

## VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

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## Recommendations

The Broward County Government Operations Climate Change Report is a work in progress. To date, much effort has been expended in developing a baseline GHG Emissions Inventory in order to understand the emissions associated with Broward County's Government Operations, measuring the emission reductions achieved from existing actions, and setting a reduction target.

### 1. Broward County Government Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Actions

The Proposed GHG Emission Reduction Actions for Fiscal Year 2009 discussed in the previous section will not be sufficient to reach the target reduction level. In order to realize the goal of reducing GHG emissions from County operations, further work is needed in the following two areas: study and implement, as appropriate, future GHG emission reduction actions; and comprehensive tracking of greenhouse gas emissions to improve upon current assumptions and assess progress.

- a. The Task Force will continue to meet in order to further both of these action items. These items will be prioritized by the Task Force and studied during the next year to determine feasibility and GHG emission reduction possibilities. As appropriate, implementation recommendations will be brought forward in future annual reports and via future budget processes. The level of additional reduction required will not be known until the recommended proposals are further studied and an implementation plan is developed.
- b. Each Department within Broward County should outline their greenhouse gas reduction measures within their respective Department Business Plans.
- c. As the budget allows, each year through 2015, the Broward County Office of Management and Budget should identify funding to devote to greenhouse gas reduction measures within Broward County Government, and inform Departments each year as to the extent of available funding.

### 2. Broward County Government Greenhouse Gas Emissions Tracking

In developing the emissions inventory several assumptions were made because data was not readily available in some categories. The Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department will work with the Task Force members to develop this data in order to create a more accurate inventory for the future as well as to evaluate target feasibility.

The Task Force will generate an annual progress report of existing actions being taken by County agencies to reduce GHG emissions in governmental operations and develop a tracking mechanism to report appropriate data for each year. The Task Force will coordinate a GHG emission inventory for government operations update every five years in order to benchmark progress against the long term reduction target.

### **3. Annual Report to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners**

Broward County should continue to work toward the goal of reducing Broward County Government's greenhouse gas emissions by 7% below the 1997 baseline (a reduction of 113,850 tonnes), by 2015. Broward County's efforts should be coordinated with and supportive of the proposed countywide Climate Change Task Force, discussed below. The Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department should produce an annual Climate Change Report to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (Board) on the progress of Broward County Government in reaching its emission reduction goal by 2015.

### **4. Broward County Countywide Climate Change Task Force**

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, adopted by the Board in Resolution 2007-391, calls for climate change action plans for both government operations and communities. With the experience gained developing this Broward County Government Climate Change Report, it is recommended that the Board proceed forward with adopting a resolution authorizing a countywide Climate Change Task Force to develop a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Program.