

Climate Change Task Force Meeting (CCTF)

Thursday, August 14, 2025

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Government Center Room 430 / zoom

Summary Minutes

Members Present

Co-chair: Commissioner Nan Rich

Co-chair: Mayor Furr

Carbon, Albert

Cosio Carballo, Isabel

Etessam, Shahin

Gottlieb, Lee

Gutsche, Robert

Jones, Elisa

Kaltman, Adrienne

Kornahrens, Robert

McCarthy Bulman, Maura

Morris, Ken

Murphy Salomone, Cindy

Poole, James

Shuham, Caryl

Tejeda, Julio

Trupia, Peter

Schafer, Alissa Jean

Vialpando, Lenny

Members Absent

Brown Grosvenor, Sheri

Root, Tara

English, Baldwyn

Metayer Bowen, Nancy

Robson, Col. Steve

I. Welcome

Mayor Furr welcomed the members of the task force.

II. Call to Order

Mayor Furr called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

III. Roll Call

Roll was called. Nineteen (19), members were in attendance, and five (5), were absent. A quorum was present.

IV. Approval of Minutes of August 14, 2025

A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously in favor of accepting the minutes of the August 14, 2025, meeting. *

V. Announcements

Mayor Furr announced a new member (Commissioner Cindy Murphy Salomone) to the Task Force. There is one remaining vacancy for the hospital district that has been filled by Robert Dahl who will be officially attending the next meeting.

Presentations and Discussion Items

A. Broward Solid Waste Authority – Master Plan: Todd Storti, Executive Director, Broward Solid Waste Authority

Mr. Storti provided an update on the Regional Solid Water and Recycling Master Plan that included:

- a. The master plan is meant to be a comprehensive strategy from generation to disposal and provide guidance for 40 years. It provides policies and operations and is considered a living document. It is also meant to create a unified path (cities and county) toward Zero Waste to the Landfill. Cities would still handle the waste collection portion.
- b. In 2013 the original ILAs expired so each city developed their own rules and processes. In 2023 the Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Processing Authority (also known as the Solid Waste Authority) was formed to help bring a more unified approach.
- c. The Solid Waste Authority has 29 Governing Board representatives, 11 Executive Committee representatives on the governing board, and ILAs with 29 member cities. The Governance structure includes the Governing Board, an Executive Committee, an Executive Director, and members.
- d. Currently waste recovery using recycling is at 39%. The goal is 75%. Enduring principles include behavior change, resource stewardship, economics of scale, harmonizing services, having environmental justice and equity and achieving financial stability. The pathway to reach this goal includes education and outreach, waste minimization, policies and regulations, leveraging existing and developing new infrastructure or procuring services, traditional recyclable materials, organics management, construction and demolition debris management, long term disposal and innovative technology adoption.
- e. Key policies include a 40-year planning horizon, out-of-county disposal/intragovernmental partnerships, maximizing use of existing infrastructure, developing surcharge for tons disposed and annual

assessment to recover the full cost of services and infrastructure, applying reasonable buffers from residential properties and considering mandatory approaches to commercial recyclables and C&D.

- f. Recommendations include, harmonizing minimum curbside waste and recycling collection set-out programs and standards, expanding residential single-stream recycling access, requiring residential clean yard waste to be composted, requiring separated bulk and large vegetation to be recycled, enacting a mandatory C&D recycling ordinance, enacting a mandatory commercial recycling ordinance, developing residential and commercial food waste programs, developing additional residential drop-off centers for hard-to-recycle and hazardous materials, and implementing supporting policies and actions.
- g. The implementation plan and timeline begin with accepting the master plan in 2025 and continues through 2047 with key milestones outlined.

B. Open Discussion – Solid Waste Master Plan: Mayor Beam Furr

Mayor Furr opened the meeting for members to ask questions and/or discuss the master plan.

