

**DRAFT (7-10-24)**  
**2024 Florida Resilience Conference**  
*featuring the 67<sup>th</sup> FSBPA Annual Meeting*  
**September 11-13 ♦ Hyatt Regency Coconut Point ♦ Bonita Springs, FL**

---

**Wednesday, September 11**

**Opening General Session**

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

**1:00 pm**

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Lee County Board of County Commissioners

**1:15 pm**

**Legislative Keynote: Florida's Environmental Outlook on Policy and Funding**

*To be announced*

**1:35 pm**

**Creating a More Resilient Florida**

Moderated by: Wesley Brooks, PhD, Chief Resilience Officer, State of Florida, Tallahassee, FL

*Florida Agency speakers invited*

**2:25 pm**

**Charting the Course: FDEP Updates, Strategic Goals, and a Preview of Legislative Priorities**

Adam Blalock, Deputy Secretary, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

**2:40 pm**

*To be announced*

**3:00 pm**

**Professional Exchange Break**

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**Wednesday, September 11**

**Session: A1-Smart Planning**

**3:25 pm – 5:25 pm**

**3:25 pm**

**A Statewide Vulnerability Assessment to Achieve Florida's Legislative Mandate**

Michael DelCharco, Senior Vice President Coastal Strategies, Taylor Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, FL;  
Eddy Bouza, Program Management Director, Resilient Florida, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL; and Justin Gregory, Senior Manager / Vice President-Water Resources Engineering Jones Edmunds, Gainesville, FL

**3:45 pm**

**Regional Resiliency Planning in Northeast Florida: Approaches and Resources**

Fara Ilami, Regional Resiliency Manager, Northeast Florida Regional Council, Jacksonville, FL

**4:05 pm**

**Improving Statewide Resilience in Florida: The First 3 Years of the Resilient Florida Program**

Hanna Tillotson, Grants Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL; and Krista Slyter, Planning & Policy Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

**4:25 pm**

**Adaptation isn't Dumb Luck**

Mitchell Austin, Urban Design Manager, City of Punta Gorda, Punta Gorda, FL

**4:45 pm**

**PANEL - Resilient Communities Through Innovation and Partnerships**

Moderator: Pinar Balci, NYC Water/Deputy East Water Lead, WSP USA Corp, New York, NY

*Speakers to be announced*

**5:25 pm**

**Adjourn**

**6:15-7:15 pm**

**Welcome Reception**

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**Wednesday, September 11**

**Session: B1-Beaches**

**3:25 pm – 5:25 pm**

**3:25 pm**

**Navigating the Storm: Emergency Repair and Funding Strategies for Florida's Beaches**

Steve Boutelle, Marine Operations Manager, Lee County, Fort Myers, FL; Alex Reed, Director, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL; and Dana Souza, City Manager, City of Bonita Beach, FL

**3:55 pm**

**Sanibel Island Beach/Dune Restoration Program post Hurricane Ian**

Brett Moore, P.E., D.CE, President, Humiston and Moore, Naples, FL

**4:15 pm**

**Recent Updates on FEMA Beach Projects**

Bob Glassen, Beach Specialist, Public Assistance Division, FEMA Region IV, Tallahassee, FL

**4:35 pm**

**Managing Byproducts of Screened Sand on Beach Nourishment Projects in Florida**

**Moderator:** Lisa Armbruster, Beach Management Consultant, Bay County Tourist Development Council, Panama City Beach, FL

- Jennifer Bucatari, Oceanographer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Sterling, VA
- Gregory Garis, Program Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL
- William Reilly, P.E., Chief, Waterways Branch, USACE Jacksonville District, FL
- Andrew Studt, Program Supervisor, Coastal Resources Management, Palm Beach County, FL

**5:25 pm**

**Adjourn**

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**Wednesday, September 11**

**Session: C1-Energy**

**3:25 pm – 5:25 pm**

**3:25 pm**

**Planning for Florida's Energy Future: HB 1645 - Energy Resources**

Bobby Payne, Representative, Florida House of Representatives, Chair of House Infrastructure Strategies Committee, Palatka, FL

