



## News Release

### **Broward County Commission Considers Creation of Two Environmental Task Forces** **- Focus is on Climate Change and Water Resources -**

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The Broward County Board of County Commissioners will consider the creation of two separate task forces to study environmental issues on Tuesday, June 24.

One resolution under review would create a Broward County Climate Change Task Force, to develop a countywide program to mitigate the causes and plan for the consequences of global warming and climate change. The task force would report directly to the County Commission and be supported by county staff.

The proposal also asks the Commission to formally accept the Broward County Climate Change Report that was prepared by the County's Government Climate Change Interagency Working Group. The report reviews potential climate change impacts in Broward County, recommends greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for Broward County, identifies actions that are currently being taken to reduce emissions and makes recommendations for future actions. The Climate Change Group established a goal of reducing GHG emissions from County operations to seven percent below 1997 levels. The established target date to meet this goal is 2015.

#### Water Resources Task Force:

The County Commission will also consider a Water Resources Task Force, which would be made up of city and county commissioners and officials representing the South Florida Water Management District, special districts and water control districts. The task force will evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of a regional or sub-regional approach to meeting future countywide water resource needs and recommend actions for moving forward.

In May, Mayor Lois Wexler chaired a joint meeting of the County Commission, the South Florida Water Management District and representatives of 26 cities to discuss issues of water resource availability and management, population growth and water supply. Participants agreed that a task force should be created to study a myriad of water issues.

The resolution provides for a Water Resources Task Force with a total of 15 representatives to be appointed by the League of Cities (6), the Broward League of Mayors (5), the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (1), a special district association (1), the Surface Water Coordination Committee (1), and the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board (1). The task force would meet monthly for one year.

The Commission will consider these items at the regularly scheduled Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2008, beginning at 10 a.m., 115 S. Andrews Ave., Room 422, in Fort Lauderdale. To view the Commission agenda please go to

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