



Initiative:
Tampa Bay Federal Interagency Resource Exchange (FIRE)
Listening Session

Friday, February 28, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Lunch Provided)

How to Attend -

In-Person (Recommended):

RSVP for Lunch: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1234993963189?aff=oddtcreator>
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council - Council Chambers
[4000 Gateway Centre Blvd, Pinellas Park, FL 33782](#)

Virtually via Zoom (Register below):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/59KIOaKPRA2Q1736HEPdLA>

Meeting ID: 889 1576 9471 | Passcode: 085846

Purpose

The [Federal Economic Recovery Support Function Team](#), in partnership with the [Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council](#), is convening this listening session to:

- ✓ Gather and validate information on the impacts of Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton.
- ✓ Identify key recovery challenges and unmet needs faced by affected communities.
- ✓ Enable strategic conversations among local, state, and regional stakeholders and federal agencies to advance recovery and mitigation efforts.
- ✓ Set the framework for implementing goals, strategies and actions the region may want to pursue to achieve long-term economic recovery and resilience.

This session will also introduce the Tampa Bay region's [Disaster Recovery Grants Coordinator](#) and provide a networking opportunity for regional collaboration on state and federal grant funding to support recovery and resilience projects.

Participants will be asked to complete a [project worksheet](#) and submit it following the workshop. Please come prepared to discuss project ideas. Come prepared to engage in collaborative and end-goal conversations aimed at developing implementable and fundable projects.

Agenda

9:00 AM - Welcome and Introductions

Wren Krahl, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC), Executive Director

Greg Vaday, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Florida Economic Development Representative

Milton Cochran, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Econ RSF Field Coordinator/Economic Development Integrator

Federal and State Partner Introductions

9:20 AM - Today's Workshop Purpose

Greg Vaday and Sarah Vitale, TBRPC, Planning Director

9:45 AM - Moderated Discussions

Recovery Needs and Projects

A county round robin overview on impacts from Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton, unmet needs, and recurring impacts to critical infrastructure (roadways, stormwater, sewer, etc.), economic and businesses sector, housing, etc.

Infrastructure

A discussion to develop projects that address infrastructure planning and needs to assist with recovery and improve resilience to flooding, storm surge and other storm hazards.

Natural and Cultural Resources

A discussion on the value of natural and cultural resources to community resilience efforts and identification of projects to further assist resilience and recovery efforts.

Housing

A discussion on impacts to housing stock and projects that can advance housing recovery and future resiliency to flooding, storm surge and other factors.

Economic Development/Small Business

A discussion on economic and business impacts in our communities and identification of projects to assist business sector recovery and economic resilience.

11:45 AM - Discussion Summary & Next Steps

Sarah Vitale and Alison Prater, Disaster Recovery Grants Coordinator, TBRPC

12:00 PM - Lunch and Learn (Lunch provided to those who register in advance)

Q&A with Federal and State Agencies

State and Federal Partners will reflect on discussions and provide an opportunity for questions.

Visit the maps throughout the room to identify areas of flooding and damage and potential projects.

Conversation to prioritize the projects identified during moderated discussions and work through the needs and strategic direction to secure funding, partnerships, and outcomes for the top 1-2 projects. Federal and State Agencies are available to identify opportunities to advance projects.

1:00 - Adjourn