

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members AGENDA ITEM 6

From: Staff

Date: September 18, 2015 Council Meeting

Subject: History of the Everglades and Central and South Florida Flood Control Project –
Presentation by Robert J. Ulevich

Introduction

As part of Council's scheduled four-part educational series on regional water resource issues, Robert J. Ulevich, long-time senior water resources project/program manager for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), will be leading Council in a discussion about the history of the Everglades and the Central and South Florida Flood Control Project (CSFFCP). His lecture will provide some historical perspective about the original Everglades system and how past modifications to the system under the CSFFCP and recent restoration efforts have affected the region.

Mr. Ulevich began work with the SFWMD in 1972, where he served in numerous project management capacities, including direct and "hands-on" leadership roles in projects for the restoration of the Kissimmee River Valley and the Everglades. Upon his departure from the SFWMD, Mr. Ulevich served 14 years as the Executive Director of both the St. Johns Improvement District and the Sebastian River Improvement District in Indian River County. He is recognized as the father of the concept referred to as "water farming" and a leading advocate for Indian River Lagoon restoration through the pioneering of regional water storage attenuation systems and the hydraulic reconnection of the SFWMD and the St. Johns River Water Management District. He is also recognized for his work on Basin Management Action Plans, numeric nutrient criteria (Total Maximum Daily Loads), and for his early efforts as a contributor to the development of the Best Management Practices Manual governing citrus in the State of Florida.

Recommendation

For information, education, and discussion purposes.