

**MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Bradenton Area Convention Center
Longboat Key Room
One Haben Boulevard; Palmetto, FL 34221
April 7, 2015**

Present were Commissioners:

Betsy Benac, Chairman
Vanessa Baugh, First Vice-Chairman
John R. Chappie, Second Vice-Chairman
Lawrence E. Bustle, Jr.
Robin DiSabatino
Carol Whitmore

Absent was:

Charles B. Smith, Third Vice-Chairman

Also present were:

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator
Mitchell O. Palmer, County Attorney
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor, Clerk of Circuit Court

Chairman Benac called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **WELCOME/AGENDA**



Members introduced themselves.

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2. **SEA LEVEL RISE**



Charlie Hunsicker, Parks and Natural Resources Director, introduced Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. As a coastal community it is important to properly plan for a long range program regarding water levels rising.

Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) used a slide presentation to review sea level projections, proper planning and recommendations. The National Climate Assessment is released every four years. Global temperatures have been rising for over a degree over the past 100 years, and is expected to rise three to four degrees over the next 100 years. Sea Level rise is affected by rising temperatures and effects coastal communities. Sea levels have increased due to volume expansion and melting of the arctic ice. Ms. Burke discussed the range and effects of sea level rise. The Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel has been formed to help local governments develop working objectives. The Advisory Panel reviewed existing information for tide gauges around the area. Recommendations were made based on the NOAA projections for sea level rise, depicting a wide range of scenarios all the way through the year 2100. Efforts are being made throughout the region, and a draft recommendation will be presented at the One Bay Resilient Communities in May, 2015.

Rob Brown, Parks and Natural Resources explained the levels and measurements used on the Global Mean Sea Level Rise. The charting began in 1992 as a base level zero, therefore the measurements prior to 1992 are listed as negative.

Mr. Hunsicker discussed various effects of sea level rise to coastal communities and the issues the barrier islands may face.

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3. **2015 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

BCC MB 2015/126

Nick Azzara, Information Outreach, reported at this time only 14 Bills have passed. The Florida primary date has been moved back. Bills that have not been heard yet, are likely dead at this time. The largest issue facing the Legislator is Health Care funding. Medicaid and Medicare cover approximately 40 percent of the budget. The Low Income Pool will not be extended this year and Governor Rick Scott has rescinded his support of Medicaid expansion. Other issues that remain unresolved include standardized testing, Amendment 1 Florida Forever funding, and packages for tax cuts.

 Issues that are important locally are utility line relocations (HB 391), where a local government must reimburse a private utility company when they have to move lines and Members are opposed to changing the name of State College of Florida.

Discussion ensued regarding medical marijuana, and the reception by legislators to local governments, and law enforcement special assessments.

4. **MILLENNIAL HOUSING TRENDS**

 Cheri Coryea, Neighborhood Services Director, introduced the Millennial team.

Anisley Mena, Neighborhood Services, Danielle Walker, Building and Development Services, Simone Peterson, Neighborhood Services, and Ogden Clark, Neighborhood Services utilized a slide presentation regarding Millennials and their standing and impact to society. Research has shown that Manatee County lacks housing choices that are affordable and desirable. Manatee County is 42 on the list for Best City for Millennial job seekers. Current housing options, placemaking and the needs of young professionals were discussed. They discussed civic engagement of Millennials and the benefits to Manatee County and discussed an event April 17, 2015, meant to engage the community and what the future of Manatee County should look like. Findings from the event will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on May 5, 2015.

Discussion ensued regarding considering the Millennials in decisions being made regarding housing and development, and past trends in housing, Baby Boomers and Millennials think similarly, Downtown Bradenton infill apartments, walk-ability, and income levels in the county.

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5. **TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF**

Mayor Jack Duncan, Town of Longboat Key, distributed a handout regarding traffic congestion and a letter from the Hideaway Bay Homeowners Association regarding the increase in congestion, especially during the season. The Town of Longboat Key is requesting that a regional barrier island-to-mainland mobility analysis be conducted to identify small and large system improvements that will help address the seasonal congestion. The Town of Longboat Key is asking for Manatee County, Sarasota County, and the Cities support their request for the Florida Department of Transportation conduct this analysis.

 Discussion ensued regarding making the request to the Metropolitan Planning Organization, traffic on and off the islands, and possible solutions, similar issues north of

River as well, access for emergency vehicles, continue engagement throughout the year not just during the season, and other transportation alternatives.

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6. **COMMENTS/ISSUES**



Commissioner Whitmore commented on the origins of the Council of Governments and the format.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Benac adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Minutes Approved: May 5, 2015