

Meeting Summary

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions Subcommittee

Broward County Climate Action Plan Update

Monday, March 30, 2015

4:30pm-6:30PM

Government Center East Room 302

Conference Line: 954 -357-5480

1. The meeting began at 4:30PM. Chair Hector Samario welcomed the group and discussed a few ground rules for the meeting. Introductions were made. Members present at the meeting were: James Vodnik, Larry Clark, Sandra Welch, Maribel Feliciano, Doug Young, Glen Hadwen, Laura Tellez, Timothy Finn, Barry Heimlich, Samantha Danchuk, Jason Liechty, George Cavros, Gregor Senger, John Pipoly, Chelsea Albucher (phone-in), and Joe Miakisz (phone-in). Members of the public present: Cynthia Baker, Tiffany Grantham, Marcos Felix, Omari Tomlinson, Gian-Pierre Lopez, and Andrew Williams.
2. Doug Young was appointed Vice Chair.
3. The subcommittee's mission was stated: To provide the Task Force with recommendations for effectively mitigating climate change through greenhouse gas reductions in the near-term and long term, building on existing Broward policies and practices and drawing on the best practices from cities and regions across the United States and around the world. The Committee will recommend ways to foster equivalent and coordinate commitments and actions among businesses, communities, households and individuals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Carrie Kashar led a brainstorming activity in order to collect ideas from the subcommittee. A list of ideas collected can be found at the end of this summary.
 - a. Quite a few ideas were raised not pertaining to a specific GHG category that will be shared with associated climate action subcommittees mainly relating to climate change education and intergovernmental affairs.
5. Dr. Samantha Danchuk provided a presentation reviewing the current Climate Action Plan goals and actions relating to the built environment. Over 80% of the original 126 actions have been initiated and/or completed. The goal of the meeting is to get ideas from the subcommittee with suggestions for new actions, modifications, and on current actions to keep.

6. The facilitated discussion began with a look at the handout provided by staff listing the current goals with notes of progress. Discussion ensued “Completed” and “In Progress” goals and actions.
 - a. **ACTION** Request for update on the B-Cycle program for numbers of users and stations for next meeting **MT 2.1**
 - b. Need to find some short-term solutions. Partnerships with business entities, develop a suite of planning tools, possibly provide a “playbook” with various actions that cities could choose from **PC 1.6**
 - c. Engage with cities, provide a GHG inventory workshop based on how Broward GovOps is calculating inventory, coordinate a series of planning workshops to ensure cities are using the same tools, students could be used for tracking inventories by providing community service hours **PC 1.8**
 - d. **ACTION** Follow-up to get information on the City of Hollywood green building code **ZB 1.2**
7. Prior to ending the meeting members went around the table to summarize their thoughts on recommendations for the overall climate action update (not just GHG related items):
 - a. Link to schools needs to be stronger
 - b. Recycling incentive for large users, countywide recycling education, and keep food waste out of landfills
 - c. Engage families through libraries and parks
 - d. Food forests for public use
 - e. Program for home compost bins
 - f. Focus on electricity and fuel use, and more outreach with DOT
 - g. Engage with universities for education and student volunteers
 - h. Green roofs for recreation, ex. Hollywood rooftop soccer field (some issue with state)
 - i. Clothing recycling program
 - j. Buyout programs for properties to make forests
 - k. Educate the general public with consistent messaging
 - l. Climate Change Task Force members should engage with Broward Workshop, Rotary Clubs, etc.
 - m. Identify 2 or 3 big opportunities to make an impact
 - n. Focus on where to get the biggest GHG reductions, and focus on those “big ticket” items like energy disclosure

Full List of Subcommittee Brainstorm Ideas (listed by GHG Category)

Built Environment

- Develop free energy audit program
- Weatherization rebate program
- Require energy disclosure of ___% of county/municipal buildings, and private buildings over certain square footage (50,000 sqft, for example)
- Propose stronger energy efficiency standards for FL Energy Building Code
- Work toward ___% cool roofs on public school buildings
- Require ___% public buildings to install solar (schools and gov't buildings)
- County to move forward with PACE
- Require energy audits for PACE loans
- Require electric charging infrastructure in new developments
- Incentivize solar panels on rooftops, both PV and solar thermal

Transportation

- Zoning for pedestrian-oriented and transit oriented development
- Provide for more public transportation
- Alternative work schedules (i.e., 8-4, 9-5, 10-6)
- Hybrid city vehicles
- Optimize traffic signals
- Increase EV charging infrastructure
- Increase bike lanes connecting green space
- Support the transition of rental, taxi, for-hire, and limousine vehicles to low-carbon fuels and technologies
- Incentives for electric car & alternative fuel vehicles: purchase incentive, parking incentives, charger rebates
- Develop and promote an anti-idling campaign
- Increase carpool programs
- Pass gas tax to fund mass transit

Waste/Water

- Move forward hydroelectric project to generate clean electricity
- Increase water reuse
- Incentivize large restaurants to compost food waste to liquid rather than landfilling
- Encourage local permaculture farms, easy to use worm bins
- Implement energy efficiency audits for water utilities

- Establish an energy vision and priorities for improvement

Carbon Sequestration

- Backyard wildlife sanctuaries
- Encourage carbon capture through green roofs
- Plant more mangroves
- Plant 500,000 trees goal