C. Net Zero Update: Dr. Gregory J. Mount, Assistant Chief Resilience Officer, Resilient Environment Dept

Dr. Mount provided an update on the Net Zero Plan that included:

- a. Project objective is to provide county and community-wide strategies to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.
- b. Project outcomes include a baseline conditions report (GHG inventory), a net zero plan by sectors and with actions, an online dashboard to serve as an interactive tool to explore recommendations and effectiveness, and a municipal pathway tool to provide tailored recommendations based on municipal operations.
- c. Broward local government operations focus areas by sector include buildings and facilities, wastewater treatment, generators, solid waste, process and fugitive emissions, vehicle fleet and employee commute.
- d. Broward community focus areas by sector include industrial energy, residential energy, commercial energy, wastewater treatment, landfill waste, transportation, and stationary fuel use.
- e. Next steps include establishing prioritization for implementation. Prioritization criteria include level of detail, level of impact to GHG reduction potential, initial investment required, operational costs, co-benefits, and the timeline for implementation.

D. Resilience Update: Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Chief Resilience Officer, Resilient Environment Department

Dr. Jurado provided an update on Resilience Projects and Initiatives that included:

- a. Extreme Heat Initiatives.
 1. The Broward municipal heat outreach pilot program was launched in June 2025. The pilot focused on 16 “hot spot” jurisdictions that had consistently high temperatures and higher heat related illness. The goal is to enhance awareness, communications and services addressing extreme heat.
 2. Heat related illnesses trend shows whenever there is a sudden peak, heat related incidents increase exponentially.
 3. The participation status and outcomes include 7 cities that actively participated, 1 city that subsidized pool rates, 31 confirmed cooling centers (map has been published), and 8 cities that provided social media outreach.
 4. Currently working to launch a public health heat related illness dashboard.
- b. Underwater Broward.
 1. Project objective is a creative public engagement initiative that combines climate science and art to inform, inspire, and activate Broward County residents around critical issues like sea level rise, public health, and community resilience.
 2. Partnership is with Eco-Artist Xavier Cortada and includes a designed bus wrap, murals in selected schools and at Government Center East, yard signs, and school outreach through workshops and at 10 schools in 2024 and 6 in 2025. The second annual Community Climate Communications was also held in July 2025.
- c. Broward County Resilience Strategy.
 1. It is separate from the Resilience Plan and is focused on Broward County government strategies.
 2. Strategy development included an agenda setting workshop to identify shocks and stresses and how they may impact lines of operations. Following the workshop several thematic roundtables were held to identify where there are additional gaps and needs. The areas of focus were energy resilience, economic resilience, infrastructure resilience, community resilience, institutional resilience, and digital resilience. This resulted in the development of 36 priority recommendations with 83 supporting actions that will be tied into the internal county strategic plan.
- d. Compact Summit.
 1. The 17th annual Southeast Florida Climate Leadership Summit is scheduled for December 16-17, 2025, in Palm Beach County.
 2. Broward County will be hosting the 18th annual summit November 4-6,

2025. The theme is Capitalizing on Climate: Action through Innovation.

E. Sustainability Update: Monica Pognon, Director, Natural Resources Division

Ms. Pognon provided an update on Division programs, projects and partnerships related to the new CCAP that included:

a. Air Program.

1. Broward County has a robust air quality monitoring network which provides data to Air Now so anyone can access the air quality index. This also allows for providing advisories and forecasts. There were elevated readings this summer due to the Saharan dust and one exceedance in air quality due to the July 4 fireworks.
2. The Air team works with the Broward County Public Schools to provide education and outreach. Each year students also participate in the Clean Air Calendar contest to win a feature of their artwork for each month of the calendar and one winner for the cover.

b. NatureScape and Water Conservation.

1. The Conservation Pays program has awarded over 600 toilet rebates since October. There is a new initiative for Seniors to allow for free toilet installation. It is called the Water Savers Program.
2. The Nature Scape Irrigation Services program Interlocal Agreements with municipal partners was just renewed for another 5-year term. Staff won the best in category NACIO award for media length videos.
3. The NatureScape program produces a newsletter that is full of great sustainable landscaping information and hosts quarterly meetings with guest expert speakers on various environmental topics.
4. The new school year will begin soon and staff will continue partnering with Broward County Public Schools to provide education, outreach, water audits, and event support. The 8th annual Youth Climate Summit will be February 6, 2026, and the 14th annual P3 Eco-Challenge will be scheduled for next year.
5. Water Matters Day for 2026 will be Saturday, March 14, 2026.

c. Marine Resources.

