

**RESOLUTION 13-093**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING AND MAINTAINING FUTURE STATE FUNDING FOR THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is an association of local governments and gubernatorial representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council brings together governments to coordinate planning for the region's future and provides an opportunity for sharing solutions among the 23 jurisdictions in the Tampa Bay region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council encompasses the counties of Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas, which are required by law to exercise regional cooperation through membership on the Council; and includes membership of the cities of Bradenton, Clearwater, Dade City, Dunedin, Gulfport, Largo, New Port Richey, Oldsmar, Palmetto, Pinellas Park, Plant City, Safety Harbor, St. Petersburg, St. Pete Beach, Seminole, South Pasadena, Tampa, Tarpon Springs, Temple Terrace, Treasure Island and Zephyrhills; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, are federally designated economic development districts and promote economic development in conjunction with local economic development organizations, provide access to federal economic development funding, and provide technical assistance to local governments, private businesses and neighborhood-based organizations with respect to the creation and expansion of infrastructure and jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, have prepared five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies using the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars as an organizing framework to help implement the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development and meet the Governor's job creation goals; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, use econometric modeling to provide objective economic impact analyses on policy and investment decisions in support of local economic development organizations, helping them create jobs and invest in local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, prepare grant applications for federal and state economic development and job creation projects at the request of local economic development organizations and local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, convene community leaders to develop regional visions that link business development, job creation, infrastructure, environment, land use, and transportation into long-term investment plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the state appropriation for regional planning councils has been vetoed for the past two years, negatively affecting the ability of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to address problems of greater-than-local concern, provide technical assistance to the local governments and economic development organizations in its region, and begin implementation of the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:**

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida hereby supports restoring state funding for Florida's 11 regional planning councils, including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, in recognition of their valuable economic development role within their respective regions and to the State of Florida.

Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, urges Governor Rick Scott to recognize the contribution of Florida's 11 regional planning councils to his job creation goals and partnership with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in the development and implementation of the State Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

Section 3. The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, urges Governor Rick Scott to support and restore funding for Florida's 11 regional planning councils.

Section 4. The Clerk shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to Governor Rick Scott, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

**ADOPTED WITH A QUORUM PRESENT AND VOTING THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2013.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: Larry Bustle  
Larry Bustle, Chairman



**ATTEST:  
Clerk of Circuit Court**

By: Chicki James  
Deputy Clerk