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Introducing our new Energy and Sustainability Specialist Brock Donnelly.

Resilience Connections: LinkedIn

In 2023, the Resilient Environment team has two new social media channels to help spead the word about Broward County resilience issues.

LinkedIn serves as a key networking outlet for linking with stakeholder individuals and organizations - ideal for collaboration, idea-sharing, and best-practice adoption, as well as a means to stay abreast of a rapidly changing landscape.

The new INNOVATIONS UNIT page supports County agencies by implementing business intelligence solutions for informed decision-making and identifying and implementing innovative technology solutions.

Meanwhile BROWARD RESILIENCE will share activities, events and achievements connected with the Broward County Resilient Environment Department programming.

Connect with

linkedin.com/company/
broward-countyinnovation-unit/
Or visit

linkedin.com/ company/ browardresilience



WHAT'S NEW



REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (RCAP)

The first RCAP was published by the four-county Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact in 2012 after a two-year planning process. It was designed with a five-year horizon and with the intent to update the document every five years.

The RCAP serves as a tool for municipal and county local governments, agencies, regional councils, regional resource management districts, and other local planners and practitioners.

The plan identifies vulnerabilities, prioritized actions, and integrated policy initiatives to create a clear–though challenging–path forward for the region.

BROWARD, PALM BEACH, MIAMI-DADE AND MONROE COUNTY'S

RCAP 3.0

The RCAP 3.0 launch follows the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact's work over the better part of 2022, engaging with more than 150 subject matter experts, as well as regional stakeholders and the public, to ensure this document remains relevant and useful in its purpose to advance coordinated regional climate action.

RCAP 3.0 identifies 44 implementers spanning government, quasi-government agencies, civil society and the private sector. The update allows an RCAP user to readily search and find recommendations and strategies relevant to their interests.

RCAP 3.0 expressly calls on all entities and leaders across the region to take part in developing and implementing the Plan, and reinforces that Southeast Florida is part of the global community working to solve a problem that is at once both global and local, and acknowledges that regional leadership is critical given the stakes in our backyards.

"In plan after plan, you are seeing an expansion of our definition of resilience—you are seeing the integration of environmental justice, housing; you are seeing climate innovation in the private sector."

Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr

Go to Southeastfloridaclimatecompact.org

FUELING FLORIDA

ANDY ROYSTON LOOKS AT FLORIDA'S FOSSIL FUEL LEGACY, AND REVEALS A PERSONAL CONNECTION WITH OLD KING COAL

In his keynote speech to the 14th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, Rafe Pomerance reminded delegates of the moment the dangers of coal emissions came into focus.

The year was 1979, and it came within a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) technical report about coal to the Carter/Mondale administration - EPA-600/7-78-019. Pomerance was then a lobbyist for Friends of the Earth.

In a chapter on environmental regulation, Pomerance read that "the continued use of fossil fuels might, within two or three decades, bring about significant and damaging changes to the global atmosphere."

He quickly arranged for the report's writer, geophysicist Gordon MacDonald, to meet with the EPA, National Security Council, and the White House.

Today, international climate goals recommend a rapid decline in global coal emissions. Without this, says the International Energy Agency (IEA), it will be impossible to avoid severe impacts from a changing climate.¹

Halting the use of coal has proved easier said than done. A report by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) noted that 2018 saw the lowest U.S. coal consumption since 1979, as well as the second-greatest number on record of coal-fired power plants shutting down. It's taken forty years to put on the brakes.

My own relationship to coal and energy production is complicated.

Three generations of my family were proud coal miners, and as I child I could see two major collieries from my bedroom window. Railway trucks rattled through our small village night and day. My father and three uncles all toiled down the mines, while my brother worked in company supplying coal cutting

technology. The coal communities around me were close-knit and thriving, rooted in the Methodist

chapels and





strong trade unions. But then, suddenly things changed.

The coal fields of South Yorkshire were decimated by the policies of the British government in the late 70s, not on climate grounds but economics - overseas operators could ship coal halfway around the world for a fraction of the cost of domestically produced coal.

