

Sustainability Stewards of Broward September 16, 2014 Workshop Summary

The Sustainability Stewards of Broward (SSB) is a collaborative peer network, bringing municipal staff and other interested parties together to discuss best practices in sustainability occurring in Broward County and the greater South Florida region.

The topic of the SSB Workshop held on September 16, 2014 was Multiplier Affects: How Collaborative Action Moves us Further, Faster. Seventeen participants attended the workshop which was hosted by Broward County's Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division.

Held at the West Regional Library in Plantation, the focus of the workshop was the Call to Action. Key questions for contemplation are:

- What are we already doing that would be enhanced by regional adaptation or implementation?
- What are we not doing yet because it seems too hard to do alone?
- What is made stronger when we ALL stand behind it?
- What are our priorities?
- How much can we take on?
- Who will take LEAD?
- What are the steps to get there?

Highlights from the presentations include:

- The Mayor's Climate Action Pledge provides support for the Compact and calls for other municipalities to adopt the pledge. The Mayor's Roundtable will next convene Winter 2014/2015.
- Go SOLAR Florida – streamlined permitting program for rooftop solar photovoltaic systems. Go SOLAR Partners will be requesting resolutions of support for the Florida Solar Financing Action Plan from municipalities. This plan is a guide for local governments throughout the state.
- Adaptation Action Area Planning offers a comprehensive plan designation for areas that experience coastal flooding and are vulnerable to the related impacts of rising sea levels. This prioritizes funding for infrastructure and adaptation planning. Guidance documents and technical support is available from Broward County!
- The 20/20 Resolution supports the County's Community Energy Strategic Plan. It outlines goals to achieve 20% efficiency and 20% renewable energy by 2020 and is part of the Better Buildings Challenge. Other municipalities are encouraged to adopt the resolution!
- Broward Water Partnership provides education and information about water conservation. The partnership provides rebates for high efficiency toilets and offers free water-saving devices.
- Through NatureScape Broward you can certify your yard/city! Get your children's school involved in the P3 Eco-Challenge. The program offers irrigation services and has a model landscape ordinance which municipalities can adopt.

The workshop agenda, summary, and presentation documents will be posted on the County's GoGreen webpage, under [Sustainability Stewards](#). If you were not able to attend, and would like the PowerPoint presentation emailed to you, email me at jhorwitz@broward.org.

If you have additional ideas or questions, our speakers have kindly made themselves available for event follow-up. Their contact information is below.

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Thank you again to our wonderful speakers and participants. Fantastic information and ideas were presented, and the group left inspired to take new concepts and best practices back to their municipalities to implement. By sharing our knowledge, experiences, and thoughts we advance all of our programs and help to move sustainability forward in our entire community.

Together, through the Sustainability Stewards of Broward, we are making Broward a more energy efficient, climate resilient, and sustainable community. We hope to see you at the next informative and inspiring event!

Jill Horwitz

Broward County Energy and Sustainability Program

