

AGENDA
RESTORE ACT WORKING GROUP
22211 US Hwy 19 N, ERB (Bldg #1), RM A230
MAY 28, 2014, 2-4:30 PM

Meeting Objectives: Review and approve the Pinellas County Direct Component RESTORE Act Project Submittal Document.

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS – Kelli Levy
 2. APPROVAL OF APRIL 23, 2014 MEETING SUMMARY – Lindsay Cross
 3. OVERVIEW OF U.S. TREASURY RULES FOR DIRECT COMPONENT – Dave McCrea, Assistant County Attorney
 4. PUBLIC COMMENT – Lindsay Cross
 5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PINELLAS COUNTY RESTORE ACT DIRECT COMPONENT PROJECT SUBMITTAL DOCUMENT - Lindsay Cross, Kelli Levy
- Action Recommended: Approve the Pinellas County RESTORE Act Direct Component Project Submittal document and recommend the document be incorporated into a County RESTORE Act submittal website as online submittal forms or forms to be downloaded and returned to the County.
6. PROJECT SUBMITTAL PERIOD – Lindsay Cross
 - a. County staff recommends a 3-month submittal period
 7. NEXT STEPS – Kelli Levy

NEXT MEETING - The June 25th meeting, if needed, will be in first floor conference room PCC in the same building (Emergency Response Building (ERB)).

**The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived
Economies of the Gulf Coast Act of 2012
(RESTORE Act) Working Group Meeting Minutes**

RESTORE Act Working Group (WG) team members met on **April 23rd, 2014** at 2:00 p.m. at 22211 US Hwy 19, N in Bldg. #1 in the third of a series of meetings facilitated by **Lindsay Cross** of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program designed to bring together community members to provide input and recommendations for the use of Direct Component RESTORE Act dollars by Pinellas County.

RESTORE Act Working Group Members:

present:	Frank Chivas	Baystar Restaurants
present:	Peter Clark	Tampa Bay Watch
present:	Mike Colby	Clearwater Marine Association & Gulf Charter Fisherman's Assoc.
present:	Libby Fetherston	Ocean Conservancy
present:	Carlos Frey	City of St. Petersburg, Engineering & Capital Improvements
present:	Cathy Harrelson	Gulf Restoration Network & Saint Petersburg Sustainability Council
present:	Mark Hafen	USF School of Geosciences
absent:	Mark Luther	USF College of Marine Science
present:	Bob McConnell	Tampa Bay Water
absent:	Bob Minning	Mayor of Treasure Island & Barrier Islands BIG C representative
absent:	Dennis O'Hern	Fishing Rights Alliance & FL Skin Divers Association
present:	Ernst Peebles	USF College of Marine Science
present:	Mark Rachal	Audubon Society and FL Coastal Island Sanctuaries
present:	Randy Runnels	FDEP, Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves under FL Coastal Office
present:	Elliot Shoberg	Stormwater Utility Manager, City of Clearwater
present:	David White	National Wildlife Federation

Facilitator:

present:	Lindsay Cross	Tampa Bay Estuary Program
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Staff Members Present:

Andy Squires	Coastal & Freshwater Resources Manager: Lead RESTORE Planning Mgr.
Mary Russell	Pinellas County Natural Resources, Stormwater Management Administration
Liz Freeman	Pinellas County Sustainable Planning and Development
Libby Carnahan	UF/IFAS Extension Marine Agent

Public Present:

Doug Robison
Mike Walters

Discussion of Agenda Items

1. Andy Squires welcomed **Mike Walters** from DEI's Engineering and Technical Services Department.
2. It was moved by **Ernst Peebles** and seconded by **Bob McConnell** to approve the March 5th Meeting Minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.
3. No public comments were heard.
4. After discussion, it was moved by **Peter Clark** and seconded by **David White** to approve the COUNTY RESTORE GOALS & PRIORITIES as amended and present them to the County Commission for their approval. The goals and priorities are for projects to be funded through the "Direct Component" RESTORE Act allocation. The motion passed unanimously.
5. After discussion, it was moved by **Peter Clark** and seconded by **Ernst Peebles** to approve the PROJECT SELECTION AND RANKING PROCESS as amended for presentation to the BCC for their approval.

6. NEXT STEPS

Andy Squires will present the County RESTORE Goals and Priorities as well as the Project Selection and Ranking proposed process to the County Commission for their approval on May 20, 2014.

Upon approval of the Goals & Priorities and the Project Selection & Ranking by the BCC, Andy Squires will compile a draft of the web submittal portal for presentation to the RESTORE Act Working Group for input and approval.

