

## Stormwater Management Public Education & Training Committee Meeting Summary

**Date:** July 21, 2020, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Zoom online web conference

**Meeting Facilitator:** CJ Reynolds, TBRPC, director of Resiliency and Engagement; Alana Todd, TBRPC, Environmental Planner

### **Participants:**

- TBRPC: CJ Reynolds, Alana Todd
- FDOT: John Iten, Anita Montjoy
- FWC: Ryan Druyor
- Bay Soundings: Vicki Parsons
- Pasco County: Christine Lynch, Kristen King (also with Keep Pasco Beautiful)
- Pinellas County: Joey Thames
- Hillsborough County: Garrison Beck
- City of Tampa: Heather Maggio
- City of Tarpon Springs: Ralph Oswald, Tony Mannello
- City of Dunedin: Whitney Marsh
- City of Clearwater: Sarah Kessler
- City of St. Petersburg: Michael Perry
- City of Largo: Christopher Benigni
- City of Indian Rocks: Dean Scharmen
- City of Plant City: John McGee
- City of Pinellas Park
- City of Seminole
- Town of Belleair: Michael Shumaker
- MOSI: Urmila Wadnerkar, Michelle Willis
- Tampa Bay Watch: Melanie Grillone
- Tampa Bay Estuary Program: Joe Whalen
- Keep Pinellas Beautiful: Stephanie Lawler
- Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful: Laura Riiska
- UF/IFAS Extension FFL: Doris Heitzmann, Paula Staples
- MacDill Airforce Base: Chris Sutton
- Public: John Cawthorn, Kyle Olejniczak (Jacobs)

Reynolds opened the meeting with welcome and introductions, including that of Alana Todd. Todd is the new Environmental Planner for the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, and she will be taking over as Chair of the committee. Todd reminded the committee to enter their contact information on a shared [google sheet](#) for information sharing and networking.

Todd notified the Committee that the application for the FY2021 stormwater education and outreach grant was available. Todd presented details of the grant, including new additions:

- New recommended target audiences - 1) construction and development industry; 2) Homeowner Associations; 3) lawn care and landscaping companies; 4) tourism and hospitality businesses/organizations.
- Recommendation for cross-jurisdictional collaboration among applicants
- Broader alignment of applications to other federal environmental strategies and goals

Applications were due on September 8, 2020; total grant funding: \$80,000; individual award ceiling: \$15,000; anticipated announcement of recipients: October 1, 2020.

Todd informed the Committee that all applicants are required to present their proposals at the next Stormwater Committee on September 15, 2020. Questions and grant applications should be sent to [alana@tbrpc.org](mailto:alana@tbrpc.org). More information could be found on the new grant website: <http://www.tbrpc.org/stormwatergrant/>.

Joe Whalen, Communication & Outreach Coordinator for the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, gave a presentation on EPA's Trash Free Waters initiative & grant program.

- Official project title: Expanding a Comprehensive Strategy to Create Trash-Free Waters Across the Gulf of Mexico Through a National Estuary Partnership
- TBEP was awarded \$492,829 for this 3-year project designed to: (1) Directly remove trash from our estuaries; (2) Expand the use of marine debris removal technologies (Water Goats, Litter Gitters & Sea Bins) and data collection efforts (ETAP) to inform trash MGMT & prevention policies; (3) Directly engage communities & businesses in trash removal activities and formulation of future trash prevention initiatives

Whalen notified the Committee that TBEP is currently seeking quotes for contractual services to aid in the procurements, deployment, and maintenance of marine debris reduction devices, as well as the routine reporting of mass or volume of trash removed within targeted watersheds utilizing the Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol (ETAP).

The Committee members discussed other items and announcements:

- Stephanie Lawler, Keep Pinellas Beautiful, discussed their new campaign –“ Pick-up Pinellas,” a new virtual campaign for people to conduct clean-ups in their area then post

pictures to social media. KPB will track that data. In addition, Lawler asked Committee members to share their truck wrap designs.

- Joey Thames, Pinellas County, informed the group that Melanie Weed would be the new Director of Environmental Manager for Pinellas County
- Chris Benigni, city of Largo, informed the group that he could present at a future meeting on cautionary tales and navigating changes in code ordinances
  - Reynolds described the usefulness of having some defined baselines of fines, and where things are managed and enforced across the region.
- Heather Maggio, city of Tampa, brought up the flyer insert that was presented at the last committee meeting. It was sent out with the water utility bill, but COVID distracted from that effort, which was sent in March. They had little traction, but she planned to create more utility inserts in the future.
- Whitney Marsh, city of Dunedin, informed the group of the first Commission reading of the new code addition for a stormwater enforcement ordinance. The next reading would take place on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, after which they could present the results to the group.

**Next Meeting Date(s)**

1. September 15, 2020