

Resolution 2008-442

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3 A RESOLUTION OF THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF  
4 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CREATING A BROWARD  
5 COUNTY CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE;  
6 ESTABLISHING THE PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE  
7 TASK FORCE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE  
8 DATE.

9 WHEREAS, there is widespread international consensus among climate  
10 scientists that climate change is occurring and that greenhouse gas emissions caused  
11 by human activities may be a contributing cause; and

12 WHEREAS, on March 6, 2007, Florida Governor Charlie Crist announced in his  
13 State of the State Address: "Florida is more vulnerable to rising ocean levels and violent  
14 weather patterns than any other state"; and

15 WHEREAS, subsequently Governor Crist signed Executive Orders 07-126,  
16 07-127, and 07-128 on July 13, 2007, establishing immediate actions to reduce  
17 greenhouse gas emissions in the state of Florida, and requiring development of an  
18 Energy and Climate Change Action Plan; and

19 WHEREAS, the 2008 Florida Legislature approved HB 7135, landmark  
20 energy/climate change legislation that builds on the policy framework established in  
21 Executive Orders 07-126, 07-127, and 07-128 and moves Florida a step closer to  
22 mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, becoming energy independent, and adapting to  
23 the consequences of climate change; and

24 WHEREAS, on December 19, 2007, President George W. Bush signed into law  
the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, that contains the first increase in  
fuel economy standards since 1974; and

1           WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress is currently considering far-reaching legislation  
2 related to greenhouse gas targets, an emissions tracking and monitoring system, a cap  
3 and trade system, and renewable fuel standards; and

4           WHEREAS, due to its geographic location and low-lying topography, Broward  
5 County is especially susceptible to the likely consequences of climate change, such as  
6 sea-level rise, flooding, beach erosion, salt water intrusion to potable water supplies,  
7 inundation of the Everglades and coastal wetlands, more intense tropical storms, and  
8 detrimental changes to South Florida ecosystems, coral reefs, marine life, and similar  
9 natural resources; and

10          WHEREAS, such impacts could have significant adverse economic and  
11 environmental impacts on Broward County and its residents; and

12          WHEREAS, there is increasing local, state, and national interest in taking action  
13 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with many states and municipalities, including  
14 more than twenty Broward County municipalities, and major U.S. corporations having  
15 already implemented, or planning to implement, measures to reduce greenhouse gas  
16 emissions; and

17          WHEREAS, Broward County is a member of the National Association of  
18 Counties (NACO) and the members of NACO support immediate and long-range efforts  
19 to mitigate possible sources of climate change; and

20          WHEREAS, through resolution efforts to mitigate sources of climate change,  
21 NACO has supported and encouraged counties to take local action; and

22          WHEREAS, the Water Advisory Board to the Broward County Board of County  
23 Commissioners identified climate change as a critical factor influencing the sustainability  
24 of the County's water resources and associated infrastructure; and

1           WHEREAS, the Water Advisory Board convened a technical subcommittee to  
2 give focus to the discussion of water resource implications of climate change and  
3 subsequently recommended county-wide coordination of climate change mitigation and  
4 adaptation programs, and efforts through the creation of a formal task force; and

5           WHEREAS, at its meeting of June 12, 2007, the County Commission passed a  
6 resolution supporting the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement  
7 ("Agreement"), signed onto the Agreement, and encouraged all city and town  
8 governments in Broward County to sign onto the Agreement; and

9           WHEREAS, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners is taking a  
10 proactive role in developing and implementing programs that result in the reduction of  
11 greenhouse gases, as reflected in the Broward County Government Operations Climate  
12 Change Report, dated May 30, 2008; and

13           WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the residents of Broward County to  
14 undertake cost-effective actions to mitigate the potential economic and environmental  
15 impacts of climate change; NOW, THEREFORE,

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17           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY  
18 COMMISSIONERS:

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20           Section 1. A Climate Change Task Force is hereby established by the  
21 Broward County Board of County Commissioners.

22           Section 2. The purpose of the Climate Change Task Force shall be to develop  
23 a county-wide Climate Change Program (Program) to mitigate the causes and adapt to  
24 the consequences of climate change; and, if appropriate, advise on its implementation.

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- a) The goals of the Program shall include, but not be limited to:
  - i. Development and implementation of projects that conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions within government operations
  - ii. Development of incentives for residents, businesses, and organizations to conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - iii. Development and implementation of adaptation strategies to alleviate the likely adverse consequences of climate change, including rising sea levels, hurricanes, and other violent weather events
  - iv. Provision of education and outreach to encourage Broward County residents, businesses, and organizations to participate in the Program
  - v. Pursuit of federal and state grants, energy cost savings, and other financial resources to offset Program costs
  
- b) The Climate Change Task Force shall coordinate with the Board of County Commissioners, the School Board, municipalities, other governmental agencies, businesses, private and public organizations, and the state of Florida in the adoption of programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective and efficient manner that preserves the County's competitiveness in the national and worldwide economy.

1 c) The Climate Change Task Force shall be appointed by the Broward  
2 County Board of Commissioners and consist of the following categorical  
3 representation:

- 4 1) Three (3) members representing Broward County government who  
5 shall be identified by position by the Broward County Board of  
6 County Commissioners, of which one shall be identified by the  
7 Board of County Commissioners to serve as Chair;
- 8 2) Two (2) at-large members;
- 9 3) One (1) member nominated by the Water Advisory Board to the  
10 Broward County Board of County Commissioners;
- 11 4) One (1) member nominated by the Broward County School Board;
- 12 5) Two (2) members nominated by the Broward League of Cities;
- 13 6) One (1) member nominated by a Hospital District in Broward  
14 County;
- 15 7) One (1) member nominated by the Broward Sheriff's Office;
- 16 8) One (1) member nominated by the South Florida Water  
17 Management District;
- 18 9) Two (2) members nominated by academic institutions with  
19 educational interests in Broward County and with appropriate  
20 scientific knowledge and experience in issues relating to climate  
21 change;
- 22 10) Two (2) members nominated by environmental organizations or  
23 interests in Broward County;
- 24 11) One (1) member nominated by the Florida Power & Light Company;

- 1           12) Three (3) members nominated by business and economic interests  
2           in Broward County;  
3           13) One (1) member nominated by the Florida Department of  
4           Transportation; and  
5           14) One (1) member nominated by the South Florida Regional Planning  
6           Council.

7           The Climate Change Task Force shall report directly to the Broward County  
8           Board of County Commissioners.

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10          Section 3. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners encourages  
11 and supports federal, state, and local initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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13          Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

14          This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

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16          ADOPTED this 24th day June, 2008. # 88 B

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