1. Staff continue to provide disturbance response monitoring as a part of the participation in the regionwide reef monitoring program.
2. Staff conducted monthly offshore Mooring Buoy inspections for the 122 buoys in the network. The USACE maintenance permit was renewed and staff received authorization for the program in March of 2025.
3. Development of artificial reef projects continues with the City of

Deerfield Beach, Coastal Conservation Association, and Port Everglades.

4. Living Shoreline project development continues at Wahoo Bay and New River Middle School.
5. It is Sea Turtle nesting season. To date 2,831 nests were laid, with Loggerhead turtles had 2,292, Green turtles had 486, and Leatherback turtles had 53.
6. Manatee season starts November 15, 2025. Staff continue to conduct dock site inspections. 129 sites have been inspected this year. During the previous season staff conducted 19 survey flights, observing 2,796 manatees. Staff won a NACIO award for their social media post alerting people about the start of manatee season.
7. The Dune grants were all awarded this year (10 projects), with a new year opening soon. Staff is working with the County Attorney's Office to revise the grant agreement language to further expand reach.
8. Outreach included participation in 25 events, facilitation of regionwide quarterly meetings, and various social media campaigns. The Reef Rangers podcast is new and features a new topic each month.

d. Sustainability.

1. Round two of the Youth Climate Action Fund grant began. 24 applications were received with 20 projects awarded. Project completion is scheduled for October 31, 2025.
2. Green Tips are published monthly to Broward County employees and periodically to parents in the newsletters.

F. Open Discussion: Mayor Beam Furr

Senator Rich thanked Mayor Furr for his coordination and information provided regarding the State's recent DOGE review. Mayor Furr noted that one of the areas of question pertained to what the state referred to as the "Green New Deal". A specific question was raised regarding the 2025 Climate Change Action Plan. The County provided all requested information and documentation including the County's Resiliency Plan which includes economic metrics.

G. Legislative Update: Marty Cassini, Director, the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs/Boards, County Administration

Mr. Cassini provided several legislative updates that included, but are not limited to the following:

- a. The funding for energy programs designed to expand electric vehicle

charging stations, solar projects, residential clean energy credits and energy efficient homes credits will be discontinued effective September 30, 2025. Funding for clean heavy-duty vehicles, the greenhouse gas reduction fund, diesel emissions reduction, air pollution reduction and environmental justice block grants are gone.

- b. Recissions include, removing state-based energy efficiency training grants, Department of Energy's loan programs office which covered the cost of credit subsidies associated with loan guarantees for emerging technologies, energy infrastructure reinvestment refinancing, inner regional and offshore wind electricity transmission, planning, modeling and analysis.
- c. The County was eligible to receive certain tax credits for clean energy installations, but they were also removed by the Big Beautiful Bill approval.
- d. The Resilient Florida grant portal is open for applications.

VI. Member Updates / Topics of Interest

Ken Morris serves on the board of the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance (Alliance) and is working to coordinate with the Alliance, Broward Workshop, the Chamber and the Marine Research Hub, to discuss having a jointly created messaging approach related to the resilience infrastructure investment and to do it in a unified manner. He will also be including Dr. Jurado and their resilience committee at the Chambers for future planning. He will be meeting with Beacon Council and plans to share the Resilience Tool to educate them on their ability to run scenarios through work conducted by Broward County's Resilience team.

Rob Kornahrens co-chairs the Community Resiliency at the Workshop and is on the Marine Research Hub's board and they agree with the communication messages approach. He is also working to contact the president of the Florida Chamber to generate a report and to provide support on unified messaging approach as well.

VII. Other Business and Discussion

Adjourned at 3:34 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2025, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM.