed in Council folders. This recap is useful in reporting on Council activities.

- The Council does not meet in January unless necessary. The next scheduled meeting will be in February. The new Chair, Mayor Bob Minning, will be out of the country on the regularly scheduled meeting date of February 11<sup>th</sup>. The meeting date will be changed to Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. A reminder will be sent out in January.

Annual Meeting Presentations:

Before making the presentations, recognition was provided for a departing member.

Mr. Harry Kinnan has served on the Council as our School Board representative and he has retired. Chair Bustle presented Mr. Kinnan with an engraved flash drive key ring for his dedication and service to the Council.

Mr. Kinnan: I just want to say a couple of things. I was on the school board for a number of years. As I sat on this Council it was reassuring to see the quality of representation that there is in the Tampa Bay region area. It is so impressive to me as a person from Bradenton, which is a little bit removed from the mainstream of Tampa Bay, to see the quality of people who are on this Council. Your service is wonderful and I thank you so much. As a school board member I learned that some of these issues I had to adjust to our perspective. I went back, and thanks to people like all of you I was able to go back to Bradenton and say, look, this is how it affects us. Not just education, but all the things that are happening down our way in Manatee County. For the many years I was blessed to serve with you, thank you for all you do and know that Bradenton appreciates very much what you do.

It is a tradition at the Annual Meeting to recognize those members who have served as committee chairs or officers. Chair Bustle presented an engraved flash drive key ring to:

Mayor Bob Minning, for serving as Vice Chair of the Council, Vice Chair of the Agency on Bay Management, and Chair of the Clearinghouse Review Committee. Mayor Mining also served as Vice Chair of the Executive/Budget Committee.

Mr. Andy Nunez, for serving as the Secretary/Treasurer this past year. He also served on the Executive/Budget Committee, the Regional Planning Advisory Committee, and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

Mr. Bob Kersteen, for serving as the Chair of the Agency on Bay Management, and as a member of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

Councilor Bob Matthews, for serving as the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Commissioner Victor Crist, for serving as the Vice Chair of the Regional Collaboration Committee.

Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, for Co-Chairing the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Ms. Todd was presented with an engraved snow globe.

Ms. Todd thanked Wren Krahl for doing all of the work for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It was a massive undertaking.

Ms. Julia Greene, former Executive Director of the Council, for Co-Chairing the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Ms. Greene was feeling under the weather and was not present to accept her engraved snow globe.

Commissioner Scott Black, for serving as the Chair of the Legislative Committee. Commissioner Scott

was not present at the meeting and will received his engraved flash drive key ring at a later date.

Mayor Minning congratulated Commissioner Bustle for his re-election. For 2012 Chair Bustle served as the Chair of the Executive/Budget Committee, and also as Chair of the Regional Collaboration Committee. Mayor Minning presented him with an engraved flash drive key ring.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez  
The November 12, 2012 minutes were approved. (Kersteen/Matthews)
  
2. **Budget Committee** – Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez
  - a. The Financial Report for the period ending 10/31/12 was approved. (Todd/Crist)
  - b. The amendment to check signature authorization for Northern Trust and TD Bank was approved. (Matthews/Brown)
  - c. Motion to authorize the newly elected Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer to sign contracts and other formal documents during the Chair’s absence was approved. (Kersteen/Todd)
  - d. The updating of the corporate bank resolution to reflect/confirm officers was approved. (Todd/Mariano)
  
3. **Consent Agenda** – Chair Bustle
  - A. **Budget and Contractual**
    1. Hoffman Architects, P.A. was the architectural firm that designed the building. Staff recommends hiring the firm for the leasehold improvements since they have the experience ( [www.hoffmanarchitects.net](http://www.hoffmanarchitects.net) ) and all the architectural drawings.  
  
Once we reach an agreeable floor plan for signed and prospective tenants, we will negotiate a fee proposal to develop the final architectural plans, building and construction documents and overseeing the construction.  
Action Recommended: Authorize the Chair to sign architectural agreement.  
Staff contact: Manny Pumariega, ext. 17
  
    2. Once the Council receives the final architectural drawings, staff will issue a construction bid proposal for lease improvements. After a thorough evaluation by the selection committee, the lowest responsive bidder will be recommended for approval and execution of agreement by the Chair.  
Action Recommended: Authorize the Chair to sign agreement with the selected construction company.  
Staff contact: Manny Pumariega, ext. 17
  
  - B. **Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program**
    1. IC&R Review by Jurisdiction - November 2012
    2. IC&R Database - November 2012Action Recommended: None. Information Only.  
Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29
  
  - C. **DRI Development Order Reports (DOR)** - None
  
  - D. **DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)**
    1. DRI # 140 - Tampa Triangle, Hillsborough County
    2. DRI # 260 - Wiregrass Ranch, Pasco CountyAction Recommended: Approve staff report  
Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29.
  
  - E. **Notice of Proposed Change Reports (NOPC)** - None

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

1. DRI # 66 - Tara, RYs 2010-12 BRS, Manatee County
2. DRI # 98 - Sabal Center, RY 2011-12 ARS, Hillsborough County
3. DRI #191 - Fishhawk Ranch, RY 2011-12 ARS, Hillsborough County
4. DRI #202 - Unnamed Exclusive Golf & Country Club, RY 2011-12 ARS, Manatee County
5. DRI #233 - Connerton, RY 2011-12 ARS, Pasco County
6. DRI #236 - Riviera Dunes, RY 2011-12 ARS, City of Palmetto

Action Recommended: 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 South Pasadena (proposed)
2. DEO # 12-2ESR, City of Temple Terrace (proposed)
3. DEO # 12-3ESR, City of Largo (proposed)
4. DEO # 12-1ESR, City of Tampa (proposed)

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: Jessica Lunsford, ext. 38

**I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)**

The following report(s) are presented for Council action: - None

**J. Tampa Bay EPCRA Awareness Week Resolution**

Each year the State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials and the Governor proclaim Florida Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in recognition of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA). Governor Scott is expected to proclaim February 10-16, 2013 as EPCRA Awareness Week. Local city councils and commissions are urged to pass a similar resolution proclaiming EPCRA Awareness Week in their communities.

Additional Materials: Resolution # 2012-03

Action Recommended: Motion to have the Chair sign Resolution #2012-03, proclaiming February 10-16, 2013 as EPCRA Awareness Week.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. (Kersteen/Schock)

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. **A. Transportation Funding Alternatives**

Mr. Michael Howe, Executive Director for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO, presented the findings of a Revenue Study commissioned by the statewide MPO Advisory Council.

When you got up this morning and you had to come to this meeting, how were you going to

come? Are you going to ride a horse? Take a bus or a boat? That's what transportation mobility is. 100 years ago, that was the reality of where we were at. Today, it is much different. It is much more serious. There are investments happening in infrastructure throughout the world, particularly in China and Japan, and some of the Islamic countries. Unfortunately, in our nation, the last explosion that took place was back in the 1950s, after World War II, when Dwight Eisenhower launched the interstate road building system and we did bridges and everything else. That investment has dwindled over the last twenty years. The 26 MPOs of the State of Florida, representing every corner of this state, after years of whining to the Florida legislature about money, decided to do something pro-active. We developed a MPOAC (Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council) Revenue Study Committee. I was honored to Chair that Committee and it was a blue ribbon committee.

There has been a lot of activity over the last 5-10 years in Florida. Transportation took a steep decline because of the economic downturn in 2005, as did other revenue sources in the state. 2008-2009 there were some senate bills trying to get together a study committee, but it never really went anywhere. In 2010, the MPOAC said, let's do our own study and paid for it out of federal planning dollars. That's what we did, and we formed a committee. The purpose is straightforward - develop a legislative approach to implement a set of revenue measures that address transportation funding needs in Florida. Also, recommendationS of the most viable options.

The process took about 1 ½ - 2 years. I attended four meetings that I chaired in Tallahassee and we had the best of the best in the industry at these meetings. The Committee members were a cross section of everyone that is touched by transportation in our state, including the Florida Regional Councils Association, environmental groups, port groups, Chamber of Commerce, road builders, etc.

As I said, after that great explosion in the 1950s things slowed down in the 1970s and 1980s. U.S. investment by source, the federal government does about 30% and the state/local about 36%. That used to be different. The federal gas tax has been frozen since the Ronald Reagan administration at 18.4 cents, and thus the revenue stream from the feds has slowed down. Revenues from the tax on highway fuels represent 90% of the transportation trust fund. Revenues are linked to vehicle miles traveled and vehicle fleet efficiency. Federal highway taxes flat cents per gallon has not been adjusted for inflation and has not been adjusted since 1997. The last time it was raised to 18.4 cents was 1993. In 2008, for the first time since Eisenhower created the Federal Transportation Trust Fund, based upon gas tax, they had to take general funds to prop up the Transportation Trust Fund. They didn't have enough money to maintain the system. They had to do it again in 2010.

In 1990, there was about 2 billion vehicle miles traveled in our nation. Twenty years later we have 3 billion vehicle miles traveled. A 50% increase in traffic. In fuel efficiency we have a converse affect of back in 1990 we are getting about 20 miles per gallon average and now the average predicted in 2016 will be 40 miles per gallon. A 100% increase. Inflation affects are tremendous and real. Highway account balance, obviously went down. We have more fuel efficient cars, people are driving more, but we aren't getting more revenue in the system. Basically, 75% of our revenue for the state is made up of fuel costs (fuel taxes, state or federal). That's how we are funding our system. You have that dilemma of the fact that cars are more fuel efficient so there's less money going into the system. The other thing that a lot of people don't realize, it's based on a per gallon charge. It's not based upon the cost of the purchase. In other words, from 20 years ago when gas was maybe \$1.00 and now to \$3.00 or

\$4.00 you basically have had a 300% increase but there's been no consequential or corresponding increase in your gas tax revenue. It's still based on a per gallon charge. Another problem that is happening in Florida is the Florida Fund Diversion. The legislature has taken the money from the Florida Transportation Trust Fund for purposes of balancing the budget. The worst year was 2004 where they took almost \$500 million. State revenue forecasts are declining, although this has been a pretty good year. It's better than it has been in the last five years. State Transportation Trust Fund purchasing power is not very strong. When you look at it from 1999 to a 2010 period, the purchasing power has gone down significantly. Basically the funding shortfalls, in 2005 dollars, we had the purchasing power and funding estimate of \$62.5 billion in the state. Now, in 2010, we have a \$74 billion shortfall. That's the transportation funding needs for our state. That's \$10-12 billion. The Florida transportation budget, combined with federal and state dollars, is about \$6 billion a year. Basically a year and a half of funding has just gone away over the last decade.

The MPOAC Revenue Study Committee got together to look at options and to give the legislature something positive to consider. The basic pains that came out of the blue ribbon committee were: restoration of state transportation trust funds; increased flexibility for local governments; protect buying power of existing funds; recommended uses for new, incremental funds; new/additional revenue sources; and, policy recommendations related to funding.

At the April 26, 2012 meeting the MPOAC took the following action:

- Transmit to the Legislature/Governor information on Florida's unfunded transportation needs and the 14 options to reduce the funding shortfall.
- Initiate legislative action on the top six revenue options to implement those items.

It was adopted almost unanimously, with one negative vote.

The Top 6 Revenue Options:

- Index All Fuel Taxes not Currently Indexed. The state indexes their gas taxes so they have kept up with inflation. The local taxes have not.
- One Cent Municipal Optional Sales Tax. If you remember the Hillsborough referendum on transportation for infrastructure improvements and rail passed quite well in the cities, mainly Tampa, but failed in the counties. This would provide an option to let the cities of 150,000 or more have that local option themselves and keep the money.
- Two Cent Fuel Tax Increase per year-5 years indexed, for inflation. I think we have all seen the wild variations in the gas taxes. They may go up or down in 6 months. I don't know that the public will be as outraged as some of the legislatures think if you do a reasonable gas tax increase at the state level to help out infrastructure.
- Vehicle Miles Traveled Study (VMT). This is something that has been studied on several levels, most significantly Oregon. They did a VMT pilot program that indicated a pretty good public acceptance of tracking your travel miles and paying a fee based upon your travel miles instead of a per-gallon charge at the pump. There are lots of options to look at. The most onerous thing is that a lot of people feel like there is a "big brother" impact there. You can eliminate that because there is an odometer based tracking system that you plug in at the pump which reads how many miles you traveled since you last got gas. They charge you accordingly. Those are some options for the future because of the dilemma about the fuel efficiency of the vehicles based upon the fact that we aren't bringing enough into the transportation system. The state of Florida needs to get into this business and look at it seriously, like Oregon, California and Colorado have done. This is the future of how you are going to be charging for transportation. Kind of like a utility user fee.

- Five Cent Local Diesel Tax. I know this will not impress our freight friends, or trucking but Florida has a weird element that, unlike the federal tax where your passenger vehicles are 18.4 cents a mile per gallon, your federal diesel tax is 24 cents. In Florida it's the converse. We have a tax that is about 9.6 cents a gallon and 7 cents for diesel. It's actually less for diesel, which is your big user and causes damage to the roadway system. Let's equalize them. We don't have to make them more than a passenger vehicle, but lets make diesel pay an equal charge.
- Return Motor Vehicle License, Registration and Titling Fee Increases to the State Transportation Trust Fund, Over the last 20 years, most of your vehicle license and registration fees have all been put into the transportation trust fund. Ironically, in 2009, the legislature raised revenues for these licensing fees, but they put them into the general revenue fund to try and help balance the budget. We are saying that it is now time to return those to the transportation trust fund, which is where they rightfully belong because they are a user charge.

Those are the top six. There were 56 ideas total. Other revenue options can be viewed on the TBRPC web site, where this presentation will be posted. The MPO Executive Director, Howard Glassman, is looking for bill sponsors with the legislature. We have neglected transportation in the nation and the state to the point that we need to start paying attention to it.

Questions & Comments:

Vice Chair Minning:

Of those top 6, have you prioritized those?

Mr. Howe:

No. They weren't prioritized. It's really up to the legislature and the Governor's office as to which ones they might support. We've heard that the "T" word, the 2 cent tax over the next 5 years is probably out. As far as getting any support, the Governor's office seems receptive to studying the VMT Study so that option is probably OK. The local option gas tax, where you would have large municipalities being able to have their own local option referendum, seems to be fairly acceptable. That would allow your larger cities to do a referendum and invest in transportation if they so desire without having to worry about some of the rural areas that don't feel like they are getting their due from a referendum. These are not priorities.

Vice Chair Minning:

Who is this going to? You said the legislature, but where in the legislature is this going?

Mr. Howe:

It's already gone as a matter of fact. After the MPOAC board voted it was transmitted via correspondence to the Chairman of the Legislative Delegation for transportation, Appropriations, and the Governor's Office.

Commissioner Mariano:

Any thought to taking the federal tax and lowering it, and raising up an equal offset to the state taxes and have better efficiencies with the money?

Mr. Howe:

That's a very astute idea simply because of the federal complications you often get into with some of the federal regulations. I don't know, it hasn't been discussed, but I think everything is on the table.

Mr. Nunez:

Did you look at trying to get more of the federal tax back to Florida? We are a donor state and donate to other states that do not have the needs that we do.

Mr. Howe:

Absolutely. That's been a consistent position of the MPOAC board for the last several years, return more money to Florida as a donor state. That's also one of our (Sarasota/Manatee MPO) legislative policy positions. In MAT21, the new federal act that just passed about 3 months ago, they did make a objective to raise the return on gas tax collected to the State of Florida and to all donor states to 95% as a minimum. Traditionally you are correct, that it's

been around 87 cents returned on a dollar of gas tax which doesn't sound like a lot when you are dealing with pennies, but when you are dealing with millions of gallons of gas that is about a billion dollars a year that Florida has lost out because of that differential between 87 and 95%. We are hoping that the federal government accounts move in that direction. Every time they pass some legislative intent, the goal is to reach the 95, it seems like we fall a little bit short. I think it has edged up over the last five years from 87 cents return to about 90 cents. We are making progress. I agree with you, you need to equalize a bit better. The reason we are a donor state is because the roads out in Wyoming and North Dakota need to be fixed as well. They don't have enough gas tax revenues coming in and thus the big states that have all the gas consumption have to give more. That's the rationale behind it.

Mr. Schock:

You mentioned some of the potential pitfalls with the VMT such as user privacy. In the Oregon Study they looked at several different opportunities - an odometer feed back to the pump was one of them. But when you look at the breakdown that comes from that fuel tax and VMT, has there been any discussion around how the total tax then gets split up? Some users use county roads versus city roads versus state versus federal, some use very dramatically different mixes. Has there been any consideration of how that gets broken down?

Mr. Howe:

That's an excellent question. I think that's the detail that hasn't been broached. This concept of VMT and maybe a GPS system. When it was first introduced there was some thought process of, if you are driving at 3 a.m. on I-75 you're not going to get charged as much as you would if you were driving in rush hour. That was the initial thought process. Then the backlash happened about, we don't want to be tracked where we're driving and what time. Now, getting into your question, I think there are some things you can do, but if you do a straight odometer type reading it's not going to tell where you've been, what time, or anything else which alleviates the concerns, but probably isn't an equal playing field. Quite honestly, it needs to be a national program instead of having piecemeal things throughout our 50 states. Wisconsin is talking about a VMT charge because their infrastructure is way behind and they need some money.

Vice Chair Minning:

Is the Florida Transportation Commission doing a similar study?

Mr. Howe:

No. We would be working in conjunction with them. We've been in conversation and they were copied on the correspondence as well. If we did it, it would be a combined study of the state. We would simply be supporting that concept. It might be the FTC that actually conducts the study, which is fine.

## **B. Annual Report**

Mr. Avera Wynne, Planning Director, presented the Council's activities for the year 2012. The Annual Report was distributed.

*Our Mission Statement is: To serve our citizens and member governments by providing a forum to foster communication, coordination, and collaboration in identifying and addressing issues and needs regionally. TBRPC serves Hillsborough County, Manatee County, Pasco County, and Pinellas County.*

The RPC is recognized as Florida's only multipurpose regional entity. All of the other have a specific focus such as environmental, water, transportation, etc. The RPC brings everyone together to look at issues comprehensively.

One of the tasks in our mission statement is to convene the region. This past year we had the Regional Collaboration Committee (RCC). We will be taking information from the RCC roundtables and will provide a report for the next RCC meeting on January 14, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. Get Ready Tampa Bay. If you drove your electric vehicle to the meeting today you can charge it up at the electric charging station out front. The ribbon cutting for the chargers took place last December after the annual meeting. The One Bay Land Use Working Group. We had the One Bay Technical Team and the TBARTA Land Use Working Group that was working on a lot of the Master Plan issues and the land use issues related to the TBARTA Master Plan. We also have had the Regional Planning Advisory Committee meeting over the years which is a group of planning directors, senior planners from different agencies related to planning and development in our region. We put all of these into one group and meet quarterly. The RPC staff is staff to that meeting and we meet the first Friday of the quarter. We held the 50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration and on the same day we held the Future of the Region Awards. This year's McIntosh Award went to Clearwater Greenprint, sponsored by Brighthouse Communications. The Goldner Award was presented to Lee Arnold, and that award was sponsored by Mosaic. The One Bay Award went to Pasco County for their Mobility Fee, sponsored by Progress Energy.

Programs:

- Decision Support Geographic Information System (GIS):  
This year we continued with One Bay; worked with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program on the Sea Level Impact Analysis Viewer; Statewide Depth Analysis Tool - that information will be used in the SLOSH Model updates to try and improve the predictions of surges in storm events; the Decision Support System was useful in the Florida Broadband Geo- database for NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) who put funding through the state of broadband planning activities; and we continued to update information for Emergency Preparedness, Economic Development, and Broadband Planning.
- Emergency Preparedness:  
350,000 copies of the official Hurricane Guide were produced in 7 counties in English and Spanish. We used to do 800,000 to 1 million copies but now with the internet we are down to 350,000. Staff also worked on the housing element of the Comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Plan for the state (ESF 14) and developed the State of Florida ESF 18: Business and Industry Standard Operating Procedure.
- Emergency Preparedness: Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF):  
Hosted Regional Domestic Security Task Force Planner; Developed the Emergency Management Funding template for 2013; Facilitated RDSTF training classes and meetings; Assisted with the planning and training events associated with the Republican National Convention (RNC).
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC):  
The LEPC meets quarterly. They work on a lot of different plans like the ammonia siren & shelter in place workshops; Emergency Planning & Community Right To Know Act how to comply workshops; Coordinated and conducted "Investigate Every

Danger exercise to gauge simulated response to the placement of an IED at a pipeline at a Port of Tampa facility; Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee; HMEP Training Fund was used to conduct foam/ethanol training courses; 160-hour Hazmat technicians course, Hazmat Life Safety & Command courses; & OSHA Hazwoper refresher courses.

- Development Coordination-Developments of Regional Impact:  
While DRI review activities proceeded at a moderate pace during 2012, DRI staff conducted an assessment of the already approved DRI entitlements. Roughly we have about 50% left of the DRIs that are approved.
- Local Government Comprehensive Plan Review (LGCP):  
Those were also a little slower this year with the Expedited State Review process. There were 12 large Future Land Use Amendments that totaled 12,543 acres. The last couple of years have been slower with changes being made to the Future Land Use maps in their communities.
- Intergovernmental Coordination and Review (IC&R):  
This is an activity that the RPC has streamlined in what we look at. This year on 95 applications were processed, and 61 were deemed “regionally significant” and 9 full reports were generated. An example of this is the RPC looking at the MPO Long Range Transportation Plans, their Transportation Improvement Programs, as well as some Ten-Year Siting Plans for the utilities (TECO, Progress Energy and their building of a new transmission line or power plant).
- Economic Development District:  
This year we did the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) update which was a major activity and quite a few members participated. Other things we have been working on are: Statewide Synergy of the CEDS plan blending with the Florida Chamber’s Six Pillars program as well as DEO’s forums. The Energy Resiliency Strategy is the idea that we have to have funding from the Economic Development Administration and the Tampa Bay RPC has taken the lead in organizing the other ten RPCs to work on the Energy Resiliency Strategy. The tag line for the project is “domestic energy means domestic jobs” and we are looking for alternatives, renewables, and how those can compliment and reduce our reliance on foreign energy. We had an update on that project a couple of months ago.
- Economic Analysis:  
The Economic Analysis program is a part of the Economic Development activity. A lot of analysis this past year - over 50 projects. We have done some work for Pinellas County on medical manufacturing; Tax-Watch; Pasco EDC Manufacturing Industry profile. We received an award for the Disaster Resiliency Study. We also completed the Targeted Industry and Workforce Competency Study which was adopted into the Tampa Bay Partnership’s Business Plan.
- Audience Response System (ARS):  
Provided ARS services to: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity - we traveled to ten workshops throughout the state; Energy Workshops; Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority.

