

# SEA-LEVEL RISE IN TAMPA: A POLICY APPROACH

FUNDED BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2021**

**9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

**REGISTER ONLINE:**

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6960501652163916044>





## Sea Level Rise In Tampa: A Policy Approach

The City of Tampa has been awarded a \$75k grant from The Florida Resilient Coastlines Program (FRCP) to study the impacts of sea level rise on our community and to identify key recommendations for resilience planning. With the grant, the Florida Center for Community Design and Research will complete an analysis of current land use, zoning, and building regulations and recommend strategies to prepare for projected sea level rise impacts.

This webinar will inform community stakeholders of the project and of the potential implications. We have assembled a great list of local and national experts on sea level rise to support our efforts. The agenda is found on the next page and will include session on:

- The State of Sea Level Rise In Tampa Bay
- Why Should We Be Concerned?
- What Areas of the City are most at risk to Sea Level Rise?
- What can we learn from other communities?
- Regulatory options in response to Sea Level Rise

**More information:** [tampa.gov/city-planning/sea-level-rise-study](https://tampa.gov/city-planning/sea-level-rise-study)

# AGENDA

## Sea Level Rise In Tampa: A Policy Approach

January 12, 2021 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

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<b>9:00 AM – 9:15 AM</b>	<b>Opening &amp; Welcome</b>	Randy Goers Director of City Planning
<b>9:15 AM – 9:35 AM</b>	<b>State of Sea Level Rise</b>  Maya will present an overview of Sea Level Rise projections for the Tampa Bay region as recommended by the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel.	Maya Burke Tampa Bay Estuary Program
<b>9:35 AM – 9:55 AM</b>	<b>Why Should We Be Concerned?</b>  This session will provide a summary of the ways in which sea level rise will impact our community.	Forbes Tompkins The Pew Charitable Trusts
<b>9:55 AM – 10:20 AM</b>	<b>Sea Level Rise In Tampa</b>  Maps of future sea level rise projections will be presented showing which areas of the city are at most risk and potentially when impacts might occur.	Brian Cook Florida Center of Community Design & Research
<b>10:20 AM – 10:40 AM</b>	<b>Success Stories</b>  Andy will present lessons from Virginia, South Carolina and Louisiana as examples that could be pursued in Tampa.	Andy Sternad Waggoner and Ball
<b>10:40 AM – 11:00 AM</b>	<b>Challenges &amp; Opportunities in Tampa</b>  Brian will discuss potential land use approaches and regulations that could help mitigate the potential impacts.	Brian Cook Florida Center of Community Design & Research
<b>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>Discussion Forum</b>  Industry leaders discuss what they've heard and provide insights into how to create a consensus.  Chris Ahern, Applied Technology & Management Chris Zambito, Atkins Global Daniel Parsons, Atkins Global Heidi Stiller, NOAA Jake Cremer, Stearns Weaver Jennifer Motsinger, Tampa Bay Builders Association	Taryn Sabia, Moderator USF School of Architecture
<b>12:00 PM – 12:30 PM</b>	<b>Questions &amp; Next Steps</b>	Randy Goers Director of City Planning

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# SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

## Sea Level Rise in Tampa: A Policy Approach

January 12, 2021 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

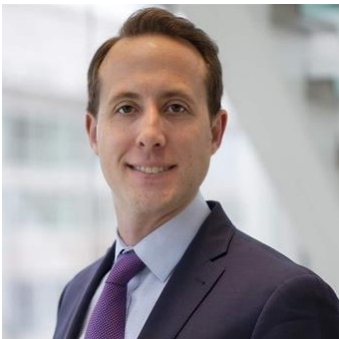
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**Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program**

Maya is the Assistant Director of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. She is responsible for strategic planning, grants management, and implementation reporting for the benefit of a healthy bay; she distills Tampa Bay-specific research for a broader audience; and facilitates working groups, including the Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium and the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel. Maya has spent 15 years working in water resource management and environmental land use planning. Prior to working at the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, Maya worked for the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. She is a graduate of New College of Florida and a native Floridian.