The target date for the next RESTORE Act Working Group meeting is May 28th.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

PINELLAS COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT SELECTION & RANKING PROCESS

(Approved by the Pinellas County Board of County Commission May 20, 2014)

COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT GOALS

The Pinellas County Board of County Commission has adopted the following goals for use of RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. Projects and programs to implement these goals, to the extent feasible, should (1) provide and/or contribute to countywide and/or regional environmental and/or economic benefits, and (2) utilize a collaborative approach emphasizing environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.

1. All projects must benefit the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem through one or more of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's five goals:
 - A. Restore and Conserve Habitat,
 - B. Restore Water Quality,
 - C. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources,
 - D. Enhance Community Resilience,
 - E. Build and Revitalize the Gulf Economy.
2. Projects may also support, further, or implement goals as identified in the Future Land Use and Quality Communities; Natural Resource Conservation and Management; Coastal Management; Recreation, Open Space and Culture; and Economic Elements of the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan
http://www.pinellascounty.org/Plan/comp_plan/comp-plan.pdf

RESTORE ACT ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

1. Restoration/protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources
3. Implementation of Federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
4. Workforce development and job creation
5. Improvements to or on State parks in coastal areas affected by Deepwater Horizon oil spill
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
8. Promotion of Gulf Coast Region tourism, including recreational fishing
9. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvesting from the Gulf Coast Region

COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT PRIORITIES (not in order of priority)

- a. Protect and restore native habitats
- b. Provide stormwater quality improvements
- c. Create policies, programs, and/or mechanisms to remediate environmental and/or economic damages
- d. Create policies, programs, and/or mechanisms to protect against future environmental and/or economic vulnerability
- e. Provide climate change/sea-level rise planning, adaptation and/or related community engagement
- f. Provide flood and storm protection to infrastructure and other publically owned assets that consider resilience and changing sea levels
- g. Implement or further actions in the Pinellas County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan
- h. Diversify and improve the economy including tourism
- i. Promote sustainable recreational fishing and consumption of seafood dependent on Gulf ecosystem, and/or protect or promote working waterfronts

PROJECT SELECTION & RANKING PROCESS

The following process is proposed to select and rank submitted projects. The process may need to be revised to comply with the final Treasury rules that have not yet been released.

Step 1. Determine which projects are eligible for RESTORE Act funding under the Direct Component.

Projects eligible include those that meet all four of the following criteria:

1. Within Pinellas County or adjacent surface and Gulf waters, or projects with an identified and strong benefit to the County.
2. Addressing one or more of the five Restoration Council Goals.
3. Addressing one or more RESTORE Act eligible activities.
4. Projects that are not fully funded.

Step 2. Assign scores for each project using criteria and suggested guidelines.

	CRITERIA	SCORE	SUGGESTED GUIDELINES
1	Value of project in meeting Restoration Council goal(s)	1 – 3	The degree to which or how well the project meets one or more of the Council's five goals. Consider cost to benefit as part of value level score. 1 pt: Low value anticipated 2 pts: Medium value anticipated 3 pts: High value anticipated
2	Number of Restoration Council goals clearly addressed	1 – 2	A project that addresses multiple Council goals will receive a higher score. 1 pt: Addresses 1 Restoration Council goal 2 pts: Addresses 2 or more Restoration Council goals
3	Value of project in meeting RESTORE Act eligible activity(ies)	1 – 3	The degree to which or how well the project meets one or more of the RESTORE Act eligible activities. Consider cost to benefit as part of value level score. 1 pt: Low value anticipated 2 pts: Medium value anticipated 3 pts: High value anticipated
4	Number of RESTORE Act eligible activities clearly addressed	1 - 2	A project that addresses multiple RESTORE Act eligible activities will receive a higher score for this criterion. 1 pt: Addresses 1 eligible activity 2 pts: Addresses 2 or more eligible activities
5	Value of project in meeting RESTORE Act Pinellas County priority(ies)	0 – 3	The degree to which or how well the project meets one or more of the Pinellas County's priorities. Consider cost to benefit as part of value level score. 0 pt: Does not address any County priorities 1 pt: Low value anticipated 2 pts: Medium value anticipated 3 pts: High value anticipated
6	Number of RESTORE Act County priorities clearly addressed	0 – 3	A project that addresses multiple County priorities will receive a higher score for this criterion. 0 pt: Does not address any County priorities 1 pt: Addresses 1 County priority 2 pts: Addresses 2 or more County priorities 3 pts: Addresses 3 or more County priorities
7	Provide countywide and/or regional benefits?	1 – 3	The geographical scope of the project. 1 pts: Benefits 1 jurisdiction, or no portions of unincorporated County 2 pts: Benefits 2-4 jurisdictions 3 pts: Benefits ≥5 jurisdictions or all of unincorporated County; and/or highly supports regional efforts

