

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members AGENDA ITEM 5
From: Staff
Date: March 8, 2019
Subject: Resilient Coastlines Program – Presentation by Whitney Gray, Florida Coastal Office, Department of Environmental Protection

Background

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is committed to marshaling resources to prepare Florida’s coastal communities and habitats for the effects of climate change, especially rising sea levels. Through the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program, DEP continues its efforts to help ensure collaboration among Florida’s coastal communities, and to offer technical assistance and funding to coastal communities dealing with increasingly complex flooding, erosion and habitat shifts.

Local communities can assess vulnerabilities to projected increases in coastal flooding and erosion and can develop strategies to make affected areas more resilient. Protecting and strengthening natural infrastructure also can help. Coral reefs, mangroves, oyster reefs and marshes are our first lines of defense. The Florida Coastal Office is committed to helping prepare Florida’s communities and habitats for changes resulting from sea level rise by providing funding and technical assistance to prepare Florida’s coastal communities and continue to promote and ensure a coordinated approach to sea level rise planning among state, regional and local agencies.

At staff’s invitation, Ms. Whitney Gray, Program Administrator of the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program in the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection of DEP will provide Council with a presentation about the program.

Recommendation

For information purposes only.

Council Action – March 15, 2019

Council received a presentation by Whitney Gray, Florida Coastal Office, Department of Environmental Protection (copy attached).