TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members                         AGENDA ITEM 5
From: Staff
Date: December 6, 2019
Subject: Census Update

Introduction

By April 1, 2020, every home in the United States will have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Critical to the success of the 2020 Census are marketing and outreach efforts of the Census Bureau in regions across the country and participation from local governments to help ensure that all households are counted. As part of this outreach process, representatives of the Census Bureau have been invited to present key aspects of the upcoming 2020 Census.

Background

By law, every ten years the U.S. Census Bureau must conduct a count of everyone residing in the United States. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time our country’s population has been counted since 1790. The 2020 Census will count the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). With this Census, residents will be allowed to respond to a short questionnaire either online, by phone, or by mail. This is the first time participants will be able to respond to the census online.

Ensuring a complete and accurate Census count for the Treasure Coast Region is important, because census data affects funding for local governments, determines a community’s representation in Congress, are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts, and plays an important part in community planning decisions. Census data directly affects how billions of dollars in federal money flow into states and communities each year for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation, and other critical issues.

Recommendation

For information only.
Council Action – December 13, 2019

Council received a presentation by Marilyn Stephens, Assistant Regional Census Manager for the 2020 Census for the Atlanta Region (copy attached).