British coal was simply priced out of the market. The move away from domestic coal meant a lot of pain for the community I grew up in. Extended family members, including my father, lost livelihoods during those times.

By the time that Rafe Pomerance was raising the dangers of fossil-fuel combustion to the Clinton/Gore administration, Britain was already well on the way to closing the majority of its coal mines.

By 2003 Britain only took a third of its energy from coal fired power, so the speed that the country cut its reliance on cheap imported coal and moved to gas- and nuclear-powered energy was remarkable.

More recently, between 2012 and 2018, coal-fired generation fell by 88 percent. Today the UK routinely experiences extended periods where coal contributes no electricity at all to the national grid, while coal-fired power plants are being repurposed.

COAL IN THE USA

According to the latest data release from clean energy research group BloombergNEF², global clean energy investment set a \$1.1 trillion record in 2022, matching fossil fuels for the first time. It is also short of what is needed. In order to get on track for net-zero emissions in 2050, the report estimates the world would need to immediately triple this \$1.1 trillion spend — and add hundreds of billions more for the global power grid.

In the USA electricity generation from renewable sources, such as hydropower, wind, and solar, accounted for 20% of electricity generation both in 2020 and in 2021. The EIA expects that share to increase to 22% in 2022 and to 24% in 2023. Global solar PV capacity is set to almost triple over the 2022-2027 period, surpassing coal to become the largest source of power capacity in the world.

CONTINUES >



NEXT GENERATION AT PORT EVERGLADES

Florida Power & Light (FPL) demolished four smokestacks and boilers (pictured right) at its 1,254 MW Port Everglades oil- and natural gas-fired power plant

in Florida on July
16, 2013. The first
of the plant's four
units came into
operation in 1960
and burned oil to
make electricity, the
stacks discharging
sulfur dioxide,
nitrogen oxide and
other pollutants.



In its place is now the Port Everglades Next Generation Clean Energy Center, a combined-cycle natural gas-fired power plant which came online in 2016.

This new, state-of-the-art power plant uses high-efficiency, combined-cycle technology, running clean, low-cost American natural gas to produce up to 1,277 megawatts of electricity. The new FPL plant reduced air emissions by more than 90 percent and cut the carbon dioxide emissions rate in half.

Port Everglades Next Generation Clean Energy Center, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

FLORIDA

Florida does not have any coal reserves or production and has historically relied on coal from other states and from overseas to meet its limited coal demand.

It does, however, have a fossil fuel problem. Florida was third highest in US CO₂ emissions according to a 2017 EIA Report and has has 6 coal fired plants with a combined capacity of 400MW still running, representing 84.0% of Florida's coal energy generating capacity, and 25.7% of the state's total CO₂ emissions.

FPL continues to set a fine example. The Palm Beach Post reports that coal made up just 2.3% of FPL's fuel mix in the 12 months ending in March 2022, and this came from partly-owned coal power plants outside of Florida. Use of oil as a fuel to power its electric generators sits at less than 1% today.

FPL's parent company NextEra launched their Zero Carbon Blueprint in 2022: More information and blueprint download: nexteraenergy.com



FPL closed its last Florida coal-fired plant in 2020, ending its use of coal in the state. FPL purchased the Indiantown Cogeneration plant, located in Martin County, in 2017 for the sole purpose of shutting it down. The formal retirement marks the end of coal in FPL's power plant operations.

All this accumulates – The EIA reports that coal consumption in Florida's electric power sector fell from 29 million tons in 2008 to less than 7 million tons in 2020.

FPL is leading one of the largest solar expansions in the country as part of a plan to install 30 million solar panels by 2030. With over 12 million panels installed, the installation is more than 40% complete.

In addition, the company continues to look at other innovative sources of clean energy, including the world's largest solar-powered battery storage facility in Manatee County, now more than 75% complete. A new "green hydrogen" pilot project is also under way; the product of harnessing the sun's energy to power equipment that splits hydrogen and oxygen within water.