- Broadband Florida Initiative:  
Broadband Planning is community based planning to improve high-speed internet availability and accessibility. TBRPC is working with innovative pilot planning efforts in southwest and central Florida. This initiative is on-going to the summer of 2013. The Tampa Bay RPC is the lead with Central Florida RPC and SWFRPC. The initiative is trying to get a handle on broadband planning, the inventory, what exists and where we need improvements. The study areas are not in our region, they are in central Florida and Southwest Florida. The thought is to expand the initiative to other regions in which case Tampa Bay would take the lead on that as well. Our region is pretty well developed in broadband, and we have inventories on that.

Broadband Mapping: TBRPC is in collaboration with UF and the State of Florida to identify and display high-speed internet availability throughout the state.

- Agency on Bay Management (ABM):  
There were numerous issues and items addressed by ABM in 2012: The Agency was provided a presentation on the new St. Petersburg Pier; Florida's Development of Numeric Nutrient Water Quality Standards; the Tampa Bay Shrimp Permit Transferability rule amendment proposal, etc. This is a diverse group with the natural resources people, the phosphate industry, power industry, fishing industry, and all of these folks come together and look at new regulations.

Bay Soundings is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year. There are now 3 editions per year with 24,000 print copies of each. We now have an increased digital delivery and social media outreach. The web site gets a large number of hits. A lot of the hard copies get distributed at bait and tackle shops, and educational programs. Teachers utilize the newspaper in their curriculum.

- Tarpon Tag:  
8,700 + plates are registered and about \$125,000 raised each year for the Bay. Over \$1.6 million has been raised to date.
- Future of the Region Awards:  
The Call for Entries submission deadline is Friday, January 11, 2013.
- Visions Annual Report:  
The magazine will be available on the web site for download. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition.

Presentations provided at Council meetings can be found at:  
[www.tbrpc.org/council\\_members/council\\_presentations.shtml](http://www.tbrpc.org/council_members/council_presentations.shtml)

**7. Council Member Comments - None**

**8. Program Reports**

**A. Agency on Bay Management (ABM) – Chair, Mr. Robert Kersteen**

The Agency's Natural Resources/Environmental Impact Review Committee will meet this Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, and all are welcome.

On the agenda will be several interesting items:

- Mr. Hank Brooks of the Florida Paddling Trails Association will present the Environmental Toolkit Training program.
- Ms. Ann Paul, Tampa Bay Regional Coordinator for Audubon of Florida, will describe the latest addition to the Coastal Islands Sanctuaries: a 3-acre rookery island in western Boca Ciega Bay.
- Tampa Bay Conservancy's President, Laura Starkey, will present an overview of land trusts and describe the Conservancy's work, which is protecting the region's natural, agricultural and scenic heritage.
- Dr. Randy Runnels has been rehired by the FDEP as the manager of the Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves. He will provide a preliminary look at the challenges ahead.
- Ms. Kelli Levy, of Pinellas County Environment & Infrastructure, will present a proposal currently under development to reclassify the inland segment of Cross Bayou canal as an Urban Stormwater Conveyance.

**B. Clearinghouse Review Committee (CRC) - No Report**

**C. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – No Report**

**D. Emergency Management - No Report**

**E. Legislative Committee - Mayor Bob Minning**

In the last couple of months we have been working to seek the support from several state government associations regarding the state RPC appropriations funding. Scott Black gave a power point presentation to the League of Cities Legislative Committee. We have received League of Cities support for RPC funding as one of 10 legislative priorities being considered by one of the league's policy committees. The committee was only allowed to elevate two of the 10 priorities for the League's legislative platform and support for RPC funding did not rise to the top, but League staff indicated that even though it didn't make the legislative platform, they will continue to be supportive of RPC funding.

