



Recap of the TBRPC Council Meeting

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

Meeting Date: June 9, 2014

❖ **TBRPC Principal Planner Betti Johnson Receives 2014 Governor's Award**

Betti Johnson recently received the 2014 Governor's Award. This is the top award given every year at the Governor's Hurricane Conference. She won the award for her 34 years of extraordinary contribution to Hurricane Planning in the State of Florida encompassing evacuation, mitigation, and recovery projects that have changed the way Florida views hurricane risks.

❖ **Council Remembers Former Executive Director Julia E. Greene**

Julia Greene passed away on May 31st after a long battle with cancer. Ms. Greene worked for the Council for 22 years where she climbed the ladder to become the Director of the Area Agency on Aging and eventually serving as the TBRPC Executive Director from 1986 to 1998. Julia was very passionate about improving the quality of life in the Tampa Bay region. Among her many accomplishments in growth management and transportation she was instrumental in the passage of two key legislations:

- The Florida surface water improvement and management act (AKA as the SWIM bill).
- And the Grizzle-Figg Bill requiring advanced wastewater treatment of all discharges to the Bay.

She was responsible for establishing the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act Program which operates through the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Julia was also part of a group that lead the effort to get federal designation to nominate Tampa Bay as a National Estuary Program. Under her watch in 1999 the Council started the signature campaign drive that led to the state legislature approving the "Tarpon Tag" license plate which provides funds for bay-related restoration and education projects. She also started the Future of the Region Awards Program. In March the Council celebrated its 22nd year and we had the privilege to recognize her at the luncheon event. At the national level she was Past President of the Executive Director's Board of the National Association of Regional Councils and also a past recipient of the National Walter Scheiber Award for regional planning. In 1992, Ms. Greene was named "One of Tampa Bay's Top 50 Most Influential Women." Julia mentored many in their jobs, career paths and had a positive influence on a lot of people. We will always remember all the contributions she made to our region.

❖ **Staff Provided a Review of the Council's Projects and Programs**

Council requested a review of primary projects and programs due to the large number of new Council members. Staff provided an overview of all Council programs with several in-depth presentations of programs of timely interest and current activities.

All presentations, pertinent links and detailed minutes of the meeting can be found on the Council website at www.tbrpc.org. 727.570.5151