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**Forbes Tompkins, The Pew Charitable Trust**

Forbes manages the federal policy portfolio of Pew's flood-prepared communities initiative, which works to reform flood policy to better prepare people and property for future risks. In this role, he oversees the development of innovative policies that can make our nation's infrastructure more resilient to floods, reduce disaster damages, modernize the National Flood Insurance Program, and promote nature-based solutions. He also leads Pew's call on behalf of mayors, state legislators, and governors for the federal government to prioritize flood resilience as the United States works to modernize its crumbling infrastructure.

Before joining Pew, Tompkins was a research associate at the World Resources Institute, where he analyzed the effects of rising sea level and heavy precipitation on communities, local response efforts, and the need for national policy to mitigate damage. He also held positions at the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development and on Capitol Hill as an environmental science and policy expert. Tompkins holds a bachelor's degree in meteorology from Florida State University and master's degrees in meteorology from the Florida Institute of Technology and energy policy and climate from Johns Hopkins University.

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**Brian Cook, MLA, ASLA, Florida Center for Community Design & Research**

Brian is an assistant research professor in the Florida Center for Community Design and Research at the University of South Florida. He is also a registered landscape architect with 15 years of experience. As an educator, Brian has focused on landscape and urban design while teaching at the University of Colorado Boulder, University of Georgia and now at the University of South Florida. His work and research is focused on the site-specific nature of landscape as well as issues of coastal resiliency and infrastructure.

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### **Andy Sternad, Waggonner and Ball**

Andy is an architect and urban designer and a leader in Waggonner & Ball's resilience practice. He focuses on creating water design strategies at urban and building scales, seeking holistic solutions that reinforce character and addressing issues of climate, ecology, economy, and people. He is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis and the Yale School of Architecture.

Andy was a key participant in the New Orleans Dutch Dialogues, Waggonner & Ball's novel collaboration between Dutch and American engineers, designers, and planners to re-envision the city's relationship to water after Hurricane Katrina that has since been refined and replicated in Virginia, Connecticut, Texas and South Carolina. Currently Andy manages the firm's work on the Isle de Jean Charles resettlement in Louisiana, a first-of-its-kind effort in the U.S. to relocate an entire coastal community. He also manages the firm's work in Charleston, analyzing land and water impacts for the City's comprehensive plan update and advising the City on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' study for storm surge protection.



### **Taryn Sabia, Florida Center for Community Design and Research**

Taryn is Research Associate Professor and Director of the Florida Center for Community and Research at the University of South Florida's School of Architecture and Community Design. The Center provides design expertise, technical assistance, applied research, and community engagement services in Florida's growing communities to address urban challenges related to the built environment. Since 2014, she has overseen faculty, researchers, and graduate students to deliver the Center's mission to assist the citizens of Florida in Creating more livable and sustainable communities.

Taryn has advised over 30 mayors on sustainable development and has worked with elected bodies both nationally and internationally. Her professional work has spanned policy legislation for building and energy codes, urban transportation systems, implementation of CDBG, and resiliency and mitigation planning for Florida cities. Taryn has extensive experience building partnerships between community, organization, and government leaders. She serves on several national advisory committees.



### **Chris Ahern, Applied Technology and Management**

Chris is an experienced Program and Project Manager on a variety of waterfront projects. He leads multi-discipline Project Teams to evaluate potential environmental impacts, perform feasibility studies, identify sustainable solutions to design challenges, execute permitting strategies, procure the necessary Contractors and ultimately deliver successful development projects. His experience is related to surface water quality, waterfront property or sites within 100 yards of a shoreline (i.e., beach, bulkhead or riverbank) and he regularly identifies opportunities to improve resilience of waterfront infrastructure. He recently led the \$21M redevelopment of Maximo Marina in St. Petersburg, FL.

As Development Manager, he was responsible for site assessments, feasibility studies, proformas, development strategy, procurement of Contractors, Construction Management, commissioning and handover to IGY Maximo Marina Operation Team. Chris' other significant waterfront development projects include reclaimed islands projects in Dubai, U.A.E. (i.e., Palm Jumeirah, Palm Jebel Ali and World Islands).

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### **Jacob Cremer, Stearns Weaver**

Jake counsels clients in their interactions with local, state, and federal governments on environmental, land use, and land development issues. He has been lead counsel on a variety of complex permitting and economic development matters. He excels in complicated matters requiring both environmental and land use permitting, including brownfield designations, urban redevelopment, and master-planned communities. He has extensive experience protecting environmental and land use permits against challenges, defending against government compliance and enforcement issues, and litigating property rights issues, including before the United States Supreme Court.

