

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 28, 2011

Department: Administration/ERM

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Title: Sustainability and Green Initiatives

Summary: This workshop will include: an overview of sustainability projects and initiatives being accomplished by County departments under the Board of County Commissioners; an update on implementation of recommendations of the Green Task Force on Environmental Sustainability and Conservation; and a briefing on the activities and accomplishments of the Southeast Regional Climate Change Compact Initiative.

Background and Policy Issues: The formulation of the Palm Beach County Green Task Force on Environmental Sustainability and Conservation by the Board of County Commissioners in June 2009, provided a framework and stimulus for the development of actions and policies that encourage healthier, more resource efficient and sustainable buildings, energy and natural resources conservation, and environmental sustainability. County Departments are implementing numerous projects and initiatives designed to conserve water and energy, reduce waste, and provide protection for our natural resources. The County is also actively engaged in regional intergovernmental efforts to develop adaptation and mitigation strategies related to climate change. This workshop will update the Board on these sustainability and green initiatives.

Attachment:
PowerPoint Presentation

Recommended by:  6/23/11
Assistant County Administrator Date

Approved By:  6/24/11
County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years 20____ 20____ 20____ 20____ 20____

Capital Expenditures
Operating Costs
External Revenues
Program Income (County)
In-Kind Match (County)

NET FISCAL IMPACT

No. ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No _____
Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____
Object _____ Reporting Category _____

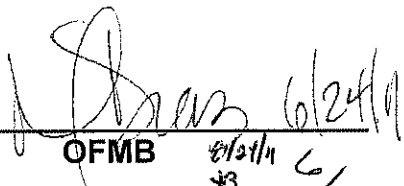
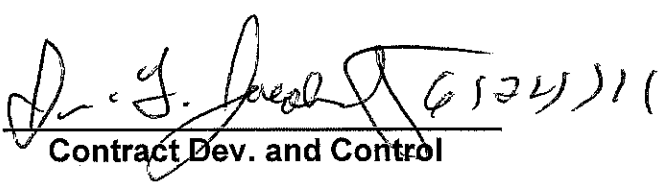
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this workshop item.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:


OFMB 8/21/11 6/24/11

Contract Dev. and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency:



Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director



SUSTAINABILITY AND GREEN INITIATIVES WORKSHOP

June 28, 2011



Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently

- **Fleet and Building Operations**
 - 1st Florida local government to purchase hybrid vehicles (Now 251 vehicles and 6 bucket trucks)
 - Policies such as "No Idling"
 - Energy efficiency software (STARK) to manage utility expenditures
 - Careful selection of HVAC equipment, lighting and heating systems
 - Position (in Facilities) for routine energy audits for all buildings

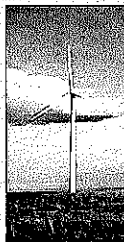



What Sustainability Means to Us


- **Identify actions and policies that encourage healthier, more resource efficient and environmentally sustainable living through efficient buildings and natural resource conservation.**
 - Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently
 - Conserve and Reuse Water
 - Reduce Waste
 - Conserve Land


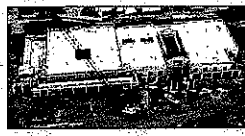
Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently

- **Water Utility Energy Reduction Goals**
 - 10% reduction by 2020
 - Alternative "Green Energy" 5% per customer by 2020
 - \$1.5M savings per year in electrical costs
- **Renewable Energy Initiatives**
 - Methane-to-Energy Facility at wastewater treatment plant
- **Everglades Agricultural Area Wind Farming**





Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently

- **1st County LEED Certified Building** 
 - Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
 - Acreage Library
 - Opening Summer 2012

Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently


\$6.5 Million Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant for government operations and community

Solar Panels **Green & LED Lighting** **Methane-to-Electricity**

Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently

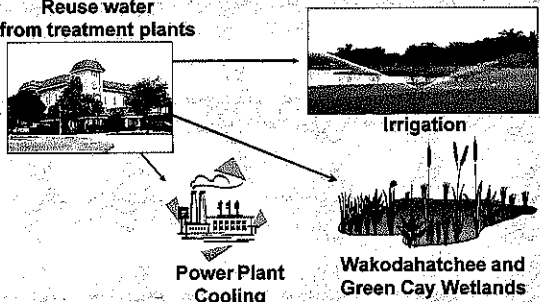
- More grant programs
 - \$1.1 million Revolving Energy Loan Program
 - \$850,000 Competitive Grant Program
 - County City Collaborative
 - Established in 2009
 - Meets regularly to share best practices & lessons learned
 - Brings in outside experts
 - Recognized by Department of Energy



Palm Beach State College

Water Conservation and Reuse

Reuse water from treatment plants

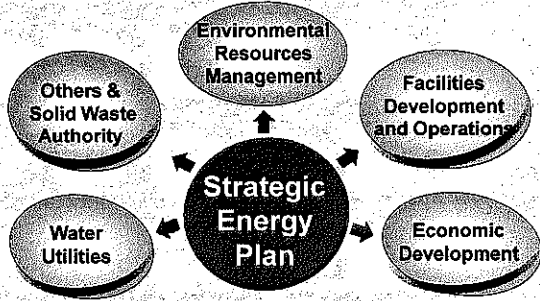


Irrigation

Power Plant Cooling

Wakodahatchee and Green Cay Wetlands

Conserve and Use Energy Efficiently



Strategic Energy Plan

Environmental Resources Management

Facilities Development and Operations


Economic Development

Water Utilities


Others & Solid Waste Authority

Reduce Waste

- Curbside recycling
- Metal recovery
- Hazardous Household Waste Program
- Waste-to-Energy Facility
 - Will power 50,000 homes
- Biosolids Pelletization Facility
 - Wastewater sludge to fertilizer



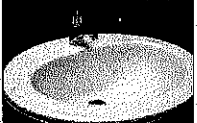
Waste-to-Energy



Pelletization Facility


Water Conservation and Reuse

- Minimize water use in County buildings
 - Low-flow faucets and toilets
 - Watering restrictions
- Conserve water supplies
 - Reduce pipe leaks
 - Alternative water supplies (like C-51 Reservoir Project)
- Maximize wastewater reuse



Conserve Land

- County is a leader in conserving natural areas, parks, and agricultural land.
 - 30,000 acres of natural areas
 - 8,558 acres of park lands
 - 2,500 acres of agricultural lands
 - Restoring and creating wetlands to store water, results in less water loss to tide



Conserve Land

- Value of Green Space
 - Carbon sequestering
 - Biodiversity of plants/animals
 - Protection of threatened/endangered plants/animals
 - Water storage/ flood control/ aquifer recharge
 - Water quality
 - Recreation/open space
- Continued value is dependent upon commitment to fund maintenance

Green Task Force Recommendations

Government

1. Establish a sustainability structure in County Administration.
2. Create a financial tracking system for green/sustainability efforts of County
3. Adopt an energy conservation strategy for County buildings and operations.

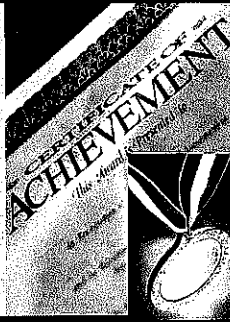
Florida Green Local Government

Report Card

- Evaluation of Commitment to Sustainability, Green Building, Energy and Natural Resources Conservation
- Valuable for Energy Grants
- Multi-governmental participation

Certification Level:

- **SILVER** within 18 months
- **GOLD** within 3-5 years




Green Task Force Recommendations

Energy

1. Advocate for a solar rebate program for hot water heaters.
2. Establish a horse manure processing facility.

Green Task Force On Environmental Sustainability And Conservation

- Established June 2008 and now sunset
- Final Report -- July 2009
 - 14 recommendations
- **Subcommittees**
 - Government
 - Energy
 - Building
 - Environment
 - Education



Green Task Force Recommendations

Building

1. Mandate construction materials recycling.
2. Create a green building incentive program.
3. Create an exemption from architectural guidelines for green buildings.

Green Task Force Recommendations

Environment

1. Commit to long-term support of the conservation lands maintenance program.
2. Develop policies to preserve agricultural zoning and encourage urban gardening.
3. Develop and encourage Incentive Programs for Xeriscaping and Permaculture.

Accomplishments

Awards

- 2011 National Association of Counties Award
- 2010 ICLEI Sustainability Leadership Award

Legislation

- Program for renewable energy portfolio for Florida and adopt a standard of 20% renewable energy by 2020
- State law allowing for local "Adaptation Areas"

Reports

- Unified Sea Level Rise Projection for Southeast Florida
- 1st Annual Report, Feb. 2011
- Vulnerability Analysis

Green Task Force Recommendations

Education

1. Support an annual Green Conference held locally.
2. Develop and maintain a green column on the website.
3. Establish a green collar economic enterprises/cultural training centers throughout Palm Beach County.

Climate Action Planning

Community Resiliency

- Address potential impacts of climate change
 - Sea-level Rise
 - Extreme weather events
 - Infrastructure
 - Fresh water supply
 - Increased water temperature

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Initiative


- Established Oct 2009
- Provides for a regional climate change strategy.
- 4 Counties and SFWMD
 - 30% of Florida's population
- Support agencies include:

Next Steps

- Maintain momentum
- Strengthen communication & overall coordination
- Ensure accurate reporting of results
- Recommend operational policy changes
- Consider program for reinvestment of cost savings
- Pursue grant funding
- Further intergovernmental coordination

6/24/2011

Thank You



www.pbcgov.com/gogreen

QUESTIONS?

