Summary of the February 22nd

Sustainability Stewards of Broward Workshop

Thirty-seven sustainability leaders from the local governmental community came together on Feb. 22, 2012 to learn about climate change adaptation strategies. Co-hosted by Broward County and the City of Fort Lauderdale, the event featured presentations by local scientists, planners and engineers on the implications of climate change and the available local adaptation options. Energy and water managers, city managers, and economic development and planning staff joined local green architects, publishers and activists to review Broward’s vulnerability to sea level rise and discuss the costs and benefits of various adaptation options. Infrastructure solutions being piloted to combat the immediate concern of localized flooding associated with extreme storm events and seasonal high tides were featured as local best practices. Planning  tools were also discussed, such as Broward County’s draft Climate Change Element for their Comprehensive Plan, proposed amendments to the Broward County Land Use Plan to address vulnerable locations and recent changes in state legislation related to Adaptation Actions Areas.

The workshop was the second of a series the County plans to host over the next 6 months. Topics cover a variety of issues related to sustainability and rotate across the county in location. The next workshop will be held in late April or early May and will focus on Energy Conservation and Efficiency - Best Practices for Local Governments. For more information on the Sustainability Stewards of Broward group or to get on the mailing list, contact Jill Horwitz, Natural Resource Specialist I, in Broward County’s Energy and Sustainability Program at 954-519-1287 or jhorwitz@broward.org.