Overall FPL has improved its carbonemissions rate by 40% over 20 years, eliminating its use of foreign oil, shuttering all its coal plants in

Florida, and saving more than \$12 billion in avoided fuel costs. In 2022 the company announced plans to rely on non-carbon-emitting sources for 99% of its electric generation by 2045 Under its "Real Zero" program.

In his keynote, Rafe Pomerance, left us in no doubt that Florida's role is pivotal.

"We are living in a new epoch.

This requires the largest and fastest transformation in economic terms that the people of this planet have ever attempted, which is the energy transformation away from carbon dioxide producing technologies."

"We have to move very fast in this transition," said Pomerance.

"Looking at the data, all the analysis, Florida is key. Florida has the ultimate power to move the issue as the impacts here are so big. Whether it is sea level rise, coral bleaching, more intense hurricanes. Florida is a powerful place, a major global force. Florida can move the world."

ROWARD RESILIENCE / WINTER 2023

EMPLOYEES HELP BROWARD CHARGE AHEAD

NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST **STEVEN BEDOYA REVIEWS CHARGING** HIS EV FOR HIS COMMUTE

Before my first day with Broward County I was reviewing my commute options, I asked what the routine commute and most employees drove. Since I drive an electric vehicle (EV) I needed to find a way to charge in case I needed some 'fuel' to make my route.

Back in 2019 my wife and I would commute to work via public transportation. Unfortunately, due to school schedules for the little one and after-care hours, we had to switch to driving. This meant that we had to pay tolls on multiple expressways, pay for parking, along with fuel costs which increased our commute costs.

I had been considering an EV for some time, as traditional auto manufacturers didn't have any long-range options. I 'needed' 300+ miles, therefore we went to Tesla. We test-drove a few models and fell in love with the Model 3.

The purchase cost was more than our typical vehicle so, since we were commuting together anyway, we switched from being a multivehicle household to a singlevehicle household. The benefit of no fuel or maintenance helped as os well.

Eventually, with the pandemic, we started working remotely and seldom used our new EV, but once I made the move to Broward County I started my commute research. In my first week, I started inquiring about EV charging.

First I registered with Broward County's parking program to gain access to Governmental Center East 2nd-floor parking area where the charger is located. It's great as an employee benefit and knowing it's part of the multiple renewable energy projects and initiatives the County has.

It turns out there is a schedule for using the charger, not first come first serve like my previous employer. There are plans to expand the number of chargers in the employee garage in the future, and it's needed as some users need the daily charge to make it back home on their commute. With the 4-hour charge





Charging bay in the 1200 garage, Broward Governmental Center East

session, I'm thankfully able to cover most of my weekly commute and I trickle charge at home with the 120V.

Since my EV does have a longer range, I plug it in like a cellphone at home and I'm able to travel to Orlando with no issues. The Tesla Superchargers allow me to make quick stops, as we grab food or the kids use the bathroom, and we're able to continue our trip.

Tesla Superchargers use the North American Charging Standard (NACS) connector and charge your car up to 200 miles in 15 minutes. When I'm planning vacations I try to stay at hotels that have destination chargers that allow me to charge my car overnight so I can use it in my travels. There's nothing better thing than having a full car when you wake up!

The cherry on top of owning an EV is I'm currently in the permitting stage for solar and battery installation at home, so my EV will be fully powered by the sun. After a \$500 electricity bill during the hot summer I immediately signed up for solar. Now I'll end up with a

\$25 electricity bill and backup power during hurricanes.

I try to do my part for the environment every chance I get. I've been a pescetarian for 8 years, am fully digital in my personal and work life to limit paper use. I'm a volunteer with Solar United Neighbors (SUN) to advocate for going solar, I'm a member of Tesla Owners South Florida as I try to advocate for the environment at all times in various events throughout the year. Hopefully, my story gets someone thinking about a little change in their life. As more of us make those choices, it all adds up to a cleaner environment.

Broward County employees can sign up for EV charging access by filling out the Employee EV Charging Access Form (found via <u>broward.org/NaturalResources/Sustainability</u>) and sending it in to EVCharging@broward.org.

