

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: January 26, 2016 () Consent (X) Regular
() Ordinance () Public Hearing

Department

Submitted By: County Administration
Submitted For: County Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: A resolution to support the establishment of a collaborative partnership between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and the Florida Climate Institute to better align university research with public agency information needs and adaptation planning and improve the competitiveness of the region for climate-related funding; and providing for transmission of the Resolution and an effective date.

Summary: Approval of this item endorses a collaborative partnership between partners in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact) and academic institutions as part of the Florida Climate Institute (FCI) for the purpose of better aligning academic research with regional climate resiliency planning efforts and the goal of improving the region's competitive position for external funding to support climate related research, planning, and projects. FCI has nine (9) member universities including Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Florida State University, the University of Central Florida, the University of Florida, the University of South Florida, the University of Miami, and the Florida Institute of Technology, and over 200 affiliate members. Operational Guidelines for the partnership have been developed by the Compact Steering Committee and FCI leadership and are incorporated as an attachment to the Resolution. Countywide (AH)

Background and Justification: With joint approval of this Resolution, Palm Beach County, as a member of the Compact, seeks to build on these mutually beneficial efforts and supports establishment of a consistent collaborative partnership between the Compact and the FCI, encourages the FCI to organize a hub to plan and coordinate FCI-Compact joint efforts, and supports a collaborative process detailed in the Operational Guidance Document for the purpose of furthering climate research, planning, projects, and outreach efforts in southeast Florida.

Attachments:

- ## 1. Resolution

Recommended by: Matthew B. Schneider 1-7-16
Climate Change & Sustainability Coordinator Date

Approved by: _____ **Date** 1-21-16
Deputy County Administrator

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>0</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Proposed Budget? Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ RSRC _____
Program _____

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

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

C. Department Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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


 OFMB *abw 1/18*

 Contract Development and Control *b Wheeler 1/13/16*

B. Legal Sufficiency:


 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT AND THE FLORIDA CLIMATE INSTITUTE TO BETTER ALIGN UNIVERSITY CLIMATE RESEARCH WITH PUBLIC AGENCY INFORMATION NEEDS AND ADAPTATION PLANNING AND TO IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGION FOR CLIMATE RELATED FUNDING; AND PROVIDING FOR TRANSMISSION OF THE RESOLUTION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact) was formalized in 2009 as a collaboration among Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties for the purpose of jointly addressing shared climate mitigation and adaptation challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Climate Institute (FCI) is a multidisciplinary network of national and international research organizations, public organizations, scientists, and individuals focused on advancing climate research and achieving a better understanding of climate variability and change; and

WHEREAS, the FCI has nine (9) member universities, including Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Florida State University, the University of Central Florida, the University of Florida, the University of Miami, and the University of South Florida, and the Florida Institute of Technology, and over two hundred (200) individual affiliate members; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the FCI is to foster interdisciplinary research, education, and extension to: 1) improve the region's collective understanding of the impact of climate variability, climate change, and sea level rise on the economy, ecosystems, and human-built systems; 2) develop technologies and information for creating opportunities and policies that reduce economic and environmental risks; and 3) engage society in research, extension, and education programs for enhancing adaptive capacity and responses to associated climate risks; and

WHEREAS, the FCI mission strongly aligns with the objectives of the Compact to coordinate in the regional preparation for, and adaptation to, a rapidly-changing global environment with strategies that address regional concerns about the economy, infrastructure and built environment, social and cultural needs, and natural systems; and

WHEREAS, since 2010, the activities of the Compact have revealed a great number of opportunities for collaboration with academic partners, including Regional Climate Action Plan implementation and South Florida Resilient Redesign workshops, refinement of sea level rise projections, hydrologic and economic model

1 development, support in climate communications, and the development of
2 visualization tools; and

3 **WHEREAS**, at the 2014 Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership
4 Summit, Compact and FCI representatives agreed to pursue a formal partnership for
5 the purpose of improving local agency and academic collaborations in climate
6 research objectives; and

7 **WHEREAS**, it is further desired that the FCI will establish a hub to plan and
8 coordinate joint Compact-FCI research and outreach activities in Southeast Florida;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, this collaboration is expected to accelerate the dissemination of
11 climate information and enhance climate resiliency planning in support of urban and
12 natural systems, while also improving the competitiveness of the region for research
13 funding and other support; and