8	Utilizes a collaborative approach incorporating partnerships	0 – 1	The degree to which the project involves multiple city, county, or regional partners. 0 pt: No partners or 1 partner included 1 pt: 2 or more partners included
9	Will strongly support and further County Comprehensive Plan Element goal attainment as identified in the overarching project goals	0 – 2	0 pt: No or low level of support of County Comp Plan goal(s) 1 pt: Moderate support of County Comp Plan goal(s) 2 pts: High/very strong support of County Comp Plan goal(s)
10	Long-term project benefits	1 – 3	1 pt: Short term benefits anticipated (<5 years) 2 pt: Medium term benefits anticipated (5-10 years) 3 pt: Long term benefits anticipated (>10 years)
11	Matching Funding	0 – 2	0 pt: no matching funds secure 1 pt: at least 25% matching funds secured 2 pts: at least 50% matching funds secured
	TOTAL POINTS PER PROJECT	6 – 27	

Step 3. Identify early action projects that can be completed within 5 years

Step 4. Identify a per project funding cap if needed.

The need to institute a project funding cap will depend upon the amount of funding available, the total funding amount requested, and Board of County Commissioner preference.

PINELLAS COUNTY RESTORE ACT DIRECT COMPONENT PROJECT SUBMITTAL

Last revised 5-23-14

Dear Pinellas County Partners:

The Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund is anticipated to provide funds to five Gulf Coast States to restore and offset the environmental and economic impacts associated with the 2010 Deep Water Horizon oil spill. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has provided a summary of the RESTORE Act passed in 2012 at the following link:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/projects_restore_act.htm

Pinellas County is requesting ideas and proposals for projects within the County and/or its adjacent bay, coastal, and Gulf waters that will benefit the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. Submitted ideas and project proposals must address one or more of the five Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council goals and one or more RESTORE Act eligible activities. Additional ranking points will be awarded for how well and how many Pinellas County RESTORE act project priorities are addressed. The final set of selected and prioritized projects will form the basis for the County's RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plan (MYIP). The MYIP is targeted for use of the RESTORE Act funds to be equally allocated to the five Gulf coast states whereby there will be a direct funding allocation to Pinellas County. This funding source will be termed the Direct Component or Pot #1 funding source. Project ideas and project proposals will be reviewed by County staff and the County's RESTORE Act Working Group. Project ideas without a corresponding proposal will be considered for development into project proposals by County staff.

Project proposals submitted by _____ will be considered for the inclusion into the initial MYIP. Projects will be selected and ranked according to the Pinellas County Board of County Commission (BCC) approved project selection and ranking process. The final set of selected and ranked projects will be approved by the BCC prior to incorporation into a MYIP. The MYIP is required to undergo at least a 30-day public review period prior to consideration and final approval by the United States Treasury (Treasury).

The County must secure a grant from the Treasury for each project listed in the MYIP before funding becomes available. Consequently, final proposals with additional information from each applicant may be required to prepare grant funding requests to the Treasury after their approval of the MYIP.

Projects submitted to the County for Direct Component (Pot #1) funding may also qualify for other RESTORE Act funding sources and can be submitted through the State of Florida's online submittal form at the link below.

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/files2/benefit/Project_Submittal_Form.pdf

PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTAL FORM

If you would like to submit one or more project ideas, please describe each project by responding to the questions below. Please complete a separate set of responses for each project idea.

- 1. Your Name and Contact information:**
- 2. Which of the following Restoration Council goals will be addressed:**
 - A. Restore and Conserve Habitat
 - B. Restore Water Quality
 - C. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources
 - D. Enhance Community Resilience
 - E. Build and Revitalize the Gulf Economy
- 3. Describe the project and why you think it is appropriate for RESTORE Act funding under the Direct Component funds that will be available to Pinellas County.**
- 4. What organization(s) or government entity would be most appropriate to do the project?**
- 5. How long would the project take to complete?**
- 6. What would the approximate cost or range of costs be to complete the project?**

PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL FORM

Projects submitted by _____ will be eligible for inclusion in the initial MYIP.

Please read through all the questions before beginning.

- Submit one form per project.
 - Take as much space as needed for each question, but please keep responses as focused as possible.
 - Please e-mail completed forms to _____ at _____. **THIS WILL ONLY APPLY IF AN ONLINE SUBMITTAL FORM CANNOT BE CREATED**
 - Once your Form is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation email from Pinellas County.
-

Project Name:

Contact Information (Include at least one name, phone number, email address, and organization name, if applicable):

Project Location (as applicable, describe the location, attach a map and indicate the city, longitude/latitude, and watershed):

Project Description

Summarize the project in two (2) pages or less (12 point Times New Roman font) and include responses to each of the following sections in the summary.

- **Project Description** – a concise description of the essential elements of the project (Include what is proposed, major project tasks, project duration, and why it should be done).
- **Project Manager and Key Project Team Members** - include credentials and experience doing similar work
- **Economic and/or Environmental Benefits** - Describe environmental and/or economic benefits of the project
- **Technical Feasibility** - Describe technologies and relevant past experience or proven success with similar projects
- **Public Acceptance** - Describe any known or potential public approval or opposition to the project

Restoration Council Goals Addressed:

(Criteria 1 and 2)

List which of the following goal(s) will be addressed and how each goal will be addressed.

- A. Restore and Conserve Habitat
- B. Restore Water Quality
- C. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources
- D. Enhance Community Resilience
- E. Build and Revitalize the Gulf Economy

RESTORE Act Eligible Activities Addressed:

(Criteria 3 and 4)

List which of the following activities will be addressed and how each activity will be addressed.

1. Restoration/protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources
3. Implementation of Federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
4. Workforce development and job creation
5. Improvements to or on State parks in coastal areas affected by Deepwater Horizon oil spill
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
8. Promotion of Gulf Coast Region tourism, including recreational fishing
9. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvesting from the Gulf Coast Region

RESTORE Act Pinellas County priorities addressed:

(Criteria 5 and 6)

List which of the following priorities will be addressed and how each priority will be addressed.

- a. Protect and restore native habitats
- b. Provide stormwater quality improvements
- c. Create policies, programs, and/or mechanisms to remediate environmental and/or economic damages
- d. Create policies, programs, and/or mechanisms to protect against future environmental and/or economic vulnerability
- e. Provide climate change/sea-level rise planning, adaptation and/or related community engagement
- f. Provide flood and storm protection to infrastructure and other publically owned assets that consider resilience and changing sea levels
- g. Implement or further actions in the Pinellas County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan
- h. Diversify and improve the economy including tourism
- i. Promote sustainable recreational fishing and consumption of seafood dependent on Gulf ecosystem, and/or protect or promote working waterfronts

Region or Geographic Area Impacted by Project

(Criterion 7)

Provide a description of the project area or region in which environmental or economic benefits will be realized. Be as specific as possible by listing cities or geographical boundaries and why.

Describe how the project will utilize a collaborative approach that incorporates partnerships, if applicable.

(Criterion 8)

List any project partners and briefly describe their involvement and contribution to the project.

Describe how the project will support, further, or help implement one or more Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan Element goal(s) as identified in the overarching project goals, if applicable. Clearly list each Comprehensive Plan Element goal addressed.

(Criterion 9)

Link to Applicable Comprehensive Plan Element Goals: [PUT PDF LINK HERE](#)

Describe the benefits the project will provide, for how long, and why:

(Criterion 10)

Benefits may be economic, social, and/or environmental. Explain how the effectiveness of benefits will or could be identified, assessed, and measured. Describe and quantify environmental and/or economic benefits as applicable [e.g., area restored (acres, linear feet), improved ecosystem services, jobs created/preserved, pollutants and/or nutrients removed (e.g., kg, pounds, tons)].

Other funding

(Criterion 11)

Indicate:

- The amount and percent of the total project cost secured and the source of each matching fund secured
- If matching funds are not secured, specify the amount of matching funds requested or expected
- The date the amount of secured funds will be known

Readiness for Implementation

(Step 3)

Complete the following:

- Will the project be completed within 5 years from date of submittal? (*Yes or No*)
- Identify each project milestones and proposed duration (no. of months) to complete each step and the total number of months or years to complete the project.
- How long before the project can start after funds are available (months)?
- Describe project design work, permit requirements and hurdles, and/or permitting that is in progress (*attach applicable permits or design work*)
- Describe any issues or reasons that may delay project start or completion.

Estimated Project Costs (*Describe the estimated costs of the project, including any assumptions for contingency and ongoing operations/maintenance. In addition, complete and submit the Cost Appendix Sheet associated with this Form*):

Project Cost:

Contingency Cost:

Annual O&M Costs:

Provide any additional information that you believe is pertinent to the project

Please attach any maps, designs, drawings, photos, or background resources that may assist in completely and accurately understanding the project:

Cost Estimate Sheet

COST ITEM	COST ESTIMATE
Planning	
Contracts	
Feasibility	
Engineering, Design, Land Rights, & Bid Prep	
Restoration Plan	
Site Visits & Cost of Site Selection	
Administration, Overhead, and Indirect	
Other	
Planning Subtotal:	
Construction	
Contracts	
Administration & Mobilization/Demobilization	
Other	
Construction Subtotal:	
Monitoring	
Contracts	
Data Collection	
Monitoring Administration	
Other	
Monitoring Subtotal:	
Project Costs	
Supervision	
Subtotal	
Contingency	
PROJECT TOTAL	

Estimated Costs by Year

Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	
PROJECT TOTAL	