Support of RPC funding and opposition to efforts to prevent RPCs from providing services to their local governments made it into the Florida Association of Counties Legislative platform. Although not among their top three priorities, our issues are among their second tier of approximately 12 priorities.

The small County Coalition just added the following provision to its 2013 Legislative Priorities: "The Small County Coalition supports full funding of regional planning councils. RPCs provide planning and technical services and economic development support activities to local governments. RPC assistance is especially helpful to Florida's rural local governments."

We hope to get as many of the local municipalities and counties to provide resolutions in support of RPC funding. I would urge each of you to issue a resolution if you have not done so.

As previously reported, we have provided the Governor's office additional materials. Ron Book has not met with Deputy Chief of Staff Chris Finkbeiner yet, but he is in the process. We are also having the FRCA Policy Board meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee and should know more definitive information by then.

**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 - None**

**10. Executive/Budget Committee Report – Chair Bustle**

The Committee met this morning prior to the Council meeting to discuss the office space for lease. Staff has begun working with the original architect on maximizing the space for the best return on our investment. We also have an organization that is close to finalizing their decision to lease 3000 sq. ft. of the space.

Also discussed was the Executive Director’s annual evaluation. Once again Manny has provided exceptional leadership for the Council and its staff. Congratulations Manny, on a job well done.

The Committee also voted to provide the staff with an economic salary adjustment and pay incentive supplements for the first time in over 4 years. Many of you may not know that our staff has been reduced by 30% in the last 5 years. Our existing staff has continued to absorb those additional duties while maintaining exceptional work products. This, coupled with the fact that effective July 1, 2011, the employees were required to start contributing 3% toward the FRS Pension Plan. I would like to thank our staff for their dedication and loyalty to this Council. This action will be within the Personnel Line item approved in the FY 2013 Budget.

Mr. Pumariega thanked the staff for their extraordinary job in bringing additional funding to close the fiscal gap as a result of the reduction in the state funding. They have performed on a real high level over the last two years to maintain stability in the Council’s finances and their programs. I would also like to thank the board for their support of the staff.

**11. Chair’s Report - None**

**12. Executive Director’s Report**

**13. Outgoing Chair’s Report - Commissioner Bustle**

It has been an honor to serve as your Chair this past year. Since joining the Council I have had the pleasure of working with a great group of folks who are dedicated to their communities and this Council. It goes without saying, whenever an organization has the privilege to serve its citizen’s for 50 years, its endurance speaks to the dedication and purpose of its mission.

I would like to thank each of you for understanding the importance of coming together as a region and working beyond those jurisdictional boundaries. I would also like to thank you for graciously giving your time to serve your cities, counties, and the region. Each of you are leaders in your own communities and we are very lucky to have such a wide spectrum of expertise represented on this board.

I would like to thank my fellow officers, Mayor Minning and Mr. Nunez, for their expertise and dedication to this organization. I would also like to thank each of the staff of the regional planning council. Your years of tenure at the Council speak well of your abilities, dedication, and spirit. Manny and his staff are dedicated individuals who work hard to implement the Council’s mission. This is a small staff that does a tremendous amount of work. However, they continue to provide “top-notch” services to our constituents. It is because of the staff that this Council has become a leader among regional councils across the state of Florida and the nation. You deserve all the accolades you have received for the work you do.

As your Chair, it has been fulfilling to work with the Council and the staff in taking some of our important initiatives to the next level such as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 5-Year Plan, the Florida Energy Resiliency Strategy, the Statewide Storm Depth Analysis Program, and the Florida Broadband Planning project.

This year the Council also formed a new Regional Collaboration Committee with a mission to develop a process for assessing opportunities to collaborate on regional endeavors in the Tampa Bay area. We will be bringing our findings report to the Council in February.

In 2012, the Council hosted three milestone events in our 50<sup>th</sup> year and even had the honor of welcoming a new member government to the Council, the City of Zephyrhills. This past spring we hosted a very successful 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event and celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Future of the Region Awards. Thanks to your support we were able to partner with major corporations to make both events a memorable capstone to this celebratory year.

I was able to finish what Commissioner Dodson started back in 2009 - we hosted over 500 attendees at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual National Association of Regional Councils Annual Conference. This was a \$1.5 million dollar boost to our economy and it allowed us to shine in many ways in front of a national audience. I would like to thank the staff that served on the Planning Committee and those staff who provided presentations at the conference.

