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## Whitford E. Remer



Whit works at the intersection of sustainability and resilience, helping to shape and advance policy focused on environmental protection, disaster preparation, and thoughtful community development.

As the first Sustainability & Resilience Officer for the City of Tampa, Whit is guided by three core principles: Go Green, Be Fair, and Keep Safe. Whit is working to meet Mayor Jane Castor's commitment to transiting the City of Tampa to 100% renewable energy by 2045. In his first four months on the job, Whit's secured major financial commitment to develop the city's first Climate Action & Equity Plan.

Previously, Whit served as policy analyst and attorney for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) in Washington, D.C., helping shepherd through Congress the RESTORE Act – a major piece of environmental legislation designed to assist coastal communities recover from the environmental and economic devastation caused by the 2010 oil spill.

Whit has also worked as Senior Manager of Federal Government Relations for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) as a lobbyist and lead author of the *American Infrastructure Report Card*, the national benchmark assessing the quality and funding of infrastructure systems such as water supply, transit, and green space. He provided technical expertise to the \$1 billion Superstorm Sandy *National Disaster Resilience Competition* and is credited with helping to pass two major water resources focused laws.

Prior to joining the City of Tampa, Whit was Counsel and Director of Public Policy for the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), an insurance-backed research organization focused on building safety and community resilience. At IBHS, Whit focused on internal legal issues, regulatory policy, and risk strategy for the FORTIFIED Home™ program, a code plus construction standard designed to reduce damage from hazards and make homes more sustainable and resilient.

Whit holds a law degree from Loyola University of New Orleans, a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of New Orleans, and a Bachelor's degree in geography and political science from The Florida State University. His drive towards equity and inclusion comes from living in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, where

He is a member of the Florida Bar, the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), and is Courtesy Faculty for the Patel College of Global Sustainability at the University of South Florida. Whit recently served as President of Walk Bike Tampa, a non-profit organization focused on pedestrian and bike safety. Whit lives in Tampa, Florida.