14 **WHEREAS**, on January 14, 2015, principals representing each of the
15 Compact counties, the University of Florida, Florida Atlantic University, Florida
16 International University, and the University of Miami met to develop a guidance
17 document to establish the framework for the proposed Compact-FCI partnership;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, the guidance document was finalized on March 16, 2015, and
20 approved by the members of the Compact Staff Steering Committee on March 27,
21 2015; and

22 **WHEREAS**, these early efforts are already producing benefits for the
23 Compact and FCI partners, including a partnership in the convening of Southeast
24 Florida Resilient Redesign II and joint participation in a cooperative research project
25 with the RAND Institute in 2015; and

26 **WHEREAS**, this partnership is not exclusive, but is meant to enhance
27 collaborations and communications for the benefit of all stakeholders, with Compact
28 partners maintaining the ability to collaborate with nonFCI institutions, and with FCI
29 membership open to public and private institutions, colleges, and centers, as well as
30 scientists, agencies, and individuals;

31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF**
32 **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:**

33 **Section 1.** Palm Beach County supports the establishment of a
34 collaborative partnership between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change
35 Compact and the Florida Climate Institute to enhance collaboration through a hub of
36 the FCI in South Florida led by Executive Board members of the FCI at Florida
37 International University, Florida Atlantic University, and the University of Miami.

38 **Section 2.** Palm Beach County supports the collaborative process detailed

1 in the FCI-Compact Operational Guidance Document, attached hereto and
2 incorporated herein as Attachment A-1, dated March 16, 2015, describing regional
3 coordination activities, regular communication, engagement, exposure, joint
4 participation in relevant Compact-FCI meetings, internal coordination, joint research,
5 adaptation planning and education efforts, climate-related funding, and pursuit of
6 future and joint initiatives.

7 **Section 3.** A copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Broward, Miami-
8 Dade, and Monroe counties, the Director of the Florida Climate Institute, and the
9 Executive Board members of the three (3) South Florida FCI universities (Florida
10 International University, Florida Atlantic University, and University of Miami).

11 **Section 4.** If any section, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this
12 Resolution is held invalid or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction,
13 then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portion of this
14 Resolution.

15

16 The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner_____, who moved
17 its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner_____, and upon
18 being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

19	COMM. MARY LOU BERGER, Mayor	_____
20	COMM. HAL R. VALECHE, Vice Mayor	_____
21	COMM. PAULETTE BURDICK	_____
22	COMM. SHELLEY VANA	_____
23	COMM. STEVEN L. ABRAMS	_____
24	COMM. MELISSA McKINLAY	_____
25	COMM. PRISCILLA A. TAYLOR	_____

26
27 The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this _____
28 day of _____, 2016.

29

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31
32 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
33 LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK

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By: _____
County Attorney

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

**Operational Guidelines for the partnership between the Florida Climate Institute (FCI) and the
Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact)**

March 16, 2015

– DRAFT –

Partnership Agreement

In September 2014, the Compact and FCI signed a preliminary Partnership Agreement (attached) to achieve the following goals: (1) to seek better alignment between public sector information/management needs and ongoing university research, and (2) to improve coordination between the Compact and FCI universities in pursuing competitive research funding opportunities. Achieving these goals will ensure that together we are well-positioned for competitive grant opportunities and are effectively advancing Florida's environmental, social, and economic sustainability through applied research and planning collaborations. This document outlines draft procedures to help us achieve the following:

1. Improve communication and coordination between the two entities (Compact and FCI), and
2. Engage in a process of identifying high priority research based on needs of Compact members and partners and the pursuits of university partners and stakeholders.

Through this collaborative effort, the intent is for the Compact and FCI to establish a Southeast Florida FCI coordination hub to support climate research and planning of particular relevance to southeast Florida, meeting at least once per year, while maintaining communications and collaborations with the broader group of statewide FCI partners. The Compact may convene seminars detailing their non-research needs and advances (communication, policy implementation, networking, information, etc.), where FCI participation would be of interest to both FCI and Compact members.

A Coordination Team will be formed comprised of FCI and Compact representatives. The Coordination Team will be responsible for identifying/establishing collaborative opportunities and projects, research and data needs, and organizing resources to meet joint objectives. Examples of likely collaborations include support for and participation in the Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, hosting of regional workshops, and collaboration on grant concepts, proposals, and requests for support.