In closing, I would like to once again thank my fellow Council Members and the dedicated Council staff for the opportunity to serve as your Chair. It is my honor to pass the gavel to our new Chair, Mayor Bob Minning. I look forward to supporting the new Slate of Officers and continuing my service with this great organization.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Diane Corna, City Clerk for the City of Pinellas Park. She is becoming a tradition at our annual meeting. Since moving into our new facility, Ms. Corna has been gracious enough to administer the Oath of Office to our new officers for the past eight years.

**14. Installation of 2013 Slate of Officers**

Ms. Corna administered the Oath of Office to:  
Mayor Bob Minning, as Chair  
Commissioner Victor Crist, as Secretary/Treasurer  
Mr. Andy Nunez, incoming Vice Chair, had to leave the meeting earlier.

**15. Incoming Chair's Report - Chair Minning**

It is my pleasure as my first duty as Chair to present a token of appreciation to Ms. Diane Corna for taking time out of her busy schedule to administer the Oath of Office to the 2013 Slate of Officers. Ms. Corna was presented a snow globe for her efforts on our behalf.

My second duty is to thank and honor our immediate Past Chair, Commissioner Larry Bustle. Congratulations on your re-election to the Manatee County Commission. Throughout this past year, and throughout Commissioner Bustle's tenure with the Council, he has represented the Council with dignity and honor. Chair Minning presented a framed Neil Adamson signed print with the inscription "Commissioner Larry Bustle, Chair; For Dedicated Service; Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council; presented December 10, 2012."

Before I continue my remarks I would like to thank Mr. Andy Nunez for serving as our Vice Chair, and Commissioner Crist for serving as our Secretary/Treasurer. They are a true asset to this board.

Since joining the Council I have had the pleasure of observing and learning from several great leaders that held this position before me. People like Commissioner Black, Mr. Kersteen, Ms. Todd, Commissioner Mariano, Commissioner Dodson, and Commissioner Bustle. I would like to thank each of them for their dedicated service. Their contributions and support continue to elevate the Council to new heights regarding regional issues and regional leadership. As the Council embarks upon its 51<sup>st</sup> year, I look forward to working with each of you. 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. Most of you don't really realize the work that staff does. They are here 5 days a week, 8 hours a day. The agendas we get and the reviews that are put on the agenda are only a small fraction of what is done. From my own standpoint, please join in thanking them for all they do.

My goal as your Chair is to continue 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 a productive collaboration.

2012 was most certainly a busy year for the Council and 2013 is shaping up to be the same. Our work will continue on the Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategies, the Statewide Energy Assurance Strategies, and the Broadband Planning Pilot Project. We will also continue other important Council programs such as the Agency on Bay Management, the Regional Domestic Security Task Force, Emergency Preparedness, Economic Development, and Technical Assistance to our local governments. Updates and descriptions of these projects and programs are highlighted in this edition of Visions magazine.

I also look forward to the continued work of the Regional Collaboration Committee. Commissioner Crist, thank you for getting that committee kicked off. The Council and Chair Bustle has done a great job in bringing that forward. For those of you who aren't aware, there has been some really nice sessions on collaboration about various issues that affect the region. We will be meeting in January to finalize a Findings Report which will be brought to you for review in February. The next step is to see if we can initiate and affect some of those findings from the collaboration.

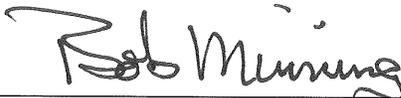
Another thing we will be doing, and everyone here will be participating, and that is the Initiative Plan. It is time to update this so in 2013 we will update the Strategic Plan for the Council. The tentative timing for that is a one day workshop, probably in September 2013. It's important to be pro-active. We will set forth the plans and strategies, goals and objectives that we want to accomplish, and then we have a benchmark. I endeavor to seek your support as we move forward.

As Mayor of a beach community, and as a member of this regional board, building a regional mass transit system needs to be a priority for our region. I know I am not alone in this thought, so my ultimate goal this year is to find a way for this board to make a positive impact toward this endeavor. We are hopeful that PSTA and HART can come together. We are hopeful that in Pinellas County, at least, that we can move forward on the proposed tax for 2014. It's not going to go anyplace without funding. We just need to be smart about how we go about the funding process so we can get results. I am hopeful, through our work on the Council and the Regional Collaboration Committee that we can make a contribution to building a regional, multi-modal transit system which in turn will build a strong and viable economy for the citizens of our region.

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

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: **February 4, 2013** at 10:00 a.m.



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Bob Minning, Chair



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Lori Denman, Recording Secretary