



Tampa Bay LEPC (District 8) HazMatters June – August 2014

District 8 LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Hilton Singer Island in Riviera Beach on July 17-18, 2014. The quarterly LEPC District 8 meeting was held on August 27th. During the meeting, Chief Jeff Patterson (Hillsborough County Fire Rescue) was elected LEPC Chair and James "JJ" Johnston was elected Vice Chair for District 8 for two-year terms, coinciding with the biennial reappointment of all LEPC members by the State Emergency Resposne Commission.

The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on July 23rd. The meeting included a variety of discussions topics. The primary topics included: overview of SERC and LEPC initiatives; summary of SERC meeting; and significant progress towards initiative of compiling numerous resources and links to serve as an All Hazards Guide for Businesses. As currently envisioned, it will likely be a single electronic database containing various resources and links that could/would assist facilities in planning for a variety of hazards (e.g. hazardous materials, storm surge, hurricane, flooding, tornados...) and will likely include a compilation of past planning efforts made by the LEPC, the TBRPC and the County Emergency Management departments (e.g. *All Hazards Guide, Facility Business Disaster Survival Kit...*). As an end-product, it is envisioned that the consolidated resources could/would be tailored to County level, where applicable.

The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on August 27th with the ambition of refining the HMEP training schedule for FY 2014-15. The sole HMEP training event during the quarter was the conduct of **three**, shift-friendly, 24-hr. *Life Safety and Command* courses on dates ranging from August 4-15, 2014, primarily for the Manatee County fire department personnel. A total of 50 first responders attended the training. Other training events anticipated and previously proposed but subject to scheduling were: attendance at the annual *E-Plan Conference* (for One); **three** 8-Hr. *Chemical & Chemistry* courses [Pinellas]; **four** 3-Hr. *E-Plan for 1*st *Responders* courses [Regionwide]; *Hazmat Symposium* (One Lodging each County); attendance of **up to 10** at 160-Hr. *Hazmat Tech Certification* course [Pasco/Pinellas]; and **three** 8-Hr. *Hazmat Spill/Leak Containment* courses [Pinellas]. As is customary, the pre-requisites for all HMEP training is that the course: must be designed for public-sector First Responders; must be pre-approved and deemed "cost effective" by FDEM staff; and, at minimum, must include a transportation component or nexus.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: attended the (nearly) monthly Ammonia Handlers/Operators meetings (June 3rd, June 24th, July 24th & August 26th); attended the final preparatory meeting for the June 14th "Community Day" event (June 5th); facilitated the monthly meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (June 11th, July 9th & August 13th); participated in the HMEP/FDOT "Indirect Costs" teleconference (June 13th); participated in "Community Day" at DeSoto Park for the neighborhood adjacent to Port Tampa Bay gates (June 14th); facilitated the (nearly) quarterly meeting of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee meeting (June 19th & July 30th); submitted annual *LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan* update to FDEM (June 24th); attended the "Community Day" Lessons Learned meeting at the Tampa EOC (June 27th); submitted the biennial exercise *After Action Report/Improvement Plan* to FDEM (June 30th);

attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (July 8th); attended the tri-annual U.S. Coast Guard Area Contingency Plan meeting (July 15th); facilitated the three 24-Hr. *Life Safety & Command* courses conducted between August 4-15 under the HMEP Program; participated in teleconference regarding the 2015 HMEP Contract; and submitted *Hazmatters*, LEPC membership modification requests, and *Thomas Yatabe Award* nominations in association with the next SERC meeting (August 29th).