



City of Largo Agenda Item 15

Meeting Date
09/04/18

Presenter: Laura Thomas, Sustainability Coordinator

Department: AD – Administration

TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2223- ENDORSING THE CREATION OF THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL RESILIENCY COALITION AND THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The City of Largo’s Strategic Plan provides a vision for the City to be the community of choice in Tampa Bay and provide superior services with a strategic focus on sustainability, community pride and public health and safety. These efforts include the development of strategic, financially-sustainable organizational strategies.

In January of 2018, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) began an initiative to address resiliency issues for our collective communities including sea level rise, climate and hazard resiliency, salt water intrusion and local development. This initiative has evolved into the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition (TBRRC) which has a stated goal of advancing local and regional responses to, and preparations for, economic and social disruption that could occur from these perils. The TBRRC will also provide state and local agencies with access to technical assistance and support in addressing these issues while offering adaptation, mitigation and recovery strategies. The TBRRC has also worked to establish a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which includes scientific experts and stakeholders on the topics of sea level rise, climate change and resiliency.

The formation of the TBRRC will advance local and regional responses to regional hazards, coordinated regional planning efforts, sustainable planning practices and financial strategies which benefit local businesses, residents and organizations. These strategies also serve to develop local economies and develop equitable conditions for the community, particularly those most vulnerable across our region.

The formation and support of the TBRRC does not commit local resources or staffing to the Committee, but rather supports the formation, action plans, science-based decisions, legislative strategies, community involvement, regional cooperation and findings of the Committee.

Budgeted Amount: \$0.00 **Budget Page No(s):** N/A **Available Amount:** \$0.00 **Expenditure Amount:** \$0.00

Additional Budgetary Information: N/A

Funding Source(s): N/A **Sufficient Funds Available:** Yes No **Budget Amendment Required:** Yes No **Source:** N/A

City Attorney Reviewed: Yes No N/A **Advisory Board Recommendation:** For Against N/A **Consistent With:** Yes No N/A Sustainability Plan

Potential Motion/ Direction Requested: I MOVE TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2223.

Staff Contact: Laura Thomas, Sustainability Coordinator x7424 lthomas@largo.com

Attachments: Resolution No. 2223

RESOLUTION NO. 2223

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LARGO, FLORIDA, ENDORSING THE CREATION OF THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL RESILIENCY COALITION AND THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the City of Largo's Strategic Plan provides a vision for the City to be the community of choice in Tampa Bay, provide superior services and provide a strategic focus on sustainability, community pride and public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition has been formed to coordinate climate adaptation and mitigation activities across county lines, to advance local and regional responses to and preparations for challenges that may result from sea-level rise, storm surge or other climate impacts, and to provide state and local agencies with access to technical assistance and support in addressing the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay region has some of Florida's most remarkable beaches, parks, green spaces and rivers, which are closely coupled to the region's cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay region has approximately 4 million residents which represents approximately 19% of Florida's population, and is projected to exceed 5 million residents by 2040, representing more than \$2.5 billion annually of Gross Domestic Products, more than 37% of statewide economic output; and

WHEREAS, the resiliency of the Tampa Bay region's economic, environmental and social health relies on crucial coastal transportation infrastructure, including: roads, local mobility, rail systems, airports and seaports; and

WHEREAS, rising sea levels, intense rainfall, saltwater intrusion, increasing development and other stresses will compromise crucial drainage infrastructure and drinking water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition Members are committed to being resilient to changing climates, increased development, saltwater intrusion and other issues related to changing climates, and will consider adaptation and risk reduction strategies intended to ensure public safety and safeguard infrastructure, property, environmental assets, and basic quality of life for current and future residents and generations; and

WHEREAS, many of the activities undertaken to enhance resiliency will be concurrent with existing local efforts and strategies addressing aging infrastructure, emergency management and preparedness, public health, local business strategies, community pride, public health and safety and the long term success of local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, proactively preparing for changing communities, vulnerabilities and resiliency represents a cost effective strategy for organizational success, regional economy, maintaining and growing manufacturing, health care, business and tourism; and

WHEREAS, measures to mitigate hazard risks provide quantifiable and significant return on investment because resilient communities and region support a thriving economy and create opportunities to attract new businesses and economic investments; and

WHEREAS, local governments play a critical role in fostering social equity in the face of climate related challenges, including the potential for community displacement and creating an equitable and prosperous community particularly for those most vulnerable across our region; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition Members have joined in formation of the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition to coordinate their efforts and enhance their abilities to prepare, adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change, sea-level rise and progressive development to form a collaborative commitment in order to enhance collective abilities to prepare, adapt and mitigate for the effects of sea-level rise and climate change in individual communities and throughout the entire Tampa Bay region.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LARGO HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. Findings. The findings set forth above are adopted and set forth as the reasons and statement of purpose for the formation of the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition.

Section 2. Regional Cooperation. The Coalition Members shall work together to maximize their resiliency efforts by: identifying vulnerabilities to the effects of progressive development, sea-level rise, climate change, saltwater intrusion and similar effects in their communities; identifying common vulnerability assessment methodologies; planning for mitigation and adaptation actions that will enhance the resiliency of local communities; learning from each other and local prior efforts and planning documents; leveraging local resources; and pursuing public-private partnerships.

Section 3. Regional Resiliency Action Plan. The Coalition Members shall develop a Regional Resiliency Action Plan which shall include strategies for coordinated regional preparation for and adaption to rapidly changing global environment based on the mapping of projected sea-level rise and resulting amplification of localized impacts of hazards, and which shall identify funding strategies at the local, state and federal levels for mitigation and adaptations to deal with those impacts.

Section 4. Science Based Decisions. It is essential that the Coalition Members base their strategies and actions on sound science and technical data, and for this reason they shall work together to identify experts for guidance and shall use the regional recognized data as produced by the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel to assess vulnerability, inform planing efforts, and provide guidance on what projections should be incorporated into local planning efforts.

Section 5. Legislative Strategy. The Coalition Members shall develop a legislative strategy which includes a joint position statement recognizing the vulnerabilities of the Tampa Bay region to the impacts of various hazards, including climate change and sea-level rise, and includes recommendation for the allocation of state and federal resources, which may include the designation of the Tampa Bay region as uniquely vulnerable for the purpose of securing enhanced levels of federal participation and funding in region adaption and mitigation programs.

Section 6. Community Involvement. Recognizing the importance of involvement in these regional, cooperative efforts by all members of the community, the Coalition Members shall engage and involve local businesses, organizations, associations and individuals in developing policies and recommendation which will have the support and commitment of community members and organizations, which is essential for successful implementation.

Section 7. Intent. The Coalition Members each join the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition as an expression of their intent and commitment to work together on a regional level to identify and address the effects of hazards, including climate change and sea-level rise, but by joining this Coalition, the Coalition Members do not hereby commit local resources or staffing and acknowledge that the governing body of each Coalition Member retains that power and authority.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

CITY OF LARGO, FLORIDA

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

City Attorney