Please note that charging availability is subject to change as new County Fleet EVs are brought online and require additional use of charging infrastructure.



BROWARD COUNTY IS INSTALLING SOLAR PANELS ABOVE THE BASKETBALL COURTS AT REVEREND SAMUEL DELEVOE MEMORIAL PARK

Broward County plans to install two large-scale solar canopies over the basketball courts at Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park in Fort Lauderdale.

Working with contractor Advanced Green Technologies, the courts are designed to allow play as usual with heightened centers and lower edges. Installation is expected to begin in June with planned completion by October.

When completed the solar canopies are expected to offset 30 percent of the energy usage of the nearby African-American Research Library and Cultural Center. This is just one of many solar project investments by the County.

Solar rooftop panels and canopies are being installed throughout the County, as the County focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50

"An increase in temperatures has an immediate impact on public health. I think it's an incredible investment and it supports exercise and recreation and outdoor activity while protecting from some element of heat exposure by taking kids and others out of the intensity of the sun."

JENNIFER JURADO Broward County Chief Resilience Officer

percent by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

With this and other forthcoming projects the County's solar project capacity will rise to 6.96 MW, combined with a 132 MW solar offset through FPL's *SolarTogether* program to the County's overall electrical consumption.

Thus far the County has completed 15 solar installations at Broward County sites for a total capacy of 3.13 MW.

Visit <u>Broward.org/resilience/</u> Pages/news.aspx



CONSERVING BROWARD'S CORAL REEFS

The Restoring Resilient Reefs
Act recently signed into law by
Congress will bring five years
of federal funding to support
coral reef management and
restoration along the 360-linear
mile Florida coral reef.

The reef extends from the Dry Tortugas National Park, through the Keys, along 24 miles of Broward's shoreline and north to the St. Lucie inlet. The County's Resilient Environment Department supported efforts to get the bill passed which reauthorizes and modernizes the Coral Reef Conservation Program through Fiscal Year 2024.

Coral reef health is essential to the economic growth of the Broward community, providing shoreline storm protection, improved water quality, essential habitat for a

"I have long championed the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act and the reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act to allow for the creation of federal programs to protect the vitality of coral reefs along our coast. As a Broward County Commissioner, I am committed to solving the crisis facing our coral reefs and support providing local funds and policy initiatives to benefit their survival."

BEAM FURR
BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER

healthy fishery and a supporting resource for recreation and tourism. The new legislation comes at an important time as we seek to address reef decline. This is in part associated with an ongoing outbreak of stony coral tissue loss disease that has impacted over 90% of the reef since 2014.

Broward.org/resilience/Pages/news.aspx

ROWARD RESILIENCE / WINTER 2023

CONNECTED & COMMITTED

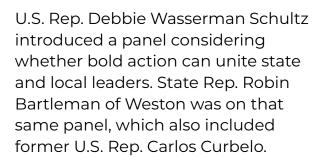
The Southeast Florida Climate Leadership Summit was hosted in December 2022 by Broward County Resilient Environment Department, attracting the largest-ever crowd to Broward County for discussions about climate change and associated issues.

The two-day event was the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact's first in-person summit since the pandemic and featured speakers from across the globe.

Alice C. Hill, a former White House advisor on national security and climate change in the era of President Barack Obama, was Thursday's keynote speaker.

Opening keynote speaker Alice Hill, David M. Rubenstein Senior Fellow for Energy and the Environment, Council on Foreign Relations.





Other speakers and panelists included Broward County Mayor Lamar Fisher, Broward County Vice Mayor Nan Rich, Broward County Commissioners Beam Furr and Tim Ryan, Monroe County Mayor Craig Cates, Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Monroe County Mayor Pro Tem Holly Raschein, Palm Beach County Mayor Gregg Weiss and Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis.

In addition, livestreaming of the Summit was made available to each of the school districts across the four counties. In Palm Beach County, Santaluces Community High School and South Intensive Transition School live-streamed the Summit to their environmental science classes.