FCI –Coordination Team Members

1. **Co-leaders** – Three co-leaders will represent the FCI on the Coordination Team. These co-leaders will be the Executive Board/Branch Directors at the south Florida member universities as follows: Florida International University (FIU), University of Miami (UM), and Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Branch co-directors may also participate in strategic plans, calls, and activities as deemed appropriate by FCI.
2. **Point person for liaison with the Compact** – One of the 3-Co-Leaders serving in 2-year rotating terms
3. **Inclusivity** – Other FCI members may be engaged to participate in Coordination Team activities or specific projects, as appropriate.

Compact Coordination Team Members

1. **Co-leaders** – Four co-leaders will represent the Compact on the Coordination Team; these co-leaders will be representatives from each of the Compact Counties and will include representatives from Palm Beach County, Broward County, Miami-Dade County, and Monroe County.
2. **Point person for liaison with the FCI** – The Compact representatives will collectively support the FCI collaboration; however, partners will share the coordination and administrative responsibilities on a 2-year rotation. A Miami-Dade representative began serving as the initial Compact Point of Contact (POC) for 2015-2016 under the preliminary Partnership Agreement. The Compact POC will coordinate with support staff in fulfilling this role.
3. **Inclusivity** – Expanded participation of the Compact Staff Steering Committee members and/or engagement of technical staff will be provided as needed.

Guidelines for FCI and Compact Communication and Collaboration

1. Regional Coordination Activities

The Compact and FCI will establish a joint Southeast Florida FCI coordination Hub (SE Hub) that will allow the Compact and academic partners to more specifically address regional issues in Southeast Florida, while maintaining communication and collaboration with the broader statewide FCI partners and identifying and developing other joint initiatives. The SE Hub will constitute a collaborative network of resources and collective capacities organized for the purpose of delivering targeted support to the regionally-specific planning pressures and needs of southeast Florida, with particular focus on issues relating to climate change.

- a. The following framework and guidance is provided for joint communications and collaborations: Beginning Spring 2015 FCI will endeavor to host workshops, seminars and symposia of interest, and those relying upon the participation of Compact partners, within the geographic area of southeast Florida.
- b. Compact approval shall be required for use of the Compact logo in the co-branding of collaborative FCI events, funding proposals, and other related materials.
- c. Reference to collaboration between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and FCI with external partners and agencies shall be limited to areas of agreed collaboration.
- d. FCI and Compact members shall invite co-authorship on presentations and papers significantly based upon the FCI/Compact collaboration, and shall include co-authorship/presentation when appropriate.
- e. FCI and the Compact shall link to each other's websites.
- f. The Coordination Team shall pursue opportunities for co-hosting of workshops with provision of technical expertise by FCI.
- g. The Compact will seek opportunities for FCI participation in planning/organization of Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summits.

2. Communications

- a. **Routine Communications** – The FCI and Compact POCs shall participate in a semi-monthly teleconference, normally on the last Thursday of the month as needed, to

review shared planning and research opportunities, and shall be responsible for relaying relevant information as follows:

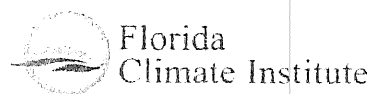
- i. **FCI POC** will establish internal monthly calls about Compact progress relevant to shared planning and research activities, and will keep the broader executive board informed about the collaboration and opportunities.
- ii. **Compact POC** will brief Compact Staff Steering Committee members on shared planning and research activities, solicit input, and generally keep the Staff Steering Committee informed about the collaboration and opportunities.
- b. **Engagement and exposure on each campus**--strategies and groundwork include:
 - i. Identify faculty and expertise most relevant to Compact projects.
 - ii. Advertise the existence and purpose of FCI to faculty.
 - iii. Inform faculty about the FCI-Compact partnership.
 - iv. Distribute information about funding opportunities to faculty offering collaborative proposal assistance, if available.
 - v. Encourage faculty and staff to sign up to be affiliate members of the FCI so that they might take better advantage of research opportunities.
 - vi. Brand or co-brand relevant projects, activities, and seminars as "FCI" events to raise the FCI profile on campus, offering live streaming to extend reach.
 - vii. Recommend that members add Florida Climate Institute to individual signature lines for repeated exposure to the FCI in each email.
- c. **FCI Participation in Compact meetings**--As opportunities and needs arise, the FCI POC will attend priority Compact meetings (which could include, but are not limited to Summit planning, RCAP implementation, and Resilient Design initiatives) but will delegate to another co-lead when he/she is unavailable. Following the meetings, the POC will inform the other co-leaders and, monthly, the FCI Executive Board.
- d. **Compact Participation in FCI meetings**--As opportunities and needs arise, Compact POC will attend priority FCI meetings, or delegate to a co-lead when he/she is unavailable.
- e. **Internal Coordination**--Recognizing the unique organizational and institutional structure for each partner organization, and the potential need for certain decisions and action to gain approval beyond the position of individuals, Compact and FCI co-leads are responsible for communicating to senior administrators the formation of the collaborative which will help formalize and promote the collaborative, broadening internal participation, and ensure the preservation of each partner in the collaborative beyond the tenure of any single individual.

