

Meeting Summary

Science & Technical Subcommittee Meeting Broward County Climate Change Action plan Update

May 11, 2015

4:30 – 6:30PM

Governmental Center, Room 430

Conference Line: 954 -357-5480

Subcommittee Mission: To provide the Task Force and its Committees with the best possible scientific and technical information and analysis on the possible near-term and long-term impacts of climate change on the Broward region; these impacts may include, but are not limited to, sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, fires, and severe weather - hurricanes, floods, droughts and heat waves. The information should address the efficacy and cost-benefit of strategies to mitigate these impacts through greenhouse gas emission reductions; to adapt and adaptively manage our natural systems and the built environment; and the potential economic, social and health impacts of climate change and the climate change solution strategies. The Committee will assist the Task Force to interpret and communicate this scientific and technical information to policymakers and to the general public.

1. The meeting began at 4:30PM. Chair Dorothy Sifuentes welcomed the group and went over a few meeting ground rules. Introductions were made. Present at the meeting were: Dorothy Sifuentes, Cynthia Baker, Mike Zygnerski, Nancy Craig, Todd Hiteshaw, John Pipoly, Barry Faske, Barry Heimlich, Samantha Danchuk, Carrie Kashar (staff) and Maria Cahill (phone-in).
2. Dr. Samantha Danchuk provided a presentation reviewing the current Climate Action Plan goals and actions relating to natural systems. 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.
3. The facilitated discussion began with a look at the handout provided by staff listing the current goals with notes of progress. Discussion ensued on current plan actions:
 - a. MM 1.1 – need for collaboration with emergency management, tie ourselves to local mitigation strategy and leveraging work with other agencies to seek pilot funding for Airport, FED transit, FEMA.
 - i. USGS working with county on a couple of modeling efforts, ongoing results should be out soon.
 - ii. FHWA potential pilots - could seek funding in 2016.

- iii. Currently work is being done on saltwater intrusion modeling.
 - b. MM 1.2 – SKETCH planning tool to look at flood plain, to look at what future flood plain might look like.
 - i. Can't imagine more work than what is being done with saltwater intrusion
 - ii. However not much being done with storm surge. What would we have to think about if we get hit by a major hurricane?
 - iii. Information/data is lacking in severe weather – if a category 3 or more on top of SLR, a lot of damage could occur, and modeling is needed
 - c. MM 1.3 – being addressed by climate change indicators group, more precipitation during rain events but less rain between rain events.
 - i. More monitoring and more data sets are needed, regain some of the funding lost during economic downturn.
 - ii. Tidal gauge near outpoint of New River or near Port Everglades is needed, we are missing out on high quality monitoring in Broward because we have no tidal gauge.
 - d. MM1.9 – a lot of climate change scenarios, Florida is a peninsula and is different from the mainland USA and is much more influenced by the ocean, actually more like an island. FEMA in a way will incorporate SLR as part of new toolkit to get max-depth flooding, they did this for North Carolina.
 - e. **MM 1.10** – mention that now there is a regional SLR working group preparing new SLR projection for the region through the COMPACT.
 - f. **MM 2.2 – ACTION** – to talk about this more in detail in meeting 2. What are some things that could be used as indicators?
 - g. **IP 1.6** – need to move to high priority. The CCCL only incorporates waves and water level, very simplistic.
- 4. **ACTION:** Group requested data sharing site be created for uploading research materials.
- 5. Recap of topics that were discussed:
 - Transportation (inundation, floodplain, prioritization process for road links), evacuation speed (long detour lengths)
 - Draft available, Final report TBA
 - Traffic patterns if routes inaccessible
 - Surge/ coastal sediment damage
 - Is 100 yr storm adequate for planning- should 500-1,000 yr event be considered? Evaluate impacts of focused directional event
 - Return interval analysis for surge, waves, winds
 - Severe hurricane impacts
 - Focus on impact on data, use to protect infrastructure and lives cost-effectively
 - FDOT- updated inundation mapping
 - Understand mean high water gradient from intracoastal to ocean shoreline

- C-1 canal stormwater monitoring (surge protection)
 - List and prioritize types of monitoring, compare costs
 - Monitor tides near primary canals
 - Non-hurricane, severe precipitation events
 - SFWMD closes structures to prevent saltwater intrusion, FW flooding cannot be released
 - Need data to calibrate and validate models
 - Distill science needs from other subcommittee meetings
6. In Summary of key issues that came out of meeting 1: Precipitation events (not named storms), Hurricane storm surge, Monitoring/vital signs, Data collection (based on importance and understanding how used and cost), and Modeling (talked about current efforts).
7. Next Steps: At the next meeting, start with IP 1.6 and then go through WR and ZB actions. Start to prioritize areas.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30PM.