Above left: Broward County Commissioner Tim Ryan introduces Thursday's events; Above right: Broward Commissioner Nan Rich contributes to Friday's session' It's All Connected: Housing and Community Development Amid the Climate Crisis'. Below: County Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of Broward County, Monica Cepero.





Clockwise from top left:
Levent Akinci, Giuseppe
Natale,and Adrienne
Aiken; Checking in with the
reception team; Rajendra
Sishodia looking after the
Resilient Environment stall in
the main hall; Jennifer Jurado
and Philip McChesney; Jason
Liechty at the helm. Right:
Karina Suarez greets visitors.

















Top left: Kenneth Dobies at the Resilient Envirionment booth greets students from the Magnet Program at South Plantation High School; Top Right: GIS Analyst Saad Baloch with a passing manatee (present as part of the Floria Right to Clean Water Campaign).



Above: Student Roundtable event attended by Alice Hill, Ebun Ayandele (Senior Associate, Rocky Mountain Institute) and Laurian Farrel (Resilient Cities Regional Director). Broward County Public Schools STEM-CS administrators briefly introduced the speakers and asked them to share with the students their journey to their current positions. Students directly asked the speakers questions on potential climate solutions and what they could do to build a more resilient future.

Below: The annual 'Family Photo' of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact.



THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA FLOOD RESILIENCE STUDY



Our region is celebrating notable advancement of resilience efforts focused on the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project (C&SF).

C&SF 101

The C&SF Project was first authorized by Congress in 1948.

It is a major civil works project that provides flood control, supplies water for municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses, prevents saltwater intrusion, supplies water for Everglades
National Park and protects fish and wildlife resources.

The primary system includes approximately 2,200 miles of canals, 2,100 miles of levees/berms, 84 pump stations and 778 water control structures.

It is now 75 years since the C&SF Project was initiated, yet it still serves as the central means for protecting the region's 8.5 million residents from flooding. On September 8, 2022 the Governing Board for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) approved a cost share agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to advance a new flood resilience study of the SE Florida component of the C&SF, the backbone of the region's flood management system. Broward County is an active participant in this process.

The Jacksonville District of USACE subsequently held a two-day planning charrette for the Central and South Florida (C&SF) Flood Resiliency Study on Jan. 11-12 in Fort Lauderdale - at the Museum of Discovery and Science, and Broward County Governmental Center.

Invited were representitives of Federal and State agencies, Native American Tribes, local agencies, and interested stakeholders to provide comments and identify any issues or concerns.

The first day of the charrette focused mostly on planning problems, opportunities, objectives, and constraints for the study as well as forecasting future conditions. The second day moved to examine types of solutions (measures) including



Above and below: Dr. Todd S. Bridges, the U.S Army's Senior Research Scientist for Environmental Science, presenting a session entitled 'Natural and Nature-Based Measures'.

structural, non-structural, and natural and nature based features. The new Flood Resiliency Study will address flood damage reduction, water supply and related water resources concerns which could occur over the next 50 years (to 2070 and beyond) if the USACE High Rate Sea Level Change scenario happens.

The Study will also focus on the project features which can reduce the most immediate risk to changing conditions, and the resilience aspects of such infrastructure in terms of flood vulnerabilities, based on an overall assessment of the entire C&SF system and the recommendation of areas for further evaluation.

The results of the study should allow the immediate authorization of construction to update components that need immediate attention to provide the expected C&SF level of service and approve continuing investigations of the remaining structures.





Above: Nancy Gassman – Assistant Public Works Director - Sustainability, City of Fort Lauderdale, with Carolina Maran, Matthew Biondolillo & Akin Owosina - South Florida Water Management District.

NEXT STEPS

The next series of Broward County workshops will be held virtually on February 15, 16 and 17 and will focus on the development of alternatives for the C&SF Flood Resiliency Study. Find out more here:.

sai.usace.army.mil/CSFFRS/

ROWARD RESILIENCE / WINTER 2023

BROWARD COUNTY MAKES THE 'A' LIST

Broward County has been recognized by the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) as one of 122 cities and counties across the globe that is taking bold leadership on environmental action and transparency, despite the pressures of a challenging global economic situation. The CDP is a nonprofit that runs a global scoring system for companies and local governments for environmental reporting.