A sixth-generation Floridian, Jake grew up in Palatka working in his family's timber operations and has significant experience working with agriculture, silviculture, agribusiness, and heavy industry interests. Because of this personal experience, Jake routinely assists large agricultural landowners in defense of their greenbelt classifications and in asserting Right-to-Farm Act challenges to government overreach. He also assists them with long-term strategic planning for development entitlements and unlocking alternative income streams, including the use of wetland mitigation banks and conservation easements.

Jake began his law practice in Tallahassee, where he gained experience dealing with the legislative and regulatory process of state government. As a Gubernatorial Fellow at the Department of Community Affairs, he participated in executive-branch policymaking and developed relationships with state environmental and growth management regulators. This experience allows Jake to advise clients on whether permitting, litigation, or lobbying is the best approach for their needs.



### **Jennifer Motsinger, Tampa Bay Builders Association**

Jennifer Motsinger is the Executive Vice President of the Tampa Bay Builders Association. Her role is to manage the day to day operations of the association and to be the voice of the building industry. The Tampa Bay Builders Association is one of the largest and influential trade organizations in the state of Florida representing members of the residential building community in Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties.

For over 20 years, Jennifer has worked through the governmental affairs process at all levels of and has experienced major changes in the planning and regulatory process. Her political roots go deep as she has worked in a variety of roles on numerous campaigns. Her experience includes working on national issues and presidential campaigns as well as state and local races. Jennifer helped to guide the TBBA's political activities working closely with candidates at all levels of government.

Jennifer is well respected and known throughout the Tampa Bay area and her leadership has led to many successes for the association as well as general improvement in public perception of the industry and better relationships with the media and regulatory community. She has served her on Hillsborough County's Economic Prosperity Committee, Tampa Economic Competitiveness Committee as well as Development Services Advisory Team, Pasco's School Infrastructure Task Force and is a member of the Urban Land Institute.

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**Chris Zambito, Atkins Global**

Chris is a Sr. Project Manager working for the consulting firm Atkins, where he helps strengthen communities through resilience initiatives. He has over 20 years of private and public sector expertise in national hazards planning and is a Past Chair of the Florida Floodplain Managers Association. Most recently, his team worked with communities in the Tampa Bay area to complete the 5-year updates to both Pinellas and Hillsborough County's Local Mitigation Strategies, keeping the cities and counties eligible for disaster funding. These strategies were further tailored to help lower flood insurance premiums for policy holders via FEMA's complimentary program known as the Community Rating System. As a true Tampa native, he will never turn down a good Cuban sandwich!



**Daniel Parsons, Atkins Global**

Daniel is a Sr. Project Manager with 15 years of experience in water resource engineering and GIS-related projects, specifically watershed management plans. Mr. Parsons specializes in completing watershed management plans and applying state-of-the-art hydrologic and hydraulic models to analyze watersheds throughout Florida, using and developing methodologies and applications for GIS to efficiently analyze and develop data for these models. Mr. Parsons has successfully taken small and large projects from initial concept through final design. Daniel led the design of the recently completed Upper Peninsula Drainage Improvements for the City of Tampa.



**Heidi Stiller, NOAA National Ocean Service**

Heidi is the South Regional Director for NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) Office for Coastal Management (OCM), and she is based in St. Petersburg, Florida. Heidi serves as a focal point for senior level coastal partner interaction at the regional, state, and local levels from North Carolina around to Texas and including the Caribbean. She helps to implement national and regional statutory and other coastal and ocean programs, responds to the needs of users, partners and coastal decision-makers, and delivers technical assistance to meet coastal and ocean challenges.

Before joining NOAA, Heidi worked for the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, and spent three years at the Florida Coastal Management Program. Planning that incorporates hazard mitigation, climate adaptation, and natural resource sustainability is a focus of Heidi's work, including providing data and tools to help communities address and communicate coastal inundation risks. She has experience with post-disaster recovery planning, and recently served as an author on the coastal chapter of the Fourth National Climate Assessment.

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