**3:45 pm**

**Utility-scale Implementation of HB 1645 - Energy Resources**

FPL, Duke, TECO, Chesapeake Utilities, FMPA

*This will be a panel of utility presenters. Speakers to be announced*

**4:25 pm**

**Microgrids: Resilient, Renewable Power that Sustains Critical Local, State and Federal Operations**

Colonel Jason Kirk, VP Federal Solutions Director and Resilience Programs, Black & Veatch, Jacksonville, FL

**4:45 pm**

**Let the Sun Shine in: Is there a Future for Rooftop Solar Energy in Florida**

Ralph DeMeo, Shareholder, Guilday Law, Tallahassee, FL

**5:05 pm**

**Decarbonization through Superconductivity**

Jeffrey "Jeff" Whalen, PhD, CEO, Magnetics Corporation, Tallahassee, FL

**5:25 pm**

**Adjourn**

**6:15-7:15 pm**

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**Wednesday, September 11**

**Session: D1-Infrastructure**

**3:25 pm - 5:25 pm**

**3:25 pm**

**Mission Assurance through Community Resilience: Florida Case Studies**

Sarah Marrs, Resilience Project Manager, Jacobs, Fort Lauderdale, FL; and Susy Torriente, Global Principal, City Resilience, Project Director, Jacobs, Miami, FL

**3:45 pm**

**Hillsborough County's Approach to an Integrated Vulnerability Assessment, Adaptation Plan, and Local Mitigation Strategy**

Troy Salisbury, Hazard Mitigation, Sustainability and Resiliency Manager, Hillsborough County, Tampa, FL; and Taryn Sabia, Director of the Florida Center for Community Design + Research and Assistant Dean of Research for the College of the Arts, USF, Tampa, FL

**4:05 pm**

**Adapting Naples: Building and Climate Ready and Resilient City**

Erica Harris, Climate Adaptation Specialist, Aecom, Fort Lauderdale, FL; and Natalie Hardman, Natural Resources Manager, City of Naples, FL

**4:25 pm**

**Innovative Approach to Integrating Resilient Infrastructure into a Barrier Island Community**

Roland Samimy, PhD, Chief Resilience and Sustainability Officer, Village of Key Biscayne, Village of Key Biscayne, FL; and Colleen Blank, Capital Program and Grants Manager, Village of Key Biscayne, FL

**4:45 pm**

**Broward County's Integrated Approach to Risk Assessment and Resilience Planning**

Gregory Mount, Assistant Chief Resilience Officer, Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL

**5:05 pm**

**CASE STUDY: Creating a Route to Climate Resilience for Coastal Infrastructure**

Craig Wells, Florida Client Services Director and Curtis Burkett, Senior Project Manager, Freese and Nichols, Tampa, FL

**5:25 pm**

**Adjourn**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: A2-Smart Planning**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Resilience Funding and Infrastructure Implementation for a Resilient Coastal Community: 20 Years of Beaches, Back Bays, Rivers and Stormwater In Norfolk, Virginia**

Brian Joyner, Senior Coastal/Hydraulic Engineer, Moffatt & Nichol, Norfolk, VA; and Kelli Cunningham, Waggonner & Ball, New Orleans, LA

**8:50 am**

**HMA Grants - An Overview**

Gary O'Neal, Director of Mitigation Grant Services, Tetra Tech, Walker, LA

**9:10 am**

**Mitigating Future Flooding**

Noah Taylor, Community Rating System Coordinator, Sarasota County Government, Sarasota, FL

**9:30 am**

**MacArthur Boulevard: Protected from the Sea and River**

Amy Eason, Environmental Resource Engineer, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, Stuart, FL

**9:50 am**

**Cumulative Substantial Improvement Tracking: Addressing the Challenge of Day-to-Day Enforcement**

Conn Cole, Hazard Mitigation Lead, Forerunner, New York, NY

**10:10 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: B2-Beaches**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District Commander's Update**

Colonel Brandon Bowman, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville, FL

**8:50 am**

**Perpetual Easements in Federal Beach Projects: Balancing Requirements and Local Government Concerns**

- Charlie Hunsicker, Director, Manatee County, Bradenton, FL
- Mike McGarry, Beaches Boating & Waterways Program Manager, Brevard County, Viera, FL
- Milan Mora, PE, Chief, Water Resources Branch, Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**9:20 am**

**Beach Management Trends & Updates from the State Perspective**

Lainie Edwards, PhD, Deputy Director, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

**9:40 am**

**State Strategies for Effective Use of Sand Resources at Florida Inlets**

- Al Browder, PhD, PE, Vice-President, Olsen Associates, Jacksonville, FL
- Jessica Garland, Coastal Program Manager, Martin County, Stuart, FL
- William "Guy" Weeks, Planning Manager, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

**10:10 am**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: C2-Energy**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Leveraging Florida C-PACE to Enhance the Resiliency and Sustainability of Privately-owned/Commercial Buildings**

Devesh Nirmul, Executive Director, Counterpointe Sustainable Real Estate (A Mass Mutual Company),  
Brandon, FL

**8:50 am**

**LEED: Integrating Prevention and Response for Resilient Built Environments**

- Philip Donovan, AIA LFA, Partner, Director Regen CoLab, Little Diversified Architectural Consulting, Orlando, FL
- Ian Lahiff, Director of Energy and Carbon, USGBC, Washington, DC
- Kristy Walson, PE, LEED Fellow, BEMP, Principal, Branch Pattern, Orlando, FL

**9:40 am**

**The Benefits of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in Sustainable Water/Energy Nexus Projects**

Lucas Botero, Principal Process Engineer/Manager, Black & Veatch, Coral Springs, FL

**10:10 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**



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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: D2-Infrastructure**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Funding Solutions for Resilience**

*Speakers to be announced*

**9:00 am**

**Legal Policy and Project Case Studies in Vulnerability Planning and CRS Watershed Planning**

Erin Deady, President, Erin L. Deady, PA, Delray Beach, FL

**9:20 am**

**Hybrid Living Shorelines in South Florida – Design Considerations, Legacy Regulatory Framework, and Needed Policy Changes**

Danielle Irwin, Senior Director, Cummins Cederberg, Tallahassee, FL; and Leonard Barrera Allen, Senior Engineer, Cummins Cederberg, Miami, FL

**9:40 am**

**Miami-Dade County Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Study**

- Lynette Cardoch, Director, Resilience and Adaptation, Moffatt and Nichol, Miami, FL
- Patricia Gomez, PhD, PE, Interim Chief Resilience Officer and Director of Energy, Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience, Miami, Florida
- Christian Kamrath, Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience, Miami, FL
- James Murley, Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience, Miami, FL

**10:10 am**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: A3-Smart Planning**

**10:40 am-12:10 pm**

**10:40 am**

**Promoting Community Resilience to Natural Hazards Through Governance, Education, and Partnership Building**

Emily Powell, Assistant State Climatologist, Florida State University, Florida Climate Institute, Tallahassee, FL; and Alicia Betancourt, University of Florida IFAS Extension, Key West, FL

**11:00 am**

**Coastal Connections Sustaining Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties for Future Resilience**

Alexandria Howerton, Sustainability Program Manager, Hillsborough County, Tampa, FL and Lauren Wolf, Sustainability & Resiliency Coordinator, Pinellas County, Clearwater, FL

**11:20 am**

**Cedar Key ShOREs – a Model for Co-Designing Nature-Based Solutions in a Small Coastal Town**

Amer Abukhalaf, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**11:40 am**

**Miami-Dade Countywide Resilience Hub Network Strategy**

- Karina Castillo, Program Manager-Communications, Engagement and Outreach, Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience, Miami, FL
- Sarah Marrs, Resilience Project Manager, Jacobs, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Richard Miller, Project Manager, Arsht-Rock, Washington, DC
- Susy Torriente, Global Principal, City Resilience, Project Director, Jacobs, Miami, FL

**12:10 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**

**Luncheon**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: B3-Beaches**

**10:40 am-12:10 pm**

**10:40 am**

**The Recreational and Economic Value of Florida Beaches**

James Houston, PhD, Director Emeritus, Engineer Research and Development Center, Corps of Engineers, Ponte Vedra, FL

**11:00 am**

**Sea Turtle Nesting on Florida's Managed Beaches: What Have We Learned?**

Robbin Trindell, PhD, Biological Administrator, Imperiled Species Management, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL

**11:25 am**

**Conserving Florida's Underwater Treasures: Coral Reefs and Aquatic Preserves**

Alex Reed, Director, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

**11:45 am**

**USACE Jacksonville District's Role in Imperiled Species Management for Coastal Projects, Highlighting the Recently Designated Queen Conch**

Gretchen Ehlinger, PhD, Chief, Environmental Branch, Planning and Policy Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville, FL

**12:05 pm**

**Annual Membership Meeting**

**12:10 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**

**Luncheon**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: C3-Energy**

**10:40 am-12:10 pm**

**10:40 am**

**Decarbonization of the Heavy-Duty Transportation Industry**

Justin Ahn, Lead Sustainability Manager, WSP, Houston, TX

*Other speakers to be announced*

**11:30 am**

**Transportation Electrification: Managing Mixed Fuels**

*Speaker to be announced*, Florida Department of Transportation, Tallahassee, FL

**11:50 am**

**FPL EVolution: Plugging into Florida's Future**

*Speaker to be announced*

**12:10 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**

**Luncheon**

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**Thursday, September 12**

**Session: D3-Infrastructure**

**10:40 am-12:10 pm**

**10:40 am**

**Resilience Updates and Data Applications for Informed Decision-Making in Transportation**

Tony Frye, State Transportation Resilience Officer, Office of Environmental Management and Brett Wood, Surveying and Mapping, Florida Department of Transportation, Tallahassee, FL

**11:05 am**

**Post-Ian Impacts on Facilities in District 1**

Brett Setchell, Drainage Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation, Bartow, FL

**11:20 am**

**Innovations for Corridor Flood Risk Protection: The Monroe County Coastal Storm Risk Study**

Sebastian Ruiz, Planning and Environmental Management Office, Florida Department of Transportation, Miami, FL

**11:35 am**

**Q&A**

**11:40 am**

**Restoring and Re-creating Nature to save Miami's Blue Heart: A Panel Discussion**

- Aida Curtis, President, Curtis & Rogers Design Studio, Miami, FL
- Jessica Bruso, Green Stormwater Infrastructure Specialist Green Stormwater Infrastructure Specialist, Ferguson Waterworks, Cocoa Beach, FL
- Liza Herrera, PE, Manager, Stormwater Engineering Section, Department of Transportation and Public Works, Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL
- Nancy Jackson, Biscayne Bay Program Director, Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL

**12:10 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**

**Luncheon**

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**Friday, September 13**

**Session: A4-Smart Planning**

**8:30 am–10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Federal Resources for Understanding and Planning for Sea Level Rise**

Heidi Stiller, South Regional Director, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, St. Petersburg, FL

**8:50 am**

**Bridging the Gap Between Resilience Planning and Effective Implementation Strategies**

Stephen Bourne, Project Director, AtkinsRealis, Atlanta, GA

**9:10 am**

**From Data to Decisions: Using Artificial Intelligence and Remote Sensing to Guide Nature-Based Solutions in Coastal Areas**

Matthew Campbell, President, Natrx, Inc., Raleigh, NC

**9:30 am**

**JaxTwin: An Urban Digital Twin to Guide Data-Driven, Proactive Investments to achieve a Thriving City Ecosystem and a Foundational Step Towards Florida's Digital Twin**

Changjie Chen, Assistant Scientist and Jeff Carney, Director and Associate Professor, University of Florida, Florida Institute for Built Environment Resilience (FIBER) Gainesville, FL

**9:50 am**

**Gulf South Studio-Innovation in Multidisciplinary Coastal Design + Planning**

Andrea Galinski, Assistant Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**10:10 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

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**Friday, September 13**

**Session: B4-Beaches**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Get Off Of My Beach - A Customary Use Update**

Diana Ferguson, Shareholder, Rutledge Ecenia, Tallahassee, FL; and David Theriaque, Esquire, Theriaque & Spain, Tallahassee, FL

**9:10 am**

**Estero Island Beach Nourishment and Hurricane Recovery**

Michael Poff, PE, President, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Bonita Springs, FL and Chadd Chustz, Environmental Project Manager, Town of Fort Myers Beach, FL

**9:30 am**

**Southwest Florida's Coastal Vulnerabilities Revealed by Impacts from Hurricane Ian: Lessons for Building Resilience Capacity**

Michael Savarese, PhD, Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, FL

**9:50 am**

**Evaluating beach dune vegetation loss and regeneration following Hurricane Ian**

Jeannine Richards, PhD, Assistant Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, FL

**10:10 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

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**Friday, September 13**

**Session: C4-Energy**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**Collaboration to Fuel Carbon Pollution Reduction Investment in Florida**

Janet Bowman, Senior Policy Advisor/Climate Policy, The Nature Conservancy, Tallahassee, FL

*Other speaker to be announced*

**9:00 am**

**Takeaways from the City of Tampa's First Climate Action and Equity Plan**

Brian Cook, Director of Urban Design and Resilience, Applied Sciences, Tampa, FL; and Whit Remer, Sustainability and Resilience Officer, City of Tampa, FL

**9:20 am**

**Clean Energy Transition with Hydrogen**

Brian McCarthy, National Hydrogen Market Lead, WSP, New York, NY

*Other speaker to be announced*

**9:50 am**

**Renewable Natural Gas from Landfill Gas: A Path to Florida's Energy Resilience**

Alicia Fanni, Sales and Marketing Analyst, Waga Energy, Miami, FL

**10:10 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**



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**Session: D4-Infrastructure**

**8:30 am-10:10 am**

**7:45 am**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:30 am**

**City of West Palm Beach Currie Park Revitalization: Transforming Underutilized City-Owned Spaces for Living Shorelines**

Gina Chiello, Senior Director, Cummins Cederberg, Inc., Jupiter, FL

**8:50 am**

**Community-Based Co-Design Using Nature-Based Solutions to Meet Climate Change Challenges along Urban Hillsborough River, Tampa, Florida**

Ping Wang, PhD, Professor, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL; and Brian Cook, Director of Urban Design, Applied Sciences Consulting Inc., Tampa, FL

**9:10 am**

**Inclusive Adaptation: Flood Resilience with a Social Equity Lens**

Angela Schedel, PhD, PE, Director of Coastal Programs, HDR, Jacksonville, FL; and Sharon Wright, Florida Resilience Practice Lead, HDR Engineering, St. Petersburg, FL

**9:30 am**

**Promising Practices for Effective Stakeholder Engagement**

Janet Luce, Project Manager, AtkinsRéalis, Melbourne, FL

**9:50 am**

**Integrating Community Resilience and Environmental Stewardship: "The Way Resilience Looks"**

Forough Foroutan, Graduate Research Assistant, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**10:10 am**

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**Friday, September 13**

**Closing General Session**

**10:35 am-12:25 pm**

**10:35 am**

**Legislative Keynote: Advancing Florida's Environmental Agenda**

*Speaker to be announced*

**10:55 am**

**What's Going on with the Weather?**

David Zereden, Florida State Climatologist, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

**11:15 am**

**The Planning and Resilience of Water Management in Florida**

- Patrick Doty, Senior Planner/Resilience Coordinator, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Brooksville, FL
- Thomas Frick, Chief Resilience Officer, St John's River Water Management District, Palatka, FL
- Ana Carolina Coelho Maran, PhD, PE, Chief of District Resiliency, South Florida Water Management District, West Palm Beach, FL
- Kathleen Coates, PhD, PE, Deputy Director, Resource Management Division, Northwest Florida Water Management District, Havana, FL
- Leroy Marshall, PE, Chief Professional Engineer, Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects, Suwanee River Water Management District, Live Oak, FL

**11:55 am**

**The Florida Wildlife Corridor and Climate Resilience**

Joshua Daskin, Director of Conservation, Archbold Biological Station, Venus, FL

**12:15 pm**

**Conference Adjourns**