To score an A, the County had to disclose a community-wide emissions inventory, set a renewable energy target for the future and publish a climate action plan. In addition, the County must also complete a climate risk and vulnerability assessment and have a climate adaptation plan to demonstrate how it will tackle climate hazards.

broward.org/resilience/Pages/news.aspx

BROWARD YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT 2023

The Youth Climate Summit provides an annual platform for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) students in grades 5-12 to advocate for policy change and gives students a voice for promoting environmental sustainability.

The Fifth Annual Broward Youth Climate Summit will be held on February 10, 2023, at Pompano Beach High School. 1,000 BCPS students are expected to attend.

Participating classes will create a poster or banner that reflects the theme of this year's Regional Climate Summit summit: I Am the Change: Connect, Commit, Act!



Winning poster of last year's Youth Climate Summit poster contest by Sophia Nesselroth from Cooper City High School.

Find out more:

browardschools.com/youthclimatesummit

BROWARD RESILIENCE / WINTER 2023

NEWS, OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES



COASTAL CLEANUP

On September 17th 2022, the Coastal Cleanup brought out over 2,000 volunteers countywide who collected over 42,000 pieces of trash totaling nearly 6,000 pounds. Broward County participates in the annual International Coastal Cleanup, sponsored by the Ocean

Conservancy. The date is set for the 38th Annual Coastal Cleanup - Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 9am to 12pm! Find our more at broward.org/
NaturalResources/
BeachAndMarine and choose Coastal Cleanup.

BeachAndMarine and choose Coastal Cleanup.

A recently completed mural painted by celebrity artist Pipe Yanguas along ArtServe's west and northern walls.

ART INTERVENTIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE

In an artistic collaboration with FAT Village, ArtServe presents a new sustainability themed art

sustainability themed art exhibition for 2023. The artists present disruptive and innovative works that, using unconventional, creative mediums to send powerful messages about environmental resilience and climate injustice.

The exhibit will run from January 20 through March 17 at ArtServe's Fort Lauderdale gallery space.

More info artserve.org

OPPORTUNITIES

Two key positions are currently available at the Broward County Resilient Environment Department.

1. An Environmental Project Coordinator

to play a lead role in the planning and advancement of climate resilience initiatives with a strong focus on adaptation within the urban environment.

2. A Water Resources

Manager This is a senior-level supervisory position responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of county-wide water resources initiatives The successful candidate is also responsible for advancing countywide water resource policy, planning, and management programs with a strong focus on effective water resource management under the pressures of climate change.

Visit<u>governmentjobs.</u> com/careers/broward



MEET THE TEAM

BROCK DONNELL

Hi there, I'm excited to be here! I joined the Resilient **Environment Department in December as the new Energy & Sustainability Specialist, just in time to** help out with the Climate Leadership Summit. It was amazing to join the team and get to be immediately impressed with the amazing work going on here at **Broward County.**

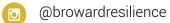
Like many Floridians, I'm originally from Canada, but have called Broward home for over 25 years now. I studied Economics and Entrepreneurship at Babson College and have spent over 10 years in the private sector across various startups, including a local software company called Boatyard (acquired by MarineMax in 2020). Most recently I was working for a carbon accounting platform based out of London, England with a goal to help large organizations decarbonize as profitably as possible.

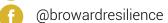
What motivates me most is the opportunity to combine my professional skillset with the crucially important

resilience efforts needed right here in our backyard. As we are often painfully reminded, South Florida is particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change. I look forward to doing my part in the challenging road ahead.

Funding for the Resilience Newsletter is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Resilient Environment Department. An equal opportunity employer and provider of services. 50 copies of this public document were promulgated at a gross cost of \$95.00 and \$1.980 per copy to promote the Broward County Resilient Environment **20** Department.

STAY IN







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