3. Initiating Joint Research and Education Efforts (FCI and the Compact)

Collaborative proposal submission will be done on a case by case basis depending on the proposal requirements, and based on Compact interest. If proposers and the Compact are agreeable, FCI will help identify additional expertise that may strengthen the proposal, and, as deemed appropriate, facilitate the proposal preparation. Proposers interested in collaborating with the Compact are encouraged to also contact FCI at the earliest opportunity.

4. Process for identifying and developing other joint initiatives

In addition to research proposals, other activities and events will be jointly identified and accomplished, including for example, conferences, workshops, and seminars as noted above.



Partnership Agreement on Regional Coordination between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Compact and the Florida Climate Institute

Purpose

The following agreement establishes a partnership between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact) and the Florida Climate Institute (FCI) to increase the effectiveness of current collaborations among Florida's institutions of higher learning and the local governments and regional agencies of Southeast Florida. The purpose of this Partnership Agreement is to seek better alignment between public sector information and management needs and ongoing research objectives, to improve coordination among the parties in pursuing competitive research funding opportunities, and to assure that the best and brightest ideas emerging from Florida's world-class institutions are well positioned for implementation in supporting Southeast Florida's efforts to transition to a resilient and low-carbon economy.

Background

Since its creation in 2009 by forward-thinking elected officials, the Compact has emerged as one of the preeminent regional metropolitan climate change governance models nationally and globally. The collaboration and coordination across cities and counties and among federal, state and local agencies has advanced the region rather quickly toward increased shared aspirations for greater climate resilience and reductions in regional emissions. Likewise, the Florida Climate Institute is a path breaking collaboration among eight of Florida's world class universities that serves as a multidisciplinary network for research and education aimed at helping Florida meet the many challenges of global climate change. Together, the Compact and FCI recognize that responsible action on global climate change will require the talents and insights of nearly every academic discipline from primary climate science to architecture and engineering, from the arts and humanities to ecology and finance. And the parties to this agreement further recognize that knowledge, to be effective, must be well integrated into the public policy of Southeast Florida.

Partnership Agenda

The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and the Florida Climate Institute agree to the following partnership actions:

- I. We will improve communication and coordination between our respective networked organizations.
 - a. By mutual consent, we will each appoint representatives to serve as liaisons to the other's primary governance and coordination teams;
 - b. We will each promote and participate in the activities and events of our respective entities, recognizing the constraints sometimes provided by limited budgets and resources;
 - c. We will work together to ensure that research conferences and symposia focusing on our mutual interests will be located such that Compact participants are able to participate without incurring significant travel costs; and
 - d. We will establish a joint Southeast Florida Hub that will allow us to more specifically address regional issues in Southeast Florida, while maintaining communication and collaboration with the broader statewide FCI partners.
- II. We will engage in an annual process of identifying the highest priority research objectives based on the needs of Compact managers and the academic pursuits of FCI faculty affiliates.
 - a. We will work together to develop proposals from this annual process and assure transparency in the preparation of all presentations, grants, awards, abstracts or letters of support that formally reference our collective work together as a basis of award or recognition;
 - b. Each party will actively consider opportunities to include members and affiliates of the other in responses to unforeseen calls for proposals and/or notices of funding opportunities.
- III. We will work together to perfect this agreement for ratification by our respective Compact and University Principals at a later date.