

Climate Change Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, February 24, 2021
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Webex platform, virtual meeting

Summary Minutes

Members Present

Co-chair: Commissioner Furr
Bush, Lois
Carballo, Isabel Cosio
Carbon, Albert
Cavros, George
Etessam, Shahin
Forbes, Sasha
Gottlieb, Lee
Kaltman, Adrienne
Kaufer, ILan
Kornahrens, Robert
Polsky, Colin
Rich-Levinson, Laurie
Commissioner Shuham
Vialpando, Lenny
Commissioner Welch

Members Excused

Co-chair: Commissioner Rich

Members Absent

Chris Rotolo

I. Welcome

Commissioner Furr welcomed the members of the task force.

II. Roll Call

Roll was called. Sixteen members were present, one was excused, and one was absent. A quorum was present.

III. Call to Order

Commissioner Furr called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

IV. Approval of Minutes of November 19, 2020

A motion was made, approved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes of the November 19, 2020 meeting.*

V. Announcements

- a. Commissioner Furr welcomed three new members to the Climate Change

Task Force: Laurie Rich-Levinson from the School Board, Albert Carbon (Public Works Director Oakland Park) from the Water Advisory Board and Lenny Vialpando (Director of BC EPGMD) as a county representative.

- b. Commissioner Furr announced open vacancies from categories; the hospital district, financial institution, SFWMD, BSO, environmental organization and a community equity organization.
- c. Youth Engagement Presentation was set as a time certain 3:30 start.
- d. Catherine Uden announced that the City of Hollywood would have a Sustainability Workshop, tomorrow evening at 6pm, on a webex platform. It will be a presentation by Energy Justice about incineration.

Presentations and Discussion Items

a. Food for Broward

- a. Arely Lozano Cantu, Health & Community Development Program Manager, Urban Health Partnerships and Anthony Olivieri, CEO & Founder Food for Health, Economy, Environment & Democracy (FHEED), Inc. presented an overview of the Food for All Broward Initiative which provides support to municipalities to establish policies and system changes that improve healthy food access for community members using an equity lens.
- b. Urban Health Partnerships mission is to invest in community driven leadership in three main areas. Healthy streets and public spaces, age friendly communities for longevity and food access, security and justice.
- c. The Initiative coordinated with the City of Coconut Creek to improve food access and environmental mitigation. The process included coordination, technical assistance, capacity building, support and a localized approach guided by municipal leaders.
- d. Anthony Olivieri provided a summary of local food and access policies and their implications food growing, processing, storage, distribution, marketing, nutritional content and waste renewal (composting vs landfill disposal).
- e. Approximately 50% of carbon emissions are related to food system infrastructure and food system activities such as agricultural production, processing, transport, packing, retail and waste.
- f. Climate change has disproportionate effects on vulnerable populations as evidenced by a 2014 study done with FHEED showing the most at risk populations for adverse climate impacts are those living in areas with the greatest food deserts and are areas with a predominance of people of color. The problems faced by Covid 19 have only exacerbated these issues.
- g. Recommendations included community-based food pantries that are climate resilient and connected to information systems that monitor inventory, availability, emergency response, replenishment, water

conservation; plan elements that speak to the connection between infrastructure, resilience, food access, energy efficiency and reduction of carbon emissions; systems to communicate, partner and work together to support common goals like local sustainable agriculture, food equity, resilient infrastructure and to transform these goals into actual ordinances and implementation.

b. Climate Change Action Plan Update

- a. Commissioner Furr reviewed the 2015 Climate Change Action Plan from 2015 and the current update. The draft update included over 100 actions. Some actions are a continuation of previous work and some actions are new.
- b. Samantha Danchuk provided an overview of the draft of the updated action plan. For style, the visit Lauderdale theme and logo may be adapted to “Broward Climate Action, Resilience Under the Sun” to take advantage of the recently completed graphic design work.
- c. Draft actions were provided by the various workgroups.
 - i. 54% were new and were underlined in the draft.
 - ii. 22% were modified from the 2015 plan, shown with a comment on the right for explanation.
 - iii. 24% were exactly the same as in the 2015 plan.
 - iv. The Climate Action Plan is intended to help support the County in reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions, an 80% reduction by 2050 and increased climate resilience.
- d. Task Force members discuss the draft plan and the various actions. A summary of comments is presented below.
 - i. The draft plan acknowledges electric vehicle usage transition. Should alternative fuels be referenced as well? Plan reflects Commission direction to purchase only zero emission vehicles by 2030.
 - ii. Shore power at Port Everglades.
 - iii. Re-vegetation of coastline, creating dunes with native species.
 - iv. Have a glossary of terms and their definitions as used in the plan.
 - v. Ways to reduce the use of potable water for irrigation.
 - vi. Reduce single use plastics on County property and events.
 - vii. Surtax projects that address resiliency.
 - viii. Specific mention of projects related to social equity.
 - ix. Resilience of coastal parks and coral reefs.

c. Resilience Update

- a. Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Chief Resilience Officer provided an update on resilience issues.
 - i. Sea level rise 2019 projection adopted, 3.3 feet by 2070.
 - ii. County maps updated to reflect the new value, sea level rise projection map, priority planning area, future map conditions series.

- iii. 100-year event flood map projections and FEMA update
- iv. Finished floor elevation requirement considerations
- v. Tropical storm Eta revealed the water level projections with saturated soils, king tides and a storm close to a 100-year event.
- vi. Broward Resilience Dashboard tool being created which will provide data on many resilience issues. Municipalities will have the opportunity to self-populate resilience projects.

d. Legislative Update

- a. Jason Liechty, Senior Environmental Project Coordinator, EPCRD, presented Legislation and Policy Update. He highlighted the Governor's proposal is the Resilient Florida Program. A portion of the documentary stamp revenue collection on real estate transfers will be available for state and local governments to use for resilient infrastructure projects such as water supply, stormwater issues, emergency management, transportation, public housing and education as examples. Regional collaborations could be prioritized.
- b. Naming the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Conservation District in honor of Former State Representative and County Commissioner Kristin Jacobs is moving quickly, sponsored by two Broward County legislators.
- c. Expanding the PACE Program to new types of improvements, such as septic conversions, backup power, seawalls, lead paint remediation, resilience improvements such as raising structures out of flood prone areas are some examples of areas of expansion. Additionally, there would be an expansion of consumer protection provisions.
- d. Create a permanent Office of Resiliency at the State level with a Chief Resiliency Officer. This would create a Sea Level Rise Task Force to come up with projections statewide for sea level rise. We do not wish to have statewide projections override the work we have done with the four County Compact, so we will be monitoring closely.
- e. A series of slides were presented with specific bill numbers for reference and general stages in the legislative progress. For additional information members are requested to contact Jason directly. This specific bill information is available for download as well from the CCTF web page under the February 24, 2021 meeting heading.

e. Youth Engagement on Climate Action Plan

Samantha Danchuk, Assistant Chief Resilience Officer, provided an introduction to three High School students that joined the Youth Climate Task Force. These students as well as students across the County, have been learning about local environmental and climate change issues since August, through a series of modules created by staff and the Broward County Schools Environmental Partnership. The students participated in an essay contest to provide ideas for inclusion in the Climate Action Plan along with which would be of the highest priority. The students also joined a Youth Climate Change Task Force, which is a peer group they formed recognizing

that they had some common goals creating positive change for a better environment. The students also had a question-and-answer exchange with Commissioner Furr to further develop their understanding of what is being done and how they might help contribute within the school environment and beyond. The students have also been taking over the @browardenv social media post on Fridays to bring their views to the social media platform. Students contact information along with others in the peer group will be shared to interested parties who might provide additional educational opportunities for them relating to environmental awareness. The virtual Student Climate Summit has 4200 students signed up for participation over the three-day event. Task Force members thanked the students for their interest, time and contributions to the challenge of climate resilience